

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English)

Third Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 18)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

Monday, December 14, 1998/Agrahayana 23, 1920 (Saka)

| Col/Line | For | Read |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 18/9 | (e) to (f) | (e) and (f) |
| 75/29 | (f) | (b) |
| 89/25 | 2236 | 2336 |
| 93/22 | (h) to (i) | (h) and (i) |
| 121/10 | (a) | (d) |
| 122/25 | (a) | (d) |
| 123/42 | (a) | (d) |
| 150/19 | ENVIRONMENT AND FORSTS | ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS |
| 175/8 (from below) | (a) and (c) | (a) to (c) |
| 185 & 186/6 | MADHAY PRADESH | MADHYA PRADESH |
| 113/5 (from below) | Min ter of POWER | Minister of POWER |
| 283/10 (from below) | (d) | (f) |
| 298/7 (from below) | (c) to (d) | (c) to (f) |
| 299/28 | (d) | (c) |
| 300/8 (from below) | (d) | (e) |
| 340 | Add : (e) if so, the details thereof ? | after line 38 |
| 376/2 | 2227 | 2232 |
| 431/15 | (d) | (c) |

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 14 1998/Agrahayana 23, 1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ (LALGANJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want justice...(Interruptions).

11.01 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. This is not your place.

(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ramdas Athawale came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : First, please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : First, please go to your seats. This is wrong. This is not your place.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I appeal to you to go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may kindly invite them to your chamber and explain the position to them...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : You may please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (OUTER DELHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are indulging in contempt of the House and are also showing indiscipline and at the same time want action

against Mamta Banerjee also. That is not proper...(Interruptions) First, they themselves should behave properly...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. This is not your place.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : They have made it a daily affair...(Interruptions) They do not allow the House to function. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may give your ruling...(Interruptions) The House has not been functioning for the last so many days. They are not allowing the House to function. They are asking for action against Mamta Banerjee but actually action should be taken against them...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am once again appealing to you to go to your seats. Otherwise, I will take action against you.

MR. SPEAKER : Please, go to your seats first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are only disturbing others.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats first. You can raise the issue from your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot come here. This is not your place.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Linkage of Road Network with Ports

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

(a) Whether the Government have prepared an action plan to link road network with the major ports of the country;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (b) Yes, Sir, Government has planned to develop road linkages to 12 major ports namely

Kandla, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mormugao, New Mangalore, Cochin, Tuticorin, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Haldia & Calcutta. The road linkages identified for development include stretches of National Highways as also State roads. As a first step in this direction, feasibility study and detailed engineering is to be carried out for which offers from Consultants for shortlisting have already been received.

(c) The work on various feasibility studies is expected to be awarded in the next 14 weeks. Further scheduling will be based on finding of the feasibility studies.

Outstanding dues to be Recovered by NTPC from SEBs

*202. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of outstanding dues to be recovered by National Thermal Power Corporation from the State Electricity Boards or Grid Corporations, as on October 31, 1998 State-wise;

(b) the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure realisation of outstanding dues from the SEBs or Grid Corporations;

(c) the reaction of the State Governments to the recovery measures by National Thermal Power Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The outstanding dues of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) as on 31.10.1998 stood at Rs.8883.70 crores. The details of the amount due State-wise as on 31.10.1998 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure realisation of outstanding dues inter-alia include:-

- (i) Periodical reviews of the recoveries position is done by the Ministry of Power. The outstanding issues are taken up at the highest level in the State Government.
- (ii) Decision of the Government of India approving direct appropriation from Central Plan Assistance to recover the outstanding dues of SEBs as on 31.12.1996 amounting to Rs.3751.45 crores. As per this decision, the deduction in one year for any State shall not exceed 15% of its Central Plan Assistance in that year.
- (iii) Enforcing the NTPC and the Government of India's covenant with the World Bank to maintain the receivables at a level below two months of billing.
- (iv) The Government in October, 1996 further decided that central utilities will supply power to State Electricity Boards only against advance payment and opening of irrevocable Letter of Credit (LC).
- (v) To facilitate opening of LC and advance payment, NTPC has introduced a Special Incentive Scheme in September, 1994 to provide incentive to States who establish LC to cover full amount of current monthly bills. By enhancing their LC to the required

level, SEBs would be in a position to avail 2.5% rebate on payments made in four equated weekly instalments and also obtain reimbursement of charges incurred for LC operation.

(c) All State Electricity Boards including those of defaulting States like Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi have enhanced/proposed to enhance their LC covering payment of current dues to NTPC in full.

Statement

NTPC outstanding dues as on 31st October, 1998

(Rupees in Crores)

| STPS/SEB | Outstanding as on date | Surcharge billed | Total outstanding |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Bihar SEB | 892.10 | 491.17 | 1383.27 |
| West Bengal SEB | 550.89 | 178.22 | 729.11 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 220.30 | 279.06 | 479.36 |
| GRIDCO | 444.04 | 68.74 | 512.78 |
| Delhi Vidyut Board | 1195.60 | 544.33 | 1739.93 |
| Uttar Pradesh SEB | 1164.82 | 620.79 | 1785.61 |
| Damodar Valley Corporation | 222.58 | 145.93 | 368.51 |
| Assam SEB | 29.33 | 1.08 | 30.41 |
| Andhra Pradesh SEB | 166.57 | 70.68 | 237.25 |
| Himachal Pradesh SEB | 5.08 | 9.10 | 14.18 |
| Madhya Pradesh SEB | 235.91 | 210.83 | 446.74 |
| Gujarat EB | 172.43 | 96.76 | 269.19 |
| Karnataka EB | 53.53 | 33.56 | 87.09 |
| Maharashtra SEB | 105.99 | 89.53 | 255.52 |
| Pondicherry | 8.33 | 0.85 | 9.18 |
| Kerala SEB | 28.55 | 22.49 | 51.04 |
| Goa (WR) | 8.68 | 1.59 | 10.27 |
| Goa (SR) | 3.51 | 0.54 | 4.05 |
| Tamil Nadu EB | 30.93 | 64.75 | 95.68 |
| Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam | 21.12 | 228.19 | 249.31 |
| Punjab SEB | 17.92 | 7.67 | 25.59 |
| Rajasthan SEB | 17.50 | 56.15 | 73.65 |
| Daman & Diu | 0.92 | 0.95 | 1.87 |
| Dadra & Nagar Havali | 0.22 | 0.00 | 0.22 |
| Union Territory of Chandigarh | 0.43 | 0.00 | 0.43 |

Abbreviations:

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| STPS | : Super Thermal Power Station |
| SEBs | : State Electricity Boards |
| EB | : Electricity Board |
| GRIDCO | : Grid Corporation of Orissa Limited |
| WR | : Western Region |
| SR | : Southern Region. |

Complaints against Non-Banking Financial Companies

*203. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Company Law Board has received a large number of complaints from the depositors of Non-Banking Financial Companies during the past three years:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Company Law Board on the complaints made by depositors?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) Company Law Board has been empowered through the Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 dated 09.01.1997 to order the Non-Banking Financial Companies to make repayment of the matured deposits under section 45A of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

2. Consequently, Company Law Board is receiving applications from the aggrieved depositors for non-payment of their matured deposits/interest thereon. As on 31.10.98, Company Law Board received 33715 complaints of which 20570 have been disposed of.

Aid from International Agencies for Higher Education

*204. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have availed assistance of UNESCO and other International Agencies for the promotion and upgradation of higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the projects approved and ongoing projects in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether evaluation of these projects has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) In so far as Ministry of Human Resource Development is concerned, eight UNESCO Chairs have been established in Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi; M.S. Swaminathan Foundation, Chennai; Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi; National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISJET), Hyderabad; National Institute of Research and Social Action (NIRSA), Hyderabad; Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi; and Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune.

Besides, United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is also providing grants to UGC for implementation of the Population Education Programme through selected Universities in the Country.

[Translation]

Cess on Diesel

*205. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to levy cess on diesel to mobilise additional funds for the road projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount estimated to be raised therefrom and the projects on which this amount is proposed to be spent; and

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

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Power Project

*206. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foreign power companies permitted to set up power plants in different parts of the country;

(b) the locations in the State where these companies will be setting up such plants;

(c) whether these projects have been given clearance by all the concerned Ministries; and

(d) the extent to which power shortage will be reduced after commissioning of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) As on date Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic clearance to 47 schemes for setting up power projects in the private sector aggregating an estimated capacity of 22495 MW. As per information available 37 of these projects involve participation by foreign promoters. Details of these schemes are given in the enclosed Statement. Of these 37 projects, 3 projects having an installed capacity of 939 MW have been fully commissioned. Another 6 of these projects have been partly commissioned/are under various stages of construction and once these projects are fully commissioned, it is estimated that another 2605 MW will also be added.

Statement***State-wise list of TEC Cleared Projects Involving Foreign Investment***

| S.No. | Name of the Project | CAP (MW) | Name of Promoter/Foreign Developer* | District |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Uttar Pradesh | | | | |
| 1. | Rosa TPP | 567 | Aditya Birla Group/Power Gen. Plc., UK | Shahjahanpur |
| Madhya Pradesh | | | | |
| 2. | Maheshwar HEP | 400 | S.Kumar/M/s Bayernwerk & M/s. Vew, Germany | Khandwa/ Kargone |
| 3. | Korba (East) TPP | 1070 | Daewoo South Korea/ABB Energy Venture, Germany. | Bilaspur |
| 4. | Bina TPP | 578 | Aditya Birla Group/Power Gen. PLC., UK | Sagar |
| 5. | Narsinghpur CCGP | 166 | M/s. Global Boards Ltd./OGDEN Power Systems, USA. | Narsinghpur |
| 6. | Korba (West) Extn. | 420 | M/s. India Thermal Power Ltd/Siemens, Germany/Tomen Corpn, Japan. | Bilaspur |
| 7. | Guna CCGT | 330 | M/s. STI India/ MCN, USA/Ililnova, USA. | Guna |
| 8. | Pench TPP | 500 | M/s. Soros Fund Management, USA/M/s. ABB, Germany. | Chhindwara |
| 9. | Bhilai TPP | 574 | M/s. SAIL/ L&T/ CEA, USA. | Drug |
| 10. | Raigarh TPP | 550 | M/s. Jindal Strips Pvt. Ltd./Genting Power Holding, Malaysia. | Raigarh |
| 11. | Bhander CCGT | 342 | M/s. ESSAR Investment Ltd, Bombay/ Mauritius. | Datia |
| 12. | Pithampur DGPP | 119.7 | M/s. Shapoorji Pallonji Co./Wartsila Diesel OY, Finland. | Dhar |
| 13. | Ratlam DGPP | 118.63 | M/s. GVK Power Ltd./ Wartsila Diesel OY, Finland. | Ratlam |
| 14. | Khandwa CCGT | 171.17 | M/s. Marubeni Japan/AGIO Singapore | East Nimar |
| Gujarat | | | | |
| 15. | Paguthan OCGT | 654.7 | Torrent Group/GPCL/Siemens AG, Germany/ Power Gen INC, UK. | Bharan |
| 16. | Hazira CCGT | 515.0 | M/s. ESSAR Power/Prime Hazira Ltd, Mauritius. | Surat |
| Maharashtra | | | | |
| 17. | Dabhol CCGT | 2015 | ENRON Deve. Corp./GE & Bechtel, USA. | Ratnagiri |
| 18. | Bhadravati TPS | 1072 | ISPAT Alloys Ltd./GEC, UK/EDF, France | Chandrapur |
| Andhra Pradesh | | | | |
| 19. | Jegurupadu CCGT | 216 | M/s. GVK Industries Ltd, CMS Gen, USA/ IFC, ADB, ABB. | East Godavari |
| 20. | Godavari CCGT | 208 | M/s. Spectrum Tech, USA/Jaya Foods & NTPC. | East Godavari |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------|--|---------------|
| 21. | Vizag TPS | 1040 | M/s. HNPCL/Ashok Leyland, Madras/National Power, UK. | Visakhapatnam |
| 22. | Ramagundam Extn. | 520 | M/s. BPL India/Marubeni, Japan | Karimnagar |
| 23. | Kondapally CCGT | 350 | M/s. Lanco Hyderabad/Eastern Gen, UK/Hanjung, Korea | Krishna |
| 24. | Krishnapatnam 'B' TPP. | 520 | M/s. BBI Power Inc, USA | Nellore |
| Karnataka | | | | |
| 25. | Toranagallu TPS | 260 | M/s. Jindal India/Tractebel SA, Belgium | Bellary |
| 26. | Mangalore TPS | 1013.2 | M/s. Cogentrix, USA, CLPL, GE Power, Mauritius | South Canara |
| Tamil Nadu | | | | |
| 27. | Neyveli TPS - Zero Unit | 250 | M/s. ST-CMS Electric Co./CMS Energy/ST Holdings Inc, USA. | South Arcot |
| 28. | Pillaiperumaln Allur CCGT | 330.5 | M/s. CEA PPN Energy, Mauritius/Maubeni, Japan/ Reddy Group. | Tanjavur |
| 29. | North Madras TPS-II | 1050 | M/s. Videocon Power/ABB Energy Venture Inc, USA | MGR |
| 30. | Basin Bridge DGPP | 200 | M/s. GMR Vasavi/Rosy Blue Group, Luxemburg/Hyundai Group, Korea. | Madras |
| 31. | Tuticorin TPP St. IV | 525 | M/s. Tamil Nadu Petro Products Ltd./MCN Investment, USA. | Chidambaranar |
| 32. | Samayanallur DGPP | 106 | M/s. Balaji Power Corpn./Wartsila Diesel, Finland. | Madurai |
| 33. | North Madras TPP Stage III | 525 | M/s. Tri Sakthi Energy Ltd./Pembinaan Redzai SDN, Malaysia. | MGR |
| Kerala | | | | |
| 34. | Vypeen CCGT | 679.2 | M/s. Siasin, Singapore/Pembinaan Redzai, Malaysia. | Ernakulam |
| Orissa | | | | |
| 35. | Ib Valley TPS | 420 | M/s. AES Ib Valley Corp/M/s. AES Trans Power, USA. | Jharsujuda |
| West Bengal | | | | |
| 36. | Balagarh TPS | 500 | M/s. CESC/ BHP Australia/Siemens, Germany. | Hooghly |
| 37. | Bakreshwar TPP | 420 | M/s. WBPDC/ CMS Generation/ Kuljian Corpn., USA. | Birbhum |

*The Government has recently reviewed the existing guidelines for automatic approval for foreign equity for electric generation, transmission and distribution projects, and has decided to enlarge the provisions for automatic approval for such projects. Accordingly, projects for electric generation, transmission and distribution will be permitted foreign equity participation up to 100% on the automatic approval route provided the foreign equity in any such project does not exceed Rs.1500 crore.

[Translation]

Disposal of Pending Cases in Courts

*207. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

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

(a) whether the number of posts of judges in various High Courts and the Supreme Court is not commensurate with the cases lying pending for years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the suggestions made by the various Law Commissions constituted so far in regard to speedy disposal of pending cases in different courts;

(d) the details of the action taken by the Government on the suggestions made by the Law Commissions in this regard;

(e) whether the number of cases in the courts is gradually increasing due to non-implementation of the recommendations of the Law Commissions; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make the law system more effective?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (f) The pendency of cases in Courts, besides the inadequate strength of Judges is due to various factors including increased institution of cases, rise in population, radical change in the pattern of litigation, awareness of rights on the part of the citizens, etc. The various Law Commissions in their Reports have made suggestions regarding speedy disposal of pending cases in Courts such as amendment in procedural Laws, increase in Judge strength, establishment of more Special Courts/Tribunals, provision of modern office equipments, etc. The pendency of cases in the Supreme Court has come down from 1,07,776 cases in December, 1990 to 19,806 as on 31st October, 1998. Despite increase in the disposal of cases in the high Courts, the backlog of cases pending in High Courts has increased. The pendency of cases in the Subordinate Courts has decreased to 1.99 crore as on 31.12.1996 from 2.18 crore as on 31-12-1995 and has again slightly increased to about 2 crore as on 31-12-1997. Various measures have been taken by the Government including amendment of the Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code, increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial Officers, provision of a statutory base to Lok Adalats, and adoption of other alternative modes of dispute resolution. In addition, the Supreme Court and High Courts are taking a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases.

[English]

Performance of State Road Transport Undertakings

*208. SHRI S.S. OWAISI :
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Road Research Wing of his Ministry has reviewed the performance of 40 State Road transport Undertakings for the quarter ending June, 1998;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether this wing was suggested a National Policy on the State Road Transport Undertakings;

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

(e) whether some steps have also been suggested in regard to the financial condition and restructuring of SRTUs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Transport Research Wing of the Ministry of Surface Transport has brought out the review of the performance of State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) - Passenger services, for the quarter ending June 1998 on the basis of information furnished by 38 SRTUs.

(b) During the quarter ending June 1998, all major physical productivity parameters of the reporting SRTUs registered improvement at macro level. However, the net loss of SRTUs, during the quarter ending June, 1998 increased by about 89% over that of the corresponding period of the previous year. Though the total revenue increased by 12.17%, the total cost went up by 16.21%. It was observed that about 25% increase in the cost of fuels and lubricants followed by 20% increase in the cost of manpower over the corresponding period of previous year contributed significantly to the losses of SRTUs.

(c) and (d) SRTUs are inter-alia plying services on uneconomic routes and undertaking social obligatory services like providing concessional passes to different sections of the society, etc. These together with the absence of automatic fare revision formula in the States have put the SRTUs in difficult position. Besides, due to non-availability of adequate capital, the SRTUs are not in a position to replace over aged buses as well as modernise their system. Though the Transport Research Wing has felt the need for National Policy guidelines on SRTUs, the SRTUs being under the administrative control of State Governments, the quarterly review on the performance of SRTUs which is sent to concerned State Governments as well as the concerned SRTUs for taking corrective measures should meet the requirement.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The continued loss incurred by the SRTUs is a matter of concern. A part of the loss could be made up through further improvement in productivity and rationalisation/reduction in cost. However, this cannot wipe out the losses fully. The Planning Commission have repeatedly impressing upon the State Govts for periodic fare revision to adjust to the rising cost of operations if the financial condition of SRTUs is to improve.

[Translation]

Clearance to Industrial Units

*209 PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be placed to state :

(a) the norms followed for granting clearance to industrial units in the country;

(b) the number of industrial units granted clearance during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the names of industrial units not granted clearance during the said period alongwith reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of industrial units in Bihar under consideration for clearance and the details of units proceeded against for violation of the Forest Conservation Act?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Environmental Clearances are accorded to Industrial Units as per the provisions of EIA Notification 27th January, 1994, its amendment dated 4th May, 1994 and 10th April, 1997. Forest Clearance is accorded as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) The proposal of IOC to expand Barauni Refinery from 4.2 MTPA to 6.0 MTPA in Bihar is presently under consideration for environmental clearance. No industrial unit in Bihar is awaiting forest clearance or has been proceeded against for violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Statement**A. Number of Industrial Projects granted Environmental Clearance/Forest Clearance since January 1996**

| S.No. | State | Environmental Clearance | Forest Clearance |
|-------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 18 | |
| 2. | Assam | 01 | |
| 3. | Bihar | 01 | |
| 4. | Delhi | 01 | |
| 5. | Goa | 02 | |
| 6. | Gujarat | 21 | 04 |
| 7. | Haryana | 03 | |
| 8. | Karnataka | 10 | |
| 9. | Kerala | 04 | |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 06 | 01 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 28 | |
| 12. | Orissa | 07 | 03 |
| 13. | Pondicherry | 02 | |
| 14. | Punjab | 06 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-----------------------|----|----|
| 15. | Rajasthan | 15 | 02 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 47 | |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 15 | |
| 18. | West Bengal | 05 | |
| 19. | Inter-State/off-shore | 05 | |

B. Names of Industrial Projects not granted Environmental/Forest Clearance since January, 1996**a. Not Granted Environmental Clearance.**

| S.No. | Name of Projects |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 |
| Andhra Pradesh | |
| i. | Manufacturing of Bulk Drug and Intermediate at Vizianagaram R.S. of M/s Vera Laboratories Ltd. |
| ii. | Fertilizer Plant at Visakhapatnam of M/s Coromandel Fertilisers Ltd. |
| iii. | Export Oriented unit for manufacture of Piparazine at Nalgonda Distt Andhra Pradesh of M/s TTMC Ltd. |
| Bihar | |
| i. | Coal Briqueting Unit of Bokaro Steel Plant SAIL. |
| Gujarat | |
| i. | 1000 TPA Cement Project in Mahauva Taluka of Bhavnagar Distt. of M/s Somani Cement Co. Ltd. |
| ii. | Cement Plant at Kutch Gujarat of M/s ABG Cement Ltd. |
| iii. | 3.5 MTPA Cement Plant and 50 MW CPP at Kutch of M/s DLF Gujarat Ltd. |
| iv. | Exploration drilling in Off-shore block CB-OS/1 Gulf of Khambat Bharuch Distt. By M/s Hardy Exploration & Production, Gujarat. |
| Haryana | |
| i. | Bulk Drug Unit at Gurgaon by M/s EMS Bio-Chem Laboratories Pvt Ltd. |
| ii. | Industrial Alcohol Unit at Faridabad of M/s Pashupati MFG Ltd., |
| iii. | Bulk Drug Unit and Expansion at Panchkula of M/s IDMA Laboratory Pvt. Ltd. |
| iv. | Pesticides Unit at Distt Ambala of M/s Anil Pesticides Ltd. |
| Himachal Pradesh | |
| i. | 1.0 MTPA Cement Plant at village Mahol Tehsil Sundernagar Distt Mandi of M/s Harish Chandra (India) Pvt. Ltd. |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----------------------|--|
| Karnataka | |
| i. | Bulk Drug Unit at Kunnigal of M/s Kanpha Chemo Organic Ltd. |
| ii. | Manufacturing of Bulk Drug at Bidar Karnataka of M/s LSK Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. |
| iii. | Paper & Paper Board Unit at Dandeli Uttara Kanada of M/s West Coast Paper Mills Ltd. |
| iv. | Pig Iron & Foundry Unit at Raichur of M/s Kirloskar Ferrous Industries Ltd. |
| v. | Manufacturing of finished ariline & semiariline and Resin Nappa Grade Leather from Wetblu/Pickle skin at Distt Bindar of M/s Sindal Leather Ltd. |
| vi. | Expansion of Pig Iron Plant 30,000 TPA to 60,000 TPA at Raichur of M/s Kirloskar Ferrous Industries Ltd. |
| vii. | Foundry Unit at Belur, Dharwad by M/s Akay Ispat Pvt. Ltd. |
| Kerala | |
| i. | Import Botteling & Marketing of LPG at Calicut of M/s Peeves Petroleum Products. |
| Madhya Pradesh | |
| i. | Caustic Soda Unit from 36680 to 77930 TPA at Amlai village Bargawan Tehsil Anugpur of M/s Hukam Chand Jute and Industries Ltd. |
| ii. | Sponge Iron Unit at Mandir Hasaund Raipur of M/s Monnet Ispat Ltd. |
| iii. | 1.0 Million TPA Cement Project in Salumi Tehsil in Chamba by M/s Larsen & Toubro Ltd. |
| Maharashtra | |
| i. | Manufacture of 125 TPA of Rifampicin at MIDC Mahad of M/s Hindustan Ciba Gelgy Ltd. |
| ii. | Bulk Drug Plant at Ilalur Chengai MGR Distt of M/s MITECH Industries Ltd. |
| iii. | Manufacture of Steel through Electric Arc Furnace Route Mini Steel Plant of M/s Sunflag Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. |
| iv. | Manikgarh Cement Project at Chandrapur. |
| v. | Caustic Soda Unit at MIDC Industrial Area Thal Daund Distt. Pune of M/s Aminex Chemicals Ltd. |
| vi. | Manufacturing Pesticides/Insecticides Veterinary Drugs & Chemical Intermediates at Dombivali Industrial Area Bombay of M/s Gharda Chemicals Ltd. |
| Orissa | |
| i. | Tank Farm Project at Orissa of M/s Agio counter Trade Pvt. Ltd. |

| 1 | 2 |
|----------------------|---|
| ii. | High Carbon Ferro Chrom Plant at Distt. Angul of M/s Jindal Ferro Alloys Ltd., |
| iii. | 1 MMTPA Aluminium Refinery at Kusumshila by Larsen and Toubro Ltd. |
| iv. | Integrated Steel Plant of 2.5 million to capacity at Gopalpur of M/s Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. |
| Pondicherry | |
| i. | Bulk Drug Plant at Yanam Pondicherry of M/s Vantech Industries Ltd. |
| Punjab | |
| i. | Bulk Drugs intermediates Chemicals SAS Nagar Distt Ropar of M/s Ranbaxy Lilly Co. |
| ii. | Bulk Drug Plant at Saidapura, Derabassi, Distt M/s Aster Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. |
| Rajasthan | |
| i. | 1.2 MTPA Cement Unit at Chitorgarh of M/s Birta & Industries Ltd. |
| ii. | Grain Based Gluten Starch & Spirit Complex Distt Alwar of M/s Kedia Dellon Industries Ltd. |
| iii. | 1.4 MTPA Cement Plant at Chittorgarh of M/s G.K.W. Ltd. (earlier known as M/s Graphite India Ltd.) |
| iv. | Cement Plant near Shambhupura Distt. Chittorgarh of M/s Orient Cemens, Rajasthan. |
| Tamil Nadu | |
| i. | 3 MMTPA capacity Petroleum Refinery at Tuticorin of M/s Aban Loyd Chiles Offshore Ltd. |
| ii. | Manufacturing of Casting Iron at Tamil Nadu of M/s Tamilnadu Small and Tiny Industries Association. |
| iii. | Dye & Dye Intermediate Plant of M/s Beta Udyog Ltd. at Cuddalore. |
| iv. | Tank Terminal Projects near Coal port, Chengai MGR Distt. Tamilnadu by M/s Van Tank Terminal Ltd. |
| v. | Foundry Unit at Chengai, MGR Distt. Tamilnadu by M/s Aditya Casting Pvt. Ltd. |
| vi. | Foundry Unit at Coimbatore by M/s Unique Shell. 500 T/M C I Casting at Arasur Coimbatore by M/s Jeetstex Engineering Ltd., Tamilnadu. |
| vii. | Foundry Unit at Coimbatore by M/s ZWG Casting Pvt. Ltd Tamilnadu. |
| Uttar Pradesh | |
| i. | Expansion of 30 KLPD to 100 KLPD to Ethyl Alcohol 30 mtpd to 60 mtpd Acetic Acid & Acetic Anhydride of M/s Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd. |

| 1 | 2 |
|--------------------|---|
| ii. | Manufacture of Three Stream Plant at Pinki Kanpur, of M/s Duncuns India Ltd. |
| iii. | Manufacturing of M.S. Ingots Installed capacity of 15900 MT p.a. at Surajpur Industrial Area Greater Noida of M/s Uppal Steel & Alloys (P) Ltd. |
| iv. | Export Oriented Integrated Project to manufacture 1400 hides per day and 1500 footwear per day at Unnao by M/s Sadaf Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. |
| West Bengal | |
| i. | 0.5 Steel Products at Durgapur of M/s Durgapur Projects Ltd. |
| ii. | Pig Iron Complex at Khargpur of M/s Century Iron & Steel Ltd. |
| iii. | Dye Intermediate Units at Haldia Distt. Midnapore West Bengal of M/s Betachem Industries Ltd. |

b. Projects Not Granted Forest Clearance.

Sl.No. Name

KARNATAKA

1. Lease of Murkal Complex and Cottages to M/s Gateway Hotels & Resorts Ltd.

RAJASTHAN

2. Diversion of 488.96 ha. of forest land in favour of M/s RIICO Ltd. for industrial use.

Environmental Clearance is not granted on account of non-compliance of standards initiation of projects without obtaining prior environmental clearance, site located in proximity to sensitive areas such as bio-sphere reserves, sanctuaries, historical monuments/heritage sites, Non-submission of approval from State Government, CRZ Stipulations, Non-submission of requisite document for environmental appraisal.

Forest Clearance is not granted in the interest of forest and wildlife conservation and availability of alternatives in non-forest land.

Loan to PFC from Foreign Institutions

*210. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Power Finance Corporation could not fully utilise the 26 million dollar loan sanctioned by World Bank during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this unutilised loan led to financial losses;

(d) if so, the total loss suffered as a result thereof;

(e) whether the target of Rs.250 crore fixed for the current year by PFC has been reduced to Rs.150 crore; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Power Finance Corporation has not been sanctioned any loan during 1997-98 by the World Bank.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of Power Finance Corporation signed with the Government of India for the year 1998-99 includes a target of Rs.250 crores as external assistance through Budget. The Budget estimates of the Ministry of Power include a provision of Rs. 150 crores for this purpose, which would be sought to be enhanced.

[English]

Blacklisting of Indian Companies

*211. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S. administration have blacklisted over 200 Indian Companies;

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

(c) the details of impact the blacklisting will have on the research and development programmes in various scientific fields;

(d) steps proposed to be taken by the Government to neutralise the adverse impact?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) On November 19, 1998 the US Government notified in the Federal Register 40 Indian entities along with 200 subordinate entities which will be covered by the export restrictions. The list specifies the entities believed by USA to have been involved in the nuclear missile related programmes and includes organizations in the field of Atomic Energy, Defence, Space, a number of Indian public and private sector companies and some departments of a few educational, scientific and research institutions.

India has all along maintained that unilateral coercive measures are unjustified, counter productive and impede free flow of trade, technology and capital and have an adverse impact on mutually beneficial interaction.

(c) and (d) Though any precise quantification of impact of measures may be difficult, so far the impact has been minimal. Several Defence, Space and Atomic Energy institutions on the US entities list have experienced technology denials for several years before May, 1998 and as such there is minimal additional burden imposed on them by their inclusion in the entities' list. Our institutions are geared to overcome the constraints through indigenous development and also by the way of procurement from alternate sources.

[Translation]

Completion of Power Projects

*212. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on a number of power projects undertaken three or more years ago have still not been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of such projects and the stipulated time limit for completion thereof;

(d) whether the project implementation monitoring machinery is not functioning to the satisfaction of the Government; and

(e) if so, remedial action proposed by the Government to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) There are 30 projects which were approved on or before March, 1996 have not been completed so far. The names of these projects and the stipulated time limit for completion are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Projects in Statement-II are not due for completion in 1999. The delay varies from project to project. However, the reason for delay include the following :

- (i) Delay in land acquisition;
- (ii) Delay in obtaining forest/environment clearance and lack of supporting infrastructure facilities;
- (iii) Delay in tie-up of adequate funds and sources of funds (Budgetary/internal resources, extra budgetary resources and external aid);
- (iv) Delay in finalisation of detailed engineering;
- (v) Changes in scope;
- (vi) Delay in tendering, ordering and equipment supply;
- (vii) Industrial relations and law and order problems;
- (viii) Delay and uncertainty in feed stock supply;
- (ix) Pre-commissioning teething troubles;
- (x) Technology problems;
- (xi) Geological surprises;
- (xii) Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties;
- (xiii) Higher cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures;
- (xiv) Higher cost of land acquisition;
- (xv) Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain areas;
- (xvi) Under estimation of original cost; and
- (xvii) General price rise.

(d) and (e) The monitoring mechanism is found to be satisfactory. However, continuous effort is made by the Government to make it more effective. The action taken by the Government recently in this regard are:

1. Set up an Empowered Committee in the Administrative Ministry for problem resolution;
2. Appointment of a Nodal Officer co-terminus with the project duration;
3. Regular monitoring by the Deptt. of Programme Implementation;
4. Exception review by the Deptt. of Programme Implementation;
5. Establishment of a project monitoring cell in the Ministry; and
6. Detailed project monitoring by CEA accompanies by site visits.

Statement-I*Details of Projects*

| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Capacity (MW) | Anticipated date of commissioning Month/Year |
|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 1. | MEJIA TPP | 630 | 9/98 |
| 2. | DOYANG HEP | 75 | 7/99 |
| 3. | AGARTALA GTPP | 84 | 6/98 |
| 4. | RANGIT HEP III | 3 x 20 | 3/99 |
| 5. | FARAKKA STPP III | 500 | - |
| 6. | NATHPA JHAKRI TR. SYSTEM | CKM 1980 | 10/99 |
| 7. | KATHALGURI GPP TR. LINES | CKM 2403 | 3/00 |
| 8. | RANGANADI TR. LINE | CKM 355 | 6/99 |
| 9. | KOPILI-I EX.TR. SYSTEM | CKM 85 | 7/98 |
| 10. | TR. DULHASTI CONTINGENCY | KV 220 CKM 282 | 6/99 |
| 11. | TR. KISHANPUR | CKM 567 | 3/99 |
| 12. | HVDC BACK TO BACK J'PORE GASWAKA | CKM 420 | 2/99 |
| 13. | VINDHYACHAL TR. ST II | KV 400 CKM 1255 | 10/99 |
| 14. | KAIGA-SIRSI TR. SYSTEM | CKM 120 | 12/98 |
| 15. | AUG. TR. SYSTEM-NER | CKM 487 KV 132 | 3/99 |
| 16. | KAYANKULAM TR. SYSTEM | CKM 248 KV 220 | 3/99 |

Statement-II*Details of Project.*

| Sl.No. | Name of Project | Capacity (MW) |
|--------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | RANGANADI HEP | 405 |
| 2. | KOEL KARO HEP | 710 |
| 3. | DHAULIGANGA HEP I | 4x70 |
| 4. | TEHRI DAM HPP | 1000 |
| 5. | NATHPA JHAKRI HEP | 1500 |
| 6. | VINDHYACHAL STPP II | 2x500 |
| 7. | UNCHAHAH TPP ST-II | 2x210 |
| 8. | KCEL KARO TR LINE | CKM 215 |
| 9. | ULDOS, SR | - |
| 10. | LDC, NR | - |
| 11. | AGARTALA TR. SYSTEM | CKM 126 |
| 12. | RAPPB TR. SYSTEM | CKM 621 |
| 13. | TEHRI TR. SYSTEM | KV 800 CKM 3000 |
| 14. | PANCHET HILL II HEP | 40 |

*[English]***National Power Development Fund**

*213. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to levy cess on power generation and not on consumption for raising the National Power Development Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Hydro Cess Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) A proposal for enactment of a legislation enabling establishment of Electricity Development Fund by levy of cess on the electricity generation is under examination.

(b) The proceeds realised from the imposition of the cess will be deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India and, thereafter, shared between the Central and State Governments.

The amount available in the State Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for promoting hydro power development including small hydel power projects and for improvements in the transmission/distribution network including the sub-transmission/distribution system.

The amount available in the Central Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for the following purposes:

- (i) Financing the expenditure on survey and investigation and preparation of DPRs in respect of Hydro

Projects which will provide benefit to more than one State.

(ii) Investment in pre-construction activities including expenditure on land acquisition. These activities will include construction of access roads and bridges.

(iii) Development of small and mini hydro projects.

(iv) Financing the expenditure on renovation and modernisation of power plants.

(v) Financing the expenditure on transmission lines/ associated sub-stations required for evacuating power from hydel stations to the load centres.

(c) After the proposal for the levy of cess on electricity generation is approved by the Government, a Bill will be formulated and, thereafter, introduced in the Parliament.

*[Translation]***Conference on Emission Level**

*214. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

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

(a) Whether a conference was held recently in Argentina in which India refused to sign a proposal reducing the green house gas emission level; and

(b) If so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) At the Fourth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Buenos Aires, Argentina during November 2-13, 1998, there was no proposal for signature for reducing greenhouse gas emission level. However, inclusion of an item in the provisional agenda for the Conference, relating to voluntary commitments for developing countries had to be dropped in view of opposition by a number of developing countries, including India.

Compensatory Afforestation for Developmental Work

*215. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy with regard to compensatory afforestation in the areas where the trees have been felled due to some developmental work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the directions issued for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Yes Sir, The Ministry has formulated detailed guidelines for carrying out compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for various developmental projects.

(b) A statement giving details of existing guidelines of compensatory afforestation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is enclosed.

Statement

The guidelines for compensatory afforestation have been issued to all the States/UT Governments for implementation. As per these guidelines, in case of diversion of a forest land required to be carried out over equivalent extent of non-forest land at the project cost. Then on-forest land so identified should be contiguous to or in the proximity of forest land to enable the Forest Department to effectively manage the newly planted area. In case the non-forest land for compensatory afforestation is not available in the same district, it may be identified any where else in the State as near as possible to the site of diversion, so as to minimise adverse impact on the micro-ecology of the area;

In the event of non-availability of non-forest land, compensatory afforestation can also be carried out over degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area being diverted. However, the non-availability of non-forest land is accepted by Central Government on furnishing of a certificate by the Chief Secretary of the State to this effect. In respect of the Central Sector projects, compensatory afforestation can be carried out directly over degraded forest land without furnishing of certificate of the Chief Secretary of the State. In respect of certain other categories of development projects which are small in nature and are directly beneficial to the local people, compensatory afforestation can be carried out over degraded forest land instead of non-forest land.

Research and Development in Road Sector

*216. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme relating to research and development in the road sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of research and development works done by the Government in the road sector;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;

(e) the funds granted to each of the State for this purpose during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(f) the number of schemes related to research and development completed during the last two years; and

(g) the schemes proposed to be launched in this field during the present year?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (g) 1. Yes, Sir. The Govt. have set up a Science and Technology Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Surface Transport with members drawn from Ministry of Surface Transport, Research/Academic Institutes and State P.W.D.s The Committee meets

from time to time to identify research areas and schemes to be taken up for implementation. This is a continuous process.

2. A list of on-going Research Schemes is enclosed as Statement - I.

3. The research schemes are being implemented through the Research/Academic Institutions. As such the Ministry do not release any fund to the States exclusively for R&D work. The expenditure incurred on R&D Schemes during last three years is as under:-

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1995-96 | Rs. 87.05 lakhs |
| 1996-97 | Rs. 91.82 lakhs |
| 1997-98 | Rs.414.28 lakhs |

4. The list of R&D Schemes completed during the last two years is enclosed as Statement-II.

5. The list of Schemes proposed to be launched in the present year is enclosed as Statement-III.

Statement-I

List of on going Research Schemes

| Sl. No. | Scheme No. | Description |
|---------|------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | R-16 | Studies for flexible pavement under different traffic and climatic conditions. |
| 2. | R-19 | NPS : Pavement performance study NPS-I Study on especially designed and constructed sections. S I Deleted. S II on NH -4 (Bangalore-Pune Road near Bangalore). S III On NH-8 Vadodara bypass in Gujarat. NPS-II Study of pavement sections being constructed under externally funded scheme : on NH-1, NH-2, NH-8. NPS-III Study of recently completed four lane works on NH-1, NH-2, NH-8 & state roads around Delhi under externally aided projects. |
| 3. | R-41 | Use of geo-grinds in improving performance. |
| 4. | R-42 | Use of additives in bitumen to improve durability and strength of bituminous courses. |
| 5. | R-54 | Use of rubber/polymer modified bitumen binder for road pavements on NHs near Allahabad. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|----------|--|
| 6. | R-56 | To develop computer programmes & design charts for analytical design of flexible pavements. |
| 7. | R-59 | Development of computer programme for analysis box cell culvert. |
| 8. | R-63 | Use of geosynthetics pavement reinforcing fabric as interlayer to control reflective cracking in bituminous overlays. Construction of test sections in Km 239.5 to 240.5 and 172.0 to 173.0 of Kanpur Varana section of NH2 in UP. |
| 9. | R-65 | Improvement of computer aided system for high embankment. |
| 10. | R-66 | Automation of Bankelman Beam. |
| 11. | R-67 | Third revision of Pocket book of Highway Engineers & Bridge Engineers. |
| 12. | R-70 | Upgrading the state of Art Report - lime soil stabilization. |
| 13. | R-71 | Upgrading the state of Art Report for earthwork & subgrade. |
| 14. | R-74 | Development of road condition evaluation equipment. |
| 15. | R-75 (A) | Laying 20 mm MSS type B in Km.22(W) 23(W) NH-2 over tack coat with different bituminous materials. |
| 16. | R-75 (B) | Evaluation of performance of tack coat for 20mm MSS at Km.22(W), 23(W) of NH-2 Delhi-Mathura Road. |
| 17. | R-76 | Printing of compendium of technical circular for the period 1.1.1995 onwards (4th vol. of addendum to compilation of technical circular. |
| 18. | R-77 | Construction of experimental sections on Bangalore-Pune section of NH-4 between Km.30-34 to study pavement performance of New pavement sections under R-19. |
| 19. | R-81 | Structural Evaluation of pavements in Eastern India using falling weight deflectometer. |
| 20. | B-1 | Rational method of estimating resistance of soil around well foundations of bridges. Cohesion less Soils. |
| 21. | B-12 | Long term study of temperature distribution on bridge decks. |
| 22. | B-14 | Development of computer software for the analysis and design of Highway Bridge Superstructure. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------|--|
| 23. | B-15 | Instrument of simply supported PSC bridges - New and old Mandovi Bridges in Goa. |
| 24. | B-17 | Instrument of cantilever bridges across Ganga at Varanasi. |
| 25. | B-18 | Critical evaluation of fusion bonded epoxy coated reinforcement and other protective coatings on reinforcement. |
| 26. | B-20 | Rational Design Specification for wind resistance design for country's bridges of normal span and guidelines for large span bridges. |
| 27. | R-21 | Preparation of SOAR on Under Water Scanni |
| 28. | B-22 | Preparation of SOAR on development of Bridge bearings. |
| 29. | B-23 | To evaluate live load characterisation for evolving partial safety factor for live loads on concrete bridges (Phase 1). |
| 30. | B-24 | Updaton of Standard Data Book of Analysis (1995) |
| 31. | B-26 | Use of fibrer reinforced concrete in repair and rehabilitation of bridges. |
| 32. | R-3 | Establishment of permanent Traffic counting stations in Andhra Pradesh. |
| 33. | R-35 | Development and application of traffic simulation model. |
| 34. | R-44 | Pattern of traffic on secondary road system. |
| 35. | R-47 | Estimate of short haul urban & sub urban freight traffic. |
| 36. | R-62 | Evolving guidelines on infrastructural facilities for freight traffic movement of multi axle vehicles along National Highways. |
| 37. | R-68 | Development of aesthetic design of road side furniture. |
| 38. | R-69 | Preparation of guidelines for geometric design standards for expressway in India. |
| 39. | R-72 | Development of Automation counting and classification system for Highway vehicles. |
| 40. | R-73 | Evaluation of capacity Augmentation options on National Highways and State Highways. |
| 41. | R-79 | Evaluation of road accident costs. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------|--|
| 42. | R-80 | Updation of Road User Cost Study. PLANNING : |
| 43. | | Review and revise procedures and guidelines in awarding contracts and finalising projects in order to ensure administrative efficiency and bring in transparency in procedure. |

Statement-II

List of Research Schemes completed during last two years

| Sl. No. | Scheme No. | Description |
|---|------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| A : ROADS | | |
| 1. | R-18 | Geometric design studies on horizontal friction factors, perception and brake reaction time of drivers and sight distance requirements. |
| 2. | R-57 | Case study and environmental impact of highway projects and its control. |
| 3. | R-60 | Development of portable electronic device for measuring field CBR. |
| B : BRIDGES | | |
| 1. | B-14 Ext. | Development of computer based standard designs & drawings for Highway Bridges. |
| 2. | B-19 | Study of seismic designs for Highway Bridges. |
| C : TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION | | |
| 1. | R-40 | Development of paints & Road Marking Material. |
| 2. | R-64 | Establishment of system for identification and rectification of accident black spot and appropriate safety improvement schemes for National Highways and their privatisation. |

Statement-III

New R&D Schemes Proposed to be sanctioned during 1998-99

| | Description |
|--------------|---|
| ROADS | |
| 1. | Structural evaluation of pavements in Eastern India using falling weight deflectometer. |
| 2. | Study on effects of hard shoulders on performance of flexible pavements. |

T&T

1. Updation of Road User Cost Study.
2. Development of Guidelines for traffic calming Techniques Indian conditions.

BRIDGES

1. Evaluation of live load characterisation for evolving partial safety factor for live load on bridges (Phase I).
2. Updation of standard Data Book of analysis.
3. Use of fibre reinforced concrete in repair of bridges.
4. Condition Survey of bridges.

[English]

Centres of Excellence

*217. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Centres of Excellence for creating Awareness of Environment functioning in the country, state-wise;

(b) the details of expenditure made thereon during the last three years;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) whether this expenditure commensurates with the results?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has set up 2 Centres of Excellence for creation of environmental awareness. These two centres are; Centre for Environment Education located at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) with regional cells at Bangalore, Guwahati, Lucknow and Pune and; C.P. Ramaswamy Environmental Education Centre located at Chennai (Tamil Nadu) having a field office at Uthagamandalam.

(b) The details of financial assistance released by the Ministry to these two centres during the last three years are as below:

| | (Rs. in lakhs) | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Financial Assistance Released during | | |
| | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| 1. Centre for Environment Education Ahmedabad. | 180.00 | 205.50 | 231.13 |
| 2. C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai. | 75.00 | 76.00 | 87.43 |

(c) These two Centres have developed into advanced centres for training of trainers for imparting Environment Education through non-formal methods in the school system, and related preparation of resource material, conducting

awareness activities, development of innovative techniques for environment education. The resource material prepared by these centres is being used by a large number of NGOs, school teachers and students all over the country. The training programmes conducted by them have been acclaimed by not only the teaching community but also by NGOs, industry etc.

(d) Yes, Sir. These two centres are playing a major role in Ministry's efforts in creating environment awareness amongst different cross sections of the society.

Gas based Projects on Imported Liquefied Natural Gas

*218. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to run National Thermal Power Corporation's gas-based projects on the imported liquefied Natural Gas during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) whether National Thermal Power Corporation's Projects for capacity addition are running behind schedule;

(d) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measure taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for early completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is operating the power plants Anta (413 MW), Auraiya (652 MW), Kawas (645 MW), Gandhar (648 MW) and Dadri (817 MW), based on gas though there are provisions to utilise liquid fuel also to meet shortfall if any in gas availability.

NTPC's capacity addition programme during 9th Five Year Plan include second stage expansion of combined cycle power plants at Kawas, Jhanor-Gandhar, Anta and Auraiya by 650 MW each. Due to limited availability of domestic natural gas to begin with, NTPC will be using Naphtha as a bridge fuel for these projects. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is envisaged as ultimate fuel for Kawas-II, Jhanor-Gandhar-II, Anta-II, Auraiya-II projects and as also to meet any shortfall in gas availability for existing gas based stations and ongoing Gas/Naphtha based projects.

(c) No, Sir. The details are furnished in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Statement

Status of on going Projects of NTPC

| Sl.No. | Project | Unit-wise Commissioning schedule as per Investment Approval | | Status |
|--------|--|---|------------|--|
| 1. | Vindhaychal STPP Stage-II (2x500MW). Madhya Pradesh. | Unit I | Feb. 2000 | Progress as per schedule. |
| | | Unit II | Feb.2001 | |
| 2. | Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Station Stage II (2x210 MW), Uttar Pradesh. | Unit I | Jan. 2000 | do |
| | | Unit II | July 2000 | |
| 3. | Simhadri TPP (2x500 MW) Andhra Pradesh. | Unit I | March 2002 | do |
| | | Unit II | Dec. 2002 | |
| 4. | Kayamkulam CCPP 350 MW, Kerala | GT 1 | March 1999 | GT 1 commissioned about 4 months ahead of schedule. Other Units progress as per schedule. |
| | | GT 2 | May 1999 | |
| | | ST | March 2000 | |
| 5. | Faridabad GPP 400 MW, Haryana | GT 1 | Jan. 2000 | Progress as per schedule. |
| | | GT 2 | March 2000 | |
| | | ST | Jan. 2001 | |

Abbreviation:

STPP : Super Thermal Power Project

GT : Gas Turbine

ST : Steam Turbine

CCPP : Combined Cycle Power Project

GPP : Gas Power Project.

Socio-Economic Status of Women

*219. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched a special package of programmes for improving the socio-economic status of women, particularly those belonging to backward segments of society so as to ensure their effective participation in the economic process; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with financial allocations and target of beneficiaries to be covered under the package, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) With a view to creating awareness generation, convergence of services of various departments and encouraging income generation activities by women, Indira Mahila Yojana was launched in August 1995 on a pilot basis in 200 blocks.

An amount of Rs.12.20 crores was allocated for this scheme. There is no physical target under this scheme.

Government has also approved a new scheme in August 1998 called Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project. This project has an outlay of Rs.191.21 crores for the next five years which includes revolving fund of Rs.5.00 crores.

A statement on the state-wise distribution of these funds is enclosed.

Statement

The state-wise break up of the amount released as one time grant in the year 1995-96/1996-97 and the blocks assigned under Indira Mahila Yojana

| Sl. No. | Name of State/UT | Blocks assigned | Amount released (Rs. in lakh) | Remarks |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 14 | 85.4 | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 3. | Assam | 5 | 30.5 | |
| 4. | Bihar | 20 | 122.0 | |
| 5. | Goa | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 6. | Gujarat | 10 | 61.0 | |
| 7. | Haryana | 4 | 24.4 | |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 3 | 18.3 | |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 12.2 | |
| 10. | Karnataka | 10 | 61.0 | |
| 11. | Kerala | 7 | 42.7 | |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 14 | 85.4 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----|--------|----------------------|
| 13. | Maharashtra | 16 | 97.6 | |
| 14. | Manipur | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 16. | Mizoram | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 18. | Orissa | 7 | 42.7 | |
| 19. | Punjab | 5 | 30.5 | |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 10 | 61.0 | |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 22. | Tamilnadu | 13 | 79.3 | |
| 23. | Tripura | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 30 | 183.0 | |
| 25. | West Bengal | 14 | 85.4 | |
| 26. | Delhi | 2 | 12.2 | |
| 27. | A & N Islands | 1 | 6.1 | Released in 1996-97 |
| 28. | Chandigarh | 1 | 6.1 | Released in 1996-97. |
| 29. | D & N Haveli | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 30. | Daman & Diu | 1 | 6.1 | |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 1 | 6.1 | Released in 1996-97. |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 1 | 6.1 | |
| Total amount released in 1995-96 | | | 1201.7 | |
| Total amount released in 1996-97 | | | 18.3 | |
| Grand Total | | | 1220.0 | |

Statewise distribution of fund under Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project.

| State/Unit | Approved outlay (Rs. in crores) |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Bihar | 18.68 |
| Gujarat | 31.18 |
| Haryana | 16.88 |
| Karnataka | 31.25 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 29.41 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 50.61 |
| CPSU* | 8.20 |
| Revolving fund | 5.00 |
| Totals : | 191.21 |

*CPSU = Central Project Support Unit.

Study Centres

*220. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAV BHAI JAVIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of study centres set up under the Total Literacy Programme in the country, State-wise:

(b) the total amount of expenditure incurred under the programme so far, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds proposed by the Government for the said Programme for the current financial year;

(d) whether any study has been made about the impact of these centres on the Literacy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There is no concept of centres under the Total Literacy Campaign. However, the National Literacy Mission has the objective of imparting functional literacy to 100 million adult non-literates in 15-35 age-group. The Total Literacy Campaign (TLC) has been adopted as the principal strategy for eradication of adult illiteracy. These campaigns are area-specific, time-bound, volunteer-based, cost-effective and outcome oriented.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) A sum of Rs.20 crores has been provided for Special Projects for Eradication of Illiteracy for 1998-99 out of a total budget provision of Rs.93.97 crores for the Adult Education Programme.

(d) and (e) The expert group set up by the Department to evaluate Total Literacy Campaigns identified a number of strengths and weaknesses of the campaigns and made recommendations which are as follows:-

STRENGTHS

- It is more of a movement than a programme.
- There has been an overwhelming impact on women.
- The literacy movement has generated a demand for primary education.
- The launching of TLCs has placed literacy high on the national agenda.

WEAKNESSES

- The quality of teaching has suffered in some places where there has been excessive preoccupation with literacy skills alone.
- Fragile literacy needs to be consolidated through more effective post-literacy measures.
- Some campaigns have been launched without adequate preparation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- to stop formal declaration of Total Literacy achievements by states/districts.

- 55%-60% success to be considered as good progress.
- to tighten evaluation procedures.
- to cover age group of 9-14 under TLCs where non-formal education is not in progress.

Statement**Financial Status of Central Releases****Total Literacy Campaigns
as on**

(Rs. in lakhs)

| State/UT | NLM Release |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 5,202.97 |
| Assam | 1,433.23 |
| Bihar | 4,547.97 |
| Goa | 40.00 |
| Gujarat | 1,345.35 |
| Haryana | 1,008.90 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 285.50 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 195.00 |
| Karnataka | 3,151.29 |
| Kerala | 392.15 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 4,999.14 |
| Maharashtra | 2,913.73 |
| Manipur | 10.00 |
| Meghalaya | 195.65 |
| Orissa | 2,439.14 |
| Punjab | 802.04 |
| Rajasthan | 4,259.73 |
| Tamil Nadu | 3,253.63 |
| Tripura | 222.43 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 7,308.86 |
| West Bengal | 3,821.69 |
| Delhi | 428.44 |
| Chandigarh | 33.00 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 17.00 |
| Daman & Diu | 1.40 |
| Pondicherry | 58.26 |
| Total | 48,366.02 |

[Translation]

Agitation against Closures of PSUs

*181. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be please to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that the employees and workers are launching an agitation against the closure and privatisation of public undertakings including BIC, NTC and TAFCO; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) British India Corporation (BIC), Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India (TAFCO) and eight out of nine subsidiaries of the National Textile Corporation (NTC) were referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1992. The BIFR has given its recommendations for winding up in respect of BIC and TAFCO in 1994 and 1995 respectively. In respect of eight subsidiaries of NTC referred to the BIFR, the BIFR has issued show cause notice for winding up four and have suggested draft revival schemes in respect of four other subsidiaries.

[English]

Exemption of Excise Duty on Mouth Freshner

182. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI A.VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether the Government is in receipt of a number of requests for concession in excise duty on various items;

(b) if so, the general policy of the Government in the matter of granting exemptions and concessions;

(c) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Small Scale Pan Masala Manufacturers Association requesting for exemption of excise duty on Mouth Freshner; and

(d) if so, the decision of the Government thereon?

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

(b) Rates of excise duty are prescribed after taking into consideration all relevant factors, including the nature of goods, revenue potential, the general state of the industry and administrative convenience. The policy parameters would depend on the type and nature of commodities under consideration;

(c) Yes, the Government have received memorandum from the small scale Pan Masala Manufacturers Association requesting exemption of excise duty on Mouth Freshner.

(d) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for exempting mouth freshner from excise duty.

Resurgent India Bonds

183. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed by the Government to raise the money through Resurgent India Bonds and the amount actually collected;

(b) the manner in which the amount raised is likely to be utilised;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated its adverse effects from economic point of view while collecting the said amount;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regards;

(e) the extent to which the Budget deficit was plugged as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government proposes to announce more such schemes to collect more foreign exchange;

(g) if so, details thereof; and

(h) the reasons for the curbs imposed by the RBI on using the funds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) No target was fixed. The total collection amounted to approximately US \$ 4.2 billion (or Rs.18,051 crores).

(b) The amount raised is to be deployed in the infrastructure sector, Government securities and meeting CRR requirements of RBI.

(c) and (d) The issue of Resurgent India Bonds has been beneficial from the economic view point.

(e) The resources raised through the Bonds belong to the SBI. Hence there is no question of funding the Budget deficit.

(f) and (g) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(h) To ensure that the funds are used for the objectives for which these have been raised.

Assistance by IDBI to Industrial Houses

*184. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has provided assistance to large and joint industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith assistance provided during each of the last three years;

(c) the terms and conditions laid down by the IDBI in this regard;

(d) whether there has been any default in the repayment of these loans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) IDBI has reported that it has been providing financial assistance to industrial concerns including large industrial houses subject to their projects being found viable and IDBI's assistance being within the exposure norms applicable to company/business group/industry.

(b) As on 31st March, 1998 the outstanding loans to large industrial houses amounted to Rs.10,736 crores. Details of assistance provided by IDBI during the last three years viz. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 to large industrial houses are furnished below:-

| | (Rs. Crore) | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| | Year | | |
| | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| Assistance sanctioned | 4044.70 | 3728.38 | 5386.01 |
| Assistance disbursed | 2442.78 | 2623.12 | 4751.72 |

(c) IDBI's assistance in the form of loans is provided on the terms and conditions applicable generally to all project loans and non-project loans. Besides, project-specific special conditions are stipulated in individual cases as identified at the time of appraisal. RBI guidelines on exposure norms also stipulate a financial institution's exposure to any single company within 25% and to any single business group within 50% of its net-worth.

(d) and (e) IDBI has reported that the aggregate amount of principal default as on March 31, 1998 was Rs.137.44 crores in respect of the large industrial houses.

[Translation]

Abolition of Compound Interest on Agriculture Loans

*185. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish the system of charging compound interest on agriculture loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Policy guidelines for charging interest on loans to agriculture are laid down by the

Reserve Bank of India (RBI). As per the extant guidelines of RBI, the scheduled commercial banks are advised to charge simple interest on loans to agriculture and compound interest only when it is not repaid to the bank on due date which is the date fixed taking into consideration the fluidity with borrower and harvesting/marketing season.

[English]

Subsidy to Workers

*186. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several workers of NTC who took voluntary retirement and established their own project have sold them out on lesser price due to inordinate delay in making payment of interest on loan obtained by them from REC and non-availability of subsidy;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide subsidy and also provide them jobs;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have taken any decision to constitute a Committee in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government are aware that the managements of NTC mills rendered the mills sick due to their vested interests; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by the Government against these managements?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (e) As a part of the 1992 Turn Around Strategy for NTC Mills, a scheme had been formulated for rehabilitation of workers opting for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Under the scheme, the workers who started their own project by either purchasing old looms from NTC at a nominal price or by purchasing new powerlooms/reeling machines from machinery manufacturers, would be eligible for Production incentive which would be provided after successful operation for six months from the date of commissioning.

Subsequently on account of 8 out of 9 NTC subsidiaries being referred to BIFR and non-release of funds by financial institutions, the 1992 turn around strategy could not be implemented. Since the entire question of revival/rehabilitation of NTC mills was under re-examination, the question of release of production incentive by locating funds from the NRF after evaluation of the schemes implemented by the workers by a monitoring committee could not be finalised. Presently the scheme is dormant. According to information received from NTC eighteen claims for production incentive have been received. NTC will be clearing these pending claims after due verification. Some reports about sale of a few of these projects have been received which are under verification.

(f) and (g) NTC was established in 1968 to look after the affairs of sick textile mills taken over by the Government

from time to time. These mills were incurring losses even before the take over by the Government and in some cases the mills were lying closed for long periods. The main reasons for continued losses in these mills are old and obsolete machinery, lack of modernisation, excess labour force, poor work culture, high input costs, high fixed costs, continued shortage of working capital and competition from the powerloom and unorganised sectors and not the vested interests of the managements of these mills.

Performance of UTI

*187 SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether indepth review of the performance of various UTI Schemes, particularly US-64 has been carried out recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof in general and for US-64 in particular with specific problems identified and magnitude thereof from the point of view of small investors' interest;

(c) whether UTI is having time bound plans to recast its operations and schemes to ensure greater transparency and better financial performance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) UTI has stated that its management internally reviews the performance of various Schemes from time to time. The reviews are carried out by the Asset Management Committees which assess the performance of Schemes in respect of marketing, investor servicing, fund management and regulatory requirements. In the case of Unit Scheme-64, UTI has constituted an expert Committee headed by Shri Deepak Parekh to suggest measures for further strengthening the Scheme.

(c) and (d) The functioning of UTI is governed by the UTI Act, 1963 and the UTI General Regulations which lays down the regulatory framework including disclosure norms. The Act stipulates that the Board shall in discharging its functions act on business principles with due regard to the interests of the unit holders. UTI has also been adhering to SEBI regulations in respect of Schemes launched after July 1994. UTI has been adapting itself to the changing environment and through a network of technology driven financial services provides the best products and services to the investors.

Savings by Ministries

188. PROF SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Ministries of the Union Government have been showing persistent savings, year after year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this tendency has been retarding the development in various sectors; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for proper utilisation of the said amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) The Comptroller & Auditor General of India in his Report on the accounts of Central Government for the year 1996-97 has commented upon persistent savings by certain Ministries/Departments. The audit report is under examination of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). Government will take appropriate action on the PAC's recommendations as and when these are received.

Closure of Coal Mines

*189. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) has decided to shed off 68,000 miners by shutting down operation in 64 mines;

(b) if so, the mines which are likely to be closed down and the reasons for taking such decision;

(c) whether the ECL has chalked out any alternate plan/ scheme for the welfare of the families of those employees which are likely to be affected; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) The Board of Directors of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) in its meeting held on 22.10.98 resolved to close 64 mines of the company with the consequent retrenchment of about 72,000 employees of these mines.

(b) The reasons for the Board of ECL coming to the above decision were among others:-

(i) The continued losses of ECL despite infusion of substantial amount of capital by CIL and Government of India.

(ii) The large number of unviable mines.

(iii) The high level of losses being incurred in the continued operation of the 64 mines identified in six areas of ECL.

The list of these 64 mines is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) For the rehabilitation of ECL discussions with the unions have commenced. Parallely ECL has had discussions with Coal India Limited, Government of West Bengal and Government of India to evolve an approach to a revival package. The package would be settled after discussions with the unions. In the interest of welfare of the families of those employees who are likely to be affected, ECL had earlier prepared a Voluntary Retirement Scheme, the provisions of which are more generous than the provisions of retrenchment of employees.

Statement

Mines in ECL proposed for closure

| Name of Area | Name of Mines |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. Sripur | 1 Ghusik |
| | 2 Ningah |
| | 3 S.S. Incline |
| | 4 Gimint/KD incline |
| | 5 Adjoy II |
| | 6 Bhanora West Block |
| | 7 Kalipahari |
| 2. Sodepur | 1 Methani |
| | 2 Bejdih |
| | 3 Dhemomain Incline |
| | 4 Dhemomain Pit |
| | 5 BC Incline |
| | 6 Patmohna |
| | 7 Sodepur |
| | 8 Parbelia |
| | 9 Dubeswari |
| | 10 Chinakuri-I |
| | 11 Chinakuri-II |
| | 12 Chinakuri-III |
| | 13 Narsumoda |
| 3. Salanpur | 1 Dabor |
| | 2 Sangramgrah |
| | 3 Khoirabad |
| | 4 Begunia |
| | 5 Manoharbahal |
| | 6 Chak Ballavpur |
| | 7 Gourangdih OC |
| | 8 Bonjemehari OC |
| | 9 Mohanpur OC |
| 4. Satgram | 1 Kalidaspur |
| | 2 Ratibati |
| | 3 Chapui Khas |
| | 4 Miithapur |
| | 5 Nimcha |
| | 6 Jemehari |
| | 7 Pure Searsole |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| | 8 Tirath |
| | 9 Kuardih |
| | 10 Ardhagram OC |
| | 11 Sitadasjee |
| | 12 JK Nagar |
| | 13 Satgram Project |
| | 14 Satgram Incline |
| 5. Pandaveshwar | 1 Madhaipur |
| | 2 Madherboni |
| | 3 Pandaveshwar |
| | 4 Dalurbandh |
| | 5 Kendra |
| | 6 Samla |
| | 7 South Samla |
| 6. Mugma | 1 Gopinathpur |
| | 2 Hariazam |
| | 3 Badjna |
| | 4 Chapapur |
| | 5 Khoodia |
| | 6 Lakhimata |
| | 7 Mandman |
| | 8 Kapasara |
| | 9 Kumardhubi |
| | 10 Shampur-B |
| | 11 Khoodia OC |
| | 12 Nirsha OC |
| | 13 Barmuri OC |
| | 14 Rajpura OC |

Total number of mines in 6 areas are 64

Tax Evasion

*190. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of evasion of Central excise and other taxes have been detected during the raids in the country conducted by the Revenue Department during 1997-98, till date;

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

(c) the amount involved and the amount recovered from them so far, and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent evasion of Central Excise and other taxes in future.

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

(b) State-wise details are as follows:-

(i) Central Excise

(From 1.4.1997 to 31.10.1998)

| Sl.No. | State | No. of cases of evasion detected |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 575 |
| 2. | Bihar | 79 |
| 3. | Delhi | 677 |
| 4. | Goa | 1 |
| 5. | Gujarat (including U.Ts of Daman & Diu) | 637 |
| 6. | Haryana | 497 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 23 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 25 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 290 |
| 10. | Kerala (including U.T. of Lakshadweep) | 105 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 2315 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 245 |
| 13. | Orissa | 169 |
| 14. | Punjab (including U.T. of Chandigarh) | 537 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 50 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu (including Pondichery) | 775 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 544 |
| 18. | West Bengal & Sikkim | 358 |
| 19. | States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. | 3 |
| Total | | 7905 |

(ii) Customs

(From 1.4.1997 to 31.10.1998)

| Sl.No. | State | No. of cases of evasion detected |
|--------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 21 |
| 2 | Delhi | 46 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|----------------------|-----|
| 3. | Goa | 5 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 60 |
| 5. | Karnataka | 35 |
| 6. | Kerala | 4 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | 3 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 178 |
| 9. | Punjab | 2 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | 9 |
| 11. | Tamil Nadu | 96 |
| 12. | West Bengal | 234 |
| 13. | Orissa | 24 |
| 14. | North Eastern States | 29 |
| Total | | 746 |

(iii) Income Tax (Including Corporation Tax)

(From 1.4.1997 to 30.11.1998)

| Sl.No. | State | No. of warrants issued in evasion cases |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1. | Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra & Mumbai | 2677 |
| 2. | Karnataka, Goa, Lakshadweep & Andhra Pradesh | 697 |
| 3. | West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, NER | 988 |
| 4. | Delhi, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh & J&K. | 939 |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala | 562 |
| 6. | U.P. & M.P. | 656 |
| Total | | 6519 |
| Grand Total : | | 15170 |

[(i),(ii) & (iii)]

(c) The amount of duty involved in the above mentioned Central excise and Customs cases is approximately Rs.3059 crores and the value of seizures effected in Income Tax cases is Rs.432 crores. The amount of recovery made in these cases so far is Rs.234 crores.

(d) The steps include effecting improvements in gathering of intelligence, prompt circulation of any novel modus operandi noticed in any part of the country, strengthening of anti-evasion machinery, alerting the field formations about possible evasion plans, restrictions on cash transactions, enforcing the provisions regarding compulsory maintenance and audit of accounts, prosecution of tax evaders, and reduction and rationalisation of tax rates.

[Translation]

Decline in Growth Rate

*191. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth rate of capital goods, consumer durables, automobiles and cement industry is steadily declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith growth rate during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons for slow growth rate;

(d) whether ASSOCHAM has attributed this due to anomalous duty structure;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to boost the growth rate in the above sectors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) The industrial growth rate during the last three years in respect of the different sectors are as follows:

| SECTORS | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1997-98 (Apr.- Sep.) | 1998-99 (Apr.- Sep.) |
|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| OVER ALL | 12.7 | 5.6 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 3.6 |
| Capital Goods | 4.1 | 9.3 | 5.2 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
| Consumer Durables | 25.8 | 4.6 | 7.8 | 6.3 | 0.4 |
| Cement | 11.5 | 9.6 | 9.2 | 5.1 | 4.1 |
| Automobiles | | | | | |
| Commercial Vehicles | 37.1 | 10.5 | -30.7 | -12.0 | -42.6 |
| Auto rikshaws | 28.9 | 25.2 | 8.8 | -0.4 | -3.1 |
| Motorcycles | 25.3 | 23.4 | 9.7 | 12.08 | 12.46 |
| Cars | 26.2 | 21.1 | -2.5 | 6.5 | -10.1 |
| Two wheelers | 15.3 | 7.9 | 1.1 | -9.8 | -1.1 |

(c) The slow down in industrial growth can be attributed to both the domestic and external factors. Domestic factors include weak demand on account of inadequate investment in infrastructure sectors, like power, ports and transport, and slow down in general investment mainly due to capital market conditions and partly due to corporate restructuring in some industries in order to become internationally competitive. On the external side, the export growth has been negative which has been aggravated by fall in world exports.

The demand has been slackening for basic goods like steel, cement, commercial vehicles, capital goods as well as

consumer durables. This has resulted in build-up of inventories and a cut back of production by the industries.

Export growth declined to (-) 5.08% during April-October 1998, following significant deceleration from 21.4% in 1995-96 to 4% in 1996-97 and just 2.6% in 1997-98. As exports constitute a significant proportion of total manufacturing output in the country, the decline in exports has adversely impacted industrial production.

(d) and (e) The ASSOCHAM has indicated that apart from the declining demand, the industry has also been affected by anomalies in duty structure. They have indicated that import duty structure needs to be rationalised to ensure that the duty on raw materials and intermediate products remain below that of the finished goods.

(f) In order to arrest the slowdown in industrial growth, Government have taken various measures during the Budget 1998-99 and thereafter to stimulate and revive industrial growth. The package of measures announced in the Budget *inter alia*, included:

- (i) de-licensing of coal and lignite, and petroleum refining to attract larger inflow of capital (sugar was also subsequently delicensed).
- (ii) increase in limit for aggregate investment by NRIs raised from 5% to 10%.
- (iii) rationalisation of tariff structure by introducing 4% special additional duty of customs to remove disadvantages faced by the domestic industry.
- (iv) Plan outlay for Energy, Transport and Communications stepped up by 35% to Rs.61,146 crores in 1998-99 (BE) as against Rs.45,252 crores in 1997-98 (RE).
- (v) Central and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions to be set up to rationalise power tariffs.
- (vi) FEMA to be introduced and FERA to be repealed.
- (vii) Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act (ULCRA) to be repealed which would lead to a step up in construction activity and demand for materials such as cement, steel etc.

In order to give a further boost to industry Government has announced further measures, which include:

- (i) Special package announced for revival of growth in exports.
- (ii) The Government has recently allowed buy back of shares and inter-corporate loans to boost investment and revive the capital market.
- (iii) To give an immediate boost to industrial activity, the busy season credit policy announced by RBI has avoided raising interest rates.
- (iv) Counter guarantees given by Government to three major fast track power projects are expected to lead to financial closure and thus create demand for basic and other goods.

- (v) Six lane, 7000 Km. highways at a cost of Rs.28,000 crores are to be taken up immediately.
- (vi) Four Task Forces for Steel, Capital Goods, Commercial Vehicles and Cement have been constituted to recommend policy interventions to address the problems faced by these sectors. The Task Forces have submitted their recommendations to Ministry of Finance. Government has already notified exemption of seven inputs used in steel manufacturing from the 5% special customs duty. The policy announcements relating to other sectors are expected shortly.

It is expected that the growth in industrial production in general would pick up as a result of the various measures taken by the Government.

Import of Coins/Notes

*192. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had imported currency notes/coins, printed/minted in the foreign countries during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for importing the said currency notes and coins; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To improve the availability of currency notes and coins to the public.

(c) The total expenditure involved is US \$ 132.87 million (US \$ 95.28 million for currency notes and US \$ 37.59 million for coins).

[English]

BIFR

*193. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases of industrial sickness are pending with the BIFR;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the pendency of these cases;

(d) whether only one bench of BIFR is functioning at present out of four benches;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) As on 31.10.1998, 2381 Sick Industrial Companies were registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). Out of this 1722 cases have been disposed off by BIFR and remaining 659 cases are pending at various stages.

(c) The factors which cause delay in disposal of cases by the BIFR inter alia include delay on the part of the promoter in submitting a fully financially tied up rehabilitation proposal, need to provide opportunity to all interested parties and obtaining consent of all concerned regarding revival proposals as per the provisions of SICA.

(d) and (e) Presently, there are three Members of BIFR in position. Action has already been initiated to appoint members in BIFR.

(f) In order to detect sickness at its incipient stage and expedite the BIFR process, action for framing a revised Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill has been initiated.

Japanese Investment in India

*194. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment of Japan in India during 1997-98;

(b) the extent to which it is likely to increase during 1998-99;

(c) whether Japanese businessmen have informed that they will continue to make investment in India;

(d) if so, whether any agreement has been finalised and signed in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) During the period, April, 1997 to March, 1998, 70 proposals involving Foreign Direct Investment of Rs.2064.2 crore have been approved. The inflows during the period have been of the order of Rs.616.0 crore.

(b) During the current financial year (April'98 to October'98), 42 proposals involving Rs.572.8 crore have been approved and inflows have been of the order of Rs.481.9 crore.

(c) There has been an upward trend in both approvals and inflows of Japanese investment in India. Starting from an approved FDI of Rs.52.7 crore in 1991, it has gone to a cumulative total of Rs.7456.4 crore in 1998 (as on 31st October, 1998).

As per EXIM Japan 1997 Survey, India has been ranked as the 2nd most promising destination for Foreign Direct

Investment over the long term (10-year horizon). According to the study conducted by Ministry of International Trade & Industry, Japan, India is the largest untapped market and is likely to emerge as one of the centres of World Development in future. As such, and also going by both the upward trend in approvals and inflows of Japanese investments in India, it is expected that Japanese investment in India would continue to grow.

(d) and (e) A Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee in Japan and an India-Japan Business Co-operation Committee in India were set up in 1966 as part of a 10 point Agreement entered into between Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The Committees, which are mainly aimed at promoting trade and investment, meet at regular intervals for ongoing dialogue on strengthening business relations between the two countries. Incidentally, the 29th joint meeting of India Japan Business Co-operation Committee was held in New Delhi from 30-11-98 to 01-12-98 as part of ongoing interaction between the business communities of the two countries.

Disinvestment of PSUs

*195. SHRI RAJO SINGH :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new proposals referred to the Disinvestment Commission during the current year, as on date;

(b) the criteria for selecting the PSUs for disinvestment;

(c) the number of reports submitted by the Disinvestment Commission to the Government so far;

(d) the details of the main recommendations of the report of the Disinvestment Commission, indicating the names of PSUs;

(e) the time by which recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission are likely to be implemented;

(f) the Action Plan of the Government to clear backlog of the disinvestment proposals;

(g) the amount realised so far therefrom and purpose for which it is likely to be spent;

(h) whether the trends in share market are adversely affected due to the process of disinvestment; and

(i) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Ten PSEs have been referred to the Disinvestment Commission during the current year. This is done in consultation with the concerned Administrative Ministries.

(c) Eight.

(d) A detailed summary of the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) to (g) Since disinvestment is a continuing process, no time frame for implementation can be indicated. Partial disinvestment of Government equity in VSNL, IOC, GAIL and CONCOR are planned for the current year. An amount of Rs.221.65 crores has already been realised by disinvestment of 9 million shares in CONCOR.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

Statement

Recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission

1. Modern Food Industries India Limited (MFIL)

Sale of entire Government shareholding on as-is-where-is basis.

2. Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL)

25% disinvestment through GDR.

3. India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC)

Handing over the hotels located in prime locations to established hotel chains to run on long term structure contract on lease cum management basis. The hotels in other locations may be demerged into separate companies and Government to sell 100% of its equity in those new companies.

4. Manganese Ore India Ltd.(MOIL)

No immediate disinvestment.

5. Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR)

10 Million shares offer to institutional investors and public and at a later stage the company could go in for fresh issue of 12.5 million shares thereby reducing the Government's share to 51%.

6. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.(MTNL)

60 Million shares in GDR market and 28.3 million shares in domestic market through book building.

7. Oil India Ltd. (OIL)

Disinvestment and Company's IPO only after company's prospects are clearly established through the outcome of exploration activities in the North Bramaputra area and Government's policy on APM.

8. Oil and Natural Gas Commission Ltd. (ONGC)

Disinvestment after the Organisation changes are in position and Government's policy on APM.

9. Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES)

No Disinvestment.

10. Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHL)

Recommends writing off the Westland Loans together with interest. Offer the entire Government holding to ONGC. If ONGC not interested, sell the entire holding of Government to an investor.

11. Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (POWERGRID)

Disinvestment only after entire electricity sector is fully restructured.

12. Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. (EPIL)

GOI firstly to try disinvestment of 74% of its holding as approved by the Cabinet; in the absence of satisfactory response, closure and sale of asset.

13. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)

No disinvestment presently.

14 & 15. Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation and Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Ltd.

ITDC to disinvest 100% holding in favour of any private entrepreneur.

16. Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T)

ET&T to discontinue all its operations with immediate effect and sale of assets of the company.

17. Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Ltd. (HVOC)

Hiving off breakfast food division and sell of 100%; close down of operations in vanaspati and packaging of refined oil.

18. Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. (HCIL)

The hotels at Mumbai and Delhi to be sold as separate units; initiate dialogue with J&K Government for Centaur Srinagar and AI to decide about the flight catering services.

19. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC)

No disinvestment presently.

20. Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. (RICL)

With immediate effect discontinue all the operations and sale of assets.

21. National Aluminium Co. Ltd. (NALCO)

Offer of sale of upto 30% equity to retail as well as institutional investors including a GDR issue of 15%.

22. Neyveli Lignite of India Ltd. (NLC)

No disinvestment presently.

23. Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)

No disinvestment, presently. Govt. assistance in writing-off IISCO's losses and sale of IISCO. Conversion of SAIL's SDR dues into equity.

24. Air India Ltd.

Infusion of Rs.1000 crore as equity, followed by strategic sale by issue of new shares reducing Government holding to 60%. Subsequently offer of sale of 20% to domestic investors.

25. Central Electronics Ltd.

Priority to CEL's performance improvement. One year to reduce manpower through VRS and another year to improve performance. If substantial surplus manpower reduction is not achieved, disinvest CEL through a trade sale after hiving-off defence related operations.

26. Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd. (BALCO)

Immediate disinvestment of 40% of the equity to a strategic partner with an agreement to dilute Government holding to 26% through public issue holding to 26% through public issue within 2 years. The Government to disinvest its balance holding of 26% in full at an appropriate time in future.

27. Bongaigaon Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd. (BRPL)

Strategic sale of 50% of Government holding with an agreement to further dilute to 26% or below through public offer at a later date.

28. HTL Ltd. (HTL)

3 Options for disinvestment :

- Sale for 100% shares in HTL alongwith ITI in the process of Strategic Sale.
- 50% of shares of HTL may be offered to a strategic partner through a global competitive bidding.
- If none of the above options is feasible straight sale of assets of the company through competitive bidding.

29. ITI Ltd. (ITI)

Immediate reduction of manpower through VRS and hiving off the Defence Division in Bangalore and merge with Bharat Electronics Ltd. followed by strategic sale of 50% of the shares with agreement to reduce the Govt. holding to 26% through public offer to Indian Institutions, small investors and employees later.

30. Madras Fertilisers Ltd. (MFL)

Recommended to initiate negotiations with National Iranian Oil Company to change the terms of agreement which would permit sale of 50% of the shares in the company to a strategic partner.

31. Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. (KIOCL)

Strategic sale of 30% and induction of the strategic partner in the management. There should be an agreement with the Strategic partner/for further dilution of Government equity to strategic partner and public offering within 2 years.

32. Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)

Two options suggested :

- HCL to implement the expansion programme and also restructure the ICC mining operations by closing down mines through VRS. Afterwards, Government to divest 51% of its holding through a strategic sale.

The balance 22% to be disinvested through offer of sale to domestic institutions, small investors and employees.

- Immediately disinvest 51% through a strategic sale and after restructuring and expansion, disinvest balance 22% through offer of sale to domestic institutions, small investors and employees.

Purchase of Gas Masks

*196. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited had purchased about 30,000 gas masks technically called "Filter Self Rescuers" at a cost of Rs.5 crore which were later found to be faulty;

(b) if so, whether such gas masks were purchased after proper test;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Only filter-self rescuers (FSRs) having approval from DGMS are procured by CIL. Against Global Tender for procurement of FSRs, an order for 30,000 was placed on M/s Joseph Leslie Drager Mfg. Pvt. Ltd. on 13.10.95 at a cost of Rs.5.06 crores. This order was placed against approval issued by DGMS vide letter dated 6.10.95. This approval which was valid initially for 6 months was later on extended to 5.10.96 and then further extended upto 31.10.97 vide letters from DGMS dated 23.5.96 and 11.12.96. The delivery of 30,000 FSRs was to be completed by August'96 and the party completed the delivery by July'96. Therefore, on the date of placement of order as well as till the time the delivery was completed there was validity of the approval of DGMS for FSRs supplied by the party.

DGMS informed CIL about the adverse test result of 6 sample FSRs drawn by them at random from Moonidih colliery of BCCL and advised CIL to take corrective action and to withdraw FSRs from the mines and get those tested. On the basis of this advice, FSRs were withdrawn and are presently being tested.

(b) and (c) These filter self rescuers manufactured by M/s Joseph Leslie Drager Mfg. Pvt. Ltd. were granted DGMS approval only after they were tested at Central Mining Research Institute (CMRI). Besides inspection of the testing facilities for ensuring quality control available at the works of M/s Joseph Leslie Drager Mfg. Pvt. Ltd. by one of the subsidiaries, pre-acceptance examination was also carried out at each of the receiving points.

(d) On the advice of Director General of Mines Safety, these filters self rescuers have been withdrawn from use in underground mines and the efficacy of the equipment so withdrawn, is being checked by taking random samples and getting them tested at CMRI.

No further order for procurement of FSRs has been placed on M/s Joseph Leslie Drager Mfg. Pvt. Ltd. after the last order of October, 1995.

Withdrawal of Ban on Import of Raw Silk

*197. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

33. **Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI)**

Govt. to disinvest 40% of its holding to oil refineries, (30% to public sector and 10% to private sector refineries). This can be followed by the company's own equity raising.

34. **Engineers India Ltd. (EIL)**

GOI to hold 26% for retaining the character as an Indian Consultancy company in strategic areas; GOI to disinvest 30% equity stake in the company alongwith appropriate role in management; 10% to employees under SOP; 10% to public sector oil companies and other user PSUs; 24% through public offer to domestic investors after the strategic partner is inducted.

35. **Hindustan Prefab Ltd. (HPL)**

GOI to offer 74% of its holding to a strategic buyer.

36. **IBP Ltd. (IBP)**

GOI to hold 26% and offer upto 33.9 per cent of the company's equity out of GOI holding of 59% to strategic buyer.

37. **NEPA Ltd. (NEPA)**

Immediate sale of 51% to a strategic partner which could go up to 100%.

38. **Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL)**

25% equity to be offered to strategic partner with role in management.

39. **Pyrites Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL)**

Initiate action to sell Amjhore and Saladipura units to strategic buyers and close down Dehradun operations.

40. **Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)**

Offer a minimum of 51% equity to strategic buyer along with management control.

41. **Hindustan Latex Ltd. (HLL)**

Offer a minimum of 51% equity to Strategic buyer along with management control.

42. **Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL)**

Offer 25% equity to strategic buyer along with management control.

43. **National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL)**

Offer a minimum of 51% equity to strategic buyer along with management control, after the Karsan dispute is resolved.

- (a) whether the Government have decided to withdraw the ban on import of raw silk yarn;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of price difference between imported silk, silk yarn and locally produced one; and
- (d) the steps taken to protect the interests of indigenous silk producers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The import of raw silk continues to be in the restricted list of import. However, to cater to the demand for high grade quality mulberry raw silk, the Government have now permitted import of grade 2A and above mulberry raw silk against Special Import License (SIL). Such imports are subject to the condition that the CIF (Cost, Insurance and Freight) value of the surrendered SIL will be three times the CIF value of the imported goods.

(c) Most of the finer mulberry raw silk in filature form produced in the country is of grade B and below. The prevailing price of such indigenous raw silk is approximately Rs.1450 per Kg. The CIF price of superior quality Chinese raw silk of grade 2A and above is about Rs.1040 per Kg. However, the basic import duty on raw silk is 30%; in addition there is also Special Customs Duty of 5% and Special Additional Duty of 4%.

(d) Apart from both tariff and non-tariff protection provided to indigenous raw silk producers, Government have taken several steps to strengthen indigenous production. These include the National Sericulture Project, various catalytic schemes for promoting production of high grade quality silk such as use of multi-end reeling machines, creation of growth centres for production of quality silk and specific schemes for quality enhancement of silk. These schemes are implemented by the Central Silk Board through respective State Governments.

SEBI Suggestions on Mutual Funds

*198. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received suggestions from SEBI to allow mutual funds to invest abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether RBI has warned against such investment by mutual funds due to worsening position of foreign exchange reserves; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) - Reserve Bank of India in its credit and monetary policy of October, 1997 announced that SEBI registered Indian Fund managers, including Mutual Funds, would be permitted to invest in overseas markets subject to SEBI guidelines. This facility was subject to an annual overall cap of US \$ 500 million with the ceiling for individual funds at US \$ 50 million.

- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Patent of Indian Plants by US

*199. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether more than 100 useful Indian plants originally grown in India have been got patented by America;
- (b) if so, the names of such plants;
- (c) whether India have to pay royalty on these plants to the foreigners;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Patents can not be granted for existing plants, as they are not new. Patents are granted on inventions, which are new, involve an inventive step and are capable of industrial application. Patents are granted to inventors under respective national legislation and not to countries. The rights granted to patentees are restricted to the territory of that country.

- (c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) Whenever information is received about patents being taken on certain products, which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of a patent can be challenged. If there is sufficient material to justify objection to the grant of the patent, a petition for re-examination and revocation of the patent is filed in the patent office of the concerned country.

[English]

National Renewal Fund

*200. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to abolish National Renewal Fund Programme set up in 1991-92 due to its failure to deliver the expected results;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the Budget allocation to National Renewal Fund since 1991-92, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) Assistance from National Renewal Fund is being provided for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in Central Public Sector Undertakings and for counselling, retraining and re-deployment of rationalised workers.

(d) National Renewal Fund was established vide Government Resolution dated 03-02-1992. Year-wise budget allocation to National Renewal Fund since its inception is as under:

| Year | Budget Allocation (Rs. Crore) |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 829.66 |
| 1993-94 | 1020.00 |
| 1994-95 | 200.00 |
| 1995-96 | 140.00 |
| 1996-97 | 150.00 |
| 1997-98 | 306.91 |
| 1998-99(BE) | 300.00 |

Construction of Bridges on N.H.-36

2292. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the works to construct permanent bridges at N.H.-36 between Doboka and Dimapur have been completed;

(b) if so, the places where such works are not completed and the likely time by which these are expected to be completed; and

(c) the funds spent so far on the works between Doboka and Dimapur section of NH-36 during last three years, year-wise?

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

(b) The remaining bridges are at Km 32, 48 and 127. These are targeted to be completed by 31.12.2003 subject to availability of funds.

(c) Expenditure of Rs. 51.67 lakhs, Rs.128.88 lakhs and Rs.487.11 lakhs was incurred during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

Pauranic Temple in Maharashtra

2293. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Pauranic temple with the images of Gods and Goddesses and other archaeological finds has been lately unearthed at Kudal Sangam, Takli-Pulachi, Taluka South Solapur (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any further excavations have been conducted or are proposed to be conducted in the area by Archaeological Survey of India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken and being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A temple locally called Hari-Hareshwar temple exists at village Kudal Sangam, 12 Kms. from Takli-Pulachi, Taluka South Solapur, district Solapur (Maharashtra). It is dedicated to Siva and Krishna in two separate garbha-grihas along with other architectural components and several sculptures of Pauranic deities. Since it is a standing structure no excavation at the site is contemplated.

Coastal Trade

2294. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Companies are being encouraged to undertake coastal trade vis-a-vis foreign direct investment;

(b) whether a circular recently issued by his Ministry regarding coastal equity norms, contradicts foreign equity holding norms; and

(c) if so, the motive behind issuing such a circular?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) All Indian companies irrespective of foreign equity holding have access to the Indian coastal trade if they acquire ships which are registered under the Indian flag. However, if such companies acquire ships on Bare-Boat-Charter-Cum-Demise (BBCD) basis, then access to the coastal trade is permitted for BBCD ships only if at least 49% of equity is held by Indian residents. This policy has been implemented w.e.f. February 1998. However, Ministry of Industry have desired that the matter needs to be reviewed keeping in view the fact that the foreign equity up to 74% in Indian companies is permitted under the Automatic Approval Scheme of Reserve Bank of India for the shipping sector.

(c) The National Shipping Policy Committee has recommended that in order that the original purpose for the BBCD financing method be sustained without abuse, sabotage support and cargo support by Government should not be extended to BBCD chartered vessels operated by companies with more than 51% foreign equity.

Keeping in view the observations made by Ministry of Industry as also the shipping industry, the whole matter of giving preference in the coastal trade of BBCD vessels is under review.

Progress on Universalisation of Elementary Education

2295. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any review of the progress in universalisation of the Elementary Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which such a review is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, as modified in 1992, states that free and compulsory elementary education of satisfactory quality shall be provided to all children up to the age of 14 years before we enter the 21st century. The Central Government is augmenting the efforts of the State Governments towards achieving Universalisation of Elementary Education through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard, Teacher Education, Non-formal Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education and District Primary Education Programme. A review of the schemes is undertaken at the end of the Five Year Plans. Based on such reviews the schemes are modified/revised or expanded with a view to achieve the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education.

[Translation]

According Recognition to Universities

2296. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria followed by the UGC to grant recognition to the universities;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to give recognition to the Vir Kumar Singh University in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A University can be established or incorporated by or under the Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act. As soon as the UGC receives intimation about its establishment and appointment of the first Vice-Chancellor, the name of such a newly established University is included in the list of Universities under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act.

As regards the eligibility of University to receive Central Assistance under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, the University has to fulfil certain minimum criteria as laid down in the Rules framed by the Government. In case the University fulfils all the conditions, the proposal is examined by the UGC with the help of a Visiting Committee and if the same is found in order, the University is declared fit to receive Central assistance under Section 12-B of the UGC Act.

(b) to (d) The Vir Kunwar Singh University, Ara (Bihar) sent a proposal in April, 1996, to the UGC for declaring it eligible for central assistance under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act.

After examination of the proposal, it was found that the University did not fulfil the conditions with regard to infrastructural facilities and faculty strength. The University has been advised to fulfil these conditions and to approach the Commission for further appropriate consideration of its request.

[English]

W.B. Assistance for the Construction of School Buildings

2297. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank assistance was obtained for the construction of school/educational institution/buildings in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of World Bank assistance received;

(c) whether the Kerala Government had sent any proposal for World Bank assistance for equipment procurement also;

(d) if so, the amount sought for; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to get the same?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. World Bank assistance in the form of soft loan has been tied up to the extent of US \$ 1062.3 million (about Rs.3613.00 crores) for the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Project in 132 Districts of 11 States for the period 1994-2003. A maximum of 24% of the project cost can be utilised for civil works, which include construction of school buildings, additional classrooms, repairs, construction of buildings for Block Resource Centres (BRCs)/Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs), District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), State Council of Educational Research & Training (SCERT), State Institutes of Educational Management and Training (SIEMT), etc. Besides, under the World Bank assisted Technician Education Project meant for upgradation of Polytechnics, an expenditure of about Rs.838.62 crores has been incurred on construction of buildings from 1990-91 to October, 1998 of which 90% has been disbursed by the World Bank.

(c) to (e) The World Bank assisted District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is being implemented in 6 Districts of the State involving a total project cost of about Rs.186 crores for a project period of 6-7 years. Implementation of the project includes procurement of goods/equipment which are purchased in accordance with the prescribed procurement procedures. No separate/specific proposal for procurement of equipment under the above project has been received from the Government of Kerala. However, under DPEP, out of the total expenditure of Rs.60.15 crores on the project from 1994-95 to October, 1998, an amount of Rs.8.08 crores has been spent on procurement of goods/equipment and an amount of Rs.6.46 crores has been reimbursed by the World Bank. Under the Technician Education Project, Kerala had sought Rs.13.2 crores for procurement of equipment, which has already been provided.

[Translation]

Mahila Samridhhi Yojana

2298. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the habit of saving is being encouraged among rural women under Mahila Samridhi Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of accounts opened under the said programme by the women in the country during the last three years till date and the amount deposited with the post offices under this programme, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Mahila Samridhi Yojana was started in 1993 to inculcate the habit of savings among rural women in the country. After evaluation of this scheme by Programme Evaluation Organisation and rapid evaluation of Indira Mahila Yojana, the Planning Commission advised the Department to merge both these schemes. A revised proposal is under consideration of Government of India. Promotion of the habit of savings amongst women will be an important component of the revised scheme.

(c) New Accounts are not being opened in this scheme since 1st April, 1997. A statement showing the number of accounts till March, 1997 under Mahila Samridhi Yojana is attached. The amount deposited with post offices under Mahila Samridhi Yojana is as under:-

| Year | Amount (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|------------------------|
| 1994-95 | 69.40 |
| 1995-96 | 93.87 |
| 1996-97 | 92.68 |

Statement

Cumulative number of beneficiaries under MSY as on 31.3.1997 (State-wise)

| States/UTs | No. of A/c opened a (fig. in lacs) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| STATES | |
| 1. ASSAM | 15.08 |
| 2. MADHYA PRADESH | 37.73 |
| 3. GOA | 0.46 |
| 4. TAMIL NADU | 24.17 |
| 5. MIZORAM | 0.23 |
| 6. HARYANA | 7.70 |
| 7. ANDHRA PRADESH | 28.04 |
| 8. KARNATAKA | 15.36 |
| 9. PUNJAB | 6.65 |
| 10. GUJARAT | 11.15 |
| 11. HIMACHAL PRADESH | 1.92 |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 12. UTTAR PRADESH | 41.45 |
| 13. ORISSA | 9.42 |
| 14. SIKKIM | 0.12 |
| 15. RAJASTHAN | 10.73 |
| 16. KERALA | 5.21 |
| 17. MAHARASHTRA | 11.12 |
| 18. MANIPUR | 0.25 |
| 19. WEST BENGAL | 7.65 |
| 20. TRIPURA | 0.35 |
| 21. JAMMU & KASHMIR | 0.70 |
| 22. BIHAR | 7.67 |
| 23. ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 0.04 |
| 24. NAGALAND | 0.05 |
| 25. DELHI | 0.04 |
| 26. MEGHALAYA | 0.05 |
| UTs | |
| 1. CHANDIGARH | 0.12 |
| 3. LAKSHADWEEP | 0.02 |
| 2. PONDICHERY | 0.20 |
| 3. DAMAN & DIU | 0.02 |
| 5. ANDAMAN & N ISLAND | 0.05 |
| 6. D & N HAVELI | 0.03 |
| TOTAL | 245.76 |

[English]

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant in Kerala

2299. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant in Kerala is envisaged to be a super power project;

(b) if so, whether there are plans to enhance the capacity of the plant; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is implementing Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project (CCPP) based on Naphtha with 350 MW capacity in Kerala.

NTPC is considering expansion of this project based on availability of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal at Cochin. The expansion proposal would be firmed up by NTPC after availability of key inputs like fuel, water and financial tie-ups.

Construction of Bypass on National Highway-31

2300. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.1361 on July 22, 1996 and state :

(a) the percentage of work completed as on October 31, 1998 in respect of construction of Falakata to Pundibari bypass road on National Highway-31 and bridge on river Torsha;

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The progress of Falakata-Pundibari Bypass on National Highway-31 and bridge on river Torsha as on October 31, 1998 was as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----|
| Bypass Road | - | 82% |
| Torsha Bridge | - | 50% |

(b) The revised target date of completion of the project is June 2001.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Express Highway in M.P.

2301. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure to be incurred on the construction of Express Highway to connect Devas and Indore cities in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether this scheme has been taken up;

(c) if so, the total expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) the time by which the Express Highway is likely to be completed; and

(e) the number of lanes to be included in the Express Highway?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal for the construction of Express Highway to connect Devas and Indore cities in Madhya Pradesh. However, 4-laning of Indore-Devas section in Km 573.00 to Km 590.60 of NH 3 and construction of Indore bypass with an estimated cost of Rs.219.28 crores is in progress, which perhaps Honourable Member is referring to.

(c) Total expenditure of Rs.53.88 crores has been incurred up to October 1998 on the project of 4-laning and construction of bypass.

(d) The project is targetted to be completed by February, 2001.

(e) The project provides for 4-lane carriageway.

Afforestation and Beautification of Patora Lake

2302. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for afforestation and beautification of Patora Lake and Udhyan (Rajmahal, Bihar) is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Extinction of Deers

2303. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some deers are on the verge of extinction;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a policy decision to protect the rare species including deers from extinction; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to save the deers particularly black bucks and swamp deer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Although no deer species is on the verge of extinction, some deer species like Hangul, Sangai, Musk deer, Swamp deer and Mouse deer are included under the list of endangered animals.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps taken to save black buck, swamp deer and other endangered species of deer include:

i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

ii) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.

iii) International trade in endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

iv) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

v) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training

programme on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995 & 1996.

- vi) Staff in National Parks and Sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the National Parks and Sanctuaries.
- vii) Analogous to the Centre, the states have also been asked to set up co-ordination committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control illegal trade.

Funds for Vocational Courses in Karnataka

2304. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allotted to Karnataka for its colleges and universities for starting vocational courses during 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) the amount proposed to be allotted for the purpose for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) whether new district Haveri in Karnataka has been provided funds for the vocational courses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, the following amount has been allocated for Vocational Courses for 1997-98 and 1998-99 for colleges of Karnataka:-

| | | |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| 1997-98 | Recurring | Rs.86 Lakh |
| | Non-recur. | Rs.31 Lakh |
| | | Rs.117 Lakh |
| 1998-99 | Recurring | Rs.149 Lakh |
| | Non-recur. | Rs. 80 Lakh |
| | | Rs. 229 Lakh |

(b) Though selection of the colleges is yet to be decided, the approximate total allocations for this Scheme for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is Rs.200 lakhs and Rs.300 lakhs respectively.

(c) and (d) K.L.E. Society G.H. College, Haveri has been allowed to introduce vocational subjects is Sericulture w.e.f. the academic session 1998-99 and a grant of Rs.9.00 lakh has been allocated for 1998-99 and a recurring grant of Rs.2.00 lakh each has been earmarked for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Power Projects to Bihar

2305. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar Government has received assistance from the World Bank as loan for the improvement and development of power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said amount of assistance has been fully utilised; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The World Bank has sanctioned a loan of US \$ 1.5 million under the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) for Bihar Power Sector Restructuring Project.

(c) and (d) As on 30.9.1998, an amount of 0.624 million US \$ has been drawn by the project authority.

[English]

Import of Modern Machines and Equipments

2306. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had imported/purchased some modern machines and equipments for use in Sri Chitra Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details of each machines/equipments imported and the cost involved therein, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala had imported/purchased modern machines and equipments for use in different departments of the Institute/Hospital. Necessary details are as follows:-

List of Equipments imported by Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram during 1996-98

| Sl.No. | Name of Equipment | Qty. | Year of Purchase | Cost in Rs. |
|--------|--------------------------|-------|------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Binocular Microscope | 1 no | 1996 | 98,007.00 |
| 2. | Gel Documentation System | 1 no | 1996 | 5,71,962.00 |
| 3. | Operation Theatre Light | 1 set | 1996 | 5,52,763.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|--------------------------------|--------|------|-----------------------|
| 4. | Head Light System | 3 nos | 1996 | 5,66,367.00 |
| 5. | Trinocular Research Microscope | 1 no | 1996 | 1,47,424.00 |
| 6. | Video EEG Monitor | 3 nos | 1996 | 47,50,793.00 |
| | Total for the year 1996 | | | <u>66,87,316.00</u> |
| 7. | Computer Systems | 1 no | 1997 | 14,69,844.00 |
| 8. | -do- | 1 no | 1997 | 11,84,870.00 |
| 9. | Centrifuge | 1 no | 1997 | 1,58,972.00 |
| 10. | Hypothermia Unit | 1 no | 1997 | 3,40,020.00 |
| 11. | Difibrillator Monitor | 2 nos | 1997 | 3,33,357.00 |
| 12. | Spectrophotometer | 1 no | 1997 | 3,33,116.00 |
| 13. | Operation Theatre Light | 1 no | 1997 | 1,60,340.00 |
| 14. | Rotary Evaporator | 1 no | 1997 | 1,46,867.00 |
| 15. | Electro Cardicography | 1 no | 1997 | 12,09,112.00 |
| 16. | Freeze Dryer | 1 no | 1997 | 4,05,688.00 |
| 17. | Microhardness Tester | 1 no | 1997 | 6,59,775.00 |
| 18. | Hematology Analyser | 1 no | 1997 | 5,79,375.00 |
| 19. | Helical CT Scanner | 1 no | 1997 | 2,94,99,068.00 |
| 20. | Tissue Processor | 1 no | 1997 | 3,57,668.00 |
| 21. | Thermal Analyser | 1 no | 1997 | 25,64,901.00 |
| 22. | X-Ray Diffractometer | 1 no | 1997 | 23,70,288.00 |
| 23. | EDS System | 1 no | 1997 | 23,40,846.00 |
| 24. | LCD/Video Projector | 1 no | 1997 | 3,45,992.00 |
| 25. | Monitors/Defibrillators | 12 nos | 1997 | 40,12,960.00 |
| 26. | Hanulux Blue line Light | 2 nos | 1997 | 1,10,646.00 |
| 27. | Gas Permeability Tester | 1 no | 1997 | 11,57,481.00 |
| 28. | 2D Echo Doppler | 1 no | 1997 | 84,08,387.00 |
| 29. | Ultracut Ultra Microtome | 1 no | 1997 | 11,74,635.00 |
| 30. | Ultrasound colour doppler | 1 no | 1997 | 39,63,960.00 |
| 31. | Programmable Stimulator | 1 no | 1997 | 2,55,930.00 |
| 32. | Photocopiers | 1 no | 1997 | 1,36,137.00 |
| 33. | Hanulux blue Line Light | 2 nos | 1997 | 1,17,313.00 |
| 34. | Ultra low Temperature Freezer | 1 no | 1997 | 2,63,173.00 |
| 35. | Automatic Viscosystem | 1 no | 1997 | 3,59,160.00 |
| 36. | Difibrillator Monitor | 1 no | 1997 | 2,31,433.00 |
| 37. | Elisa Reader | 1 no | 1997 | 2,16,128.00 |
| 38. | Robocycler | 1 no | 1997 | 3,67,501.00 |
| 39. | Binocular Research Microscope | 1 no | 1997 | 7,76,507.00 |
| 40. | Table Top Centrifuge | 1 no | 1997 | 3,15,267.00 |
| 41. | -do- | 1 no | 1997 | 3,57,440.00 |
| | Total for the year 1997 | | | <u>6,66,84,157.00</u> |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------|------|----------------|
| 42. | Chemistry Analyser | 1 no | 1998 | 22,16,043.00 |
| 43. | Computer Network sytem | 1 unit | 1998 | 6,63,745.00 |
| 44. | Rheometer | 1 no | 1998 | 64,15,800.00 |
| 45. | Airborne Particle Counter | 1 no | 1998 | 2,23,891.00 |
| 46. | ETCO2 Monitor | 8 nos | 1998 | 9,56,263.00 |
| 47. | Operating Microscope | 1 no | 1998 | 26,79,720.00 |
| 48. | Spectrophotometer | 1 no | 1998 | 3,59,011.00 |
| 49. | -dc- | 1 no | 1998 | 6,08,837.00 |
| 50. | Portable C-Arm | 1 no | 1998 | 20,26,350.00 |
| 51. | Digital Holter System | 1 no | 1998 | 11,36,865.00 |
| 52. | Ultrasonic Scanner | 1 no | 1998 | 72,292.00 |
| 53. | Single Channel Pump | 1 no | 1998 | 34,440.00 |
| 54. | Hemoximeter | 1 no | 1998 | 7,91,855.00 |
| 55. | TMT System | 1 no | 1998 | 13,23,465.00 |
| 56. | CO2 Incubator | 1 no | 1998 | 2,40,924.00 |
| 57. | LCD/Slide Projector | 1 each | 1998 | 5,55,200.00 |
| 58. | Stereostatic System | 1 set | 1998 | 50,24,170.00 |
| 59. | Gel Documentation System | 1 no | 1998 | 2,35,663.00 |
| 60. | DNA Analyser | 1 no | 1998 | 13,53,710.00 |
| 61. | Elisa Reader | 1 no | 1998 | 2,17,075.00 |
| 62. | Centrifuge | 1 no | 1998 | 4,79,870.00 |
| 63. | Table top centrifuge | 1 no | 1998 | 4,08,837.00 |
| Total for the year 1998 | | | | 2,80,24,026.00 |

Introduction of Human Rights Courses

2307. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UGC has drawn up plans for the introduction of human rights courses in the universities at the post-graduate, diploma and certificate course levels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) With the help of a Standing Committee on Human Rights Education, the UGC has drawn up a policy document on the subject Human Rights Education titled "UGC IXth Plan Approach to Promotion of Human Rights Education (HRE) in Universities & Colleges, 1998." Assistance is proposed to be provided to various universities/institutions for introducing two year L.L.M./M.A. courses; one year Diploma Courses; and certificate

courses in Human Rights and for organising seminars, symposia and workshops on the subject of Human Rights, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The syllabus for the courses to be introduced should preferably be based on the recommendations of the Law Panel Report on Human Rights Education in 1994-95. To discuss the modalities for introduction of Human Rights Education at Higher Education level, the UGC has already held two workshops.

Power Generation

2308. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Government targets 80,000 MW power generation" appearing in the Statesman, dated July 11, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have recently published 'Power Vision India-2000' a plan for the future;

(c) if so, the salient featurea thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to adopt any long term policy to achieve the said target of power generation in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (e) The salient objectives of "Power Vision India 2000" are the following:

- (i) Addition of 80000 MW generation capacity during 1998-2008.
- (ii) Improving the hydel-thermal mix.
- (iii) Formation of a national Transmission Grid.
- (iv) Improving the financial health of the SEBs.
- (v) Improving the Plant Load Factor of the existing thermal plants.
- (vi) Enhance the private sector participation in generation, transmission and distribution.

For achieving these objectives, a multi prolonged strategy has been adopted involving immediate, intermediate and long term plans and action programmes. Certain policy and legislatives initiatives have already been taken. These include the setting up of Central and State Regulatory Commissions, a new hydel policy, a policy on mega power projects, legislation enabling transmission as a separate activity, increased emphasis on transmission and evacuation of power, revised counter guarantee scheme, monitoring mechanisms and incentives for Renovation and Modernisation of exiting plants.

Development of Forests in Sikkim

2309. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Sikkim Government for the development of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The new project proposals received from the Government of Sikkim for the Ninth Plan Period under the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and their status is as follows:

| Scheme/Project | | Total Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs) | Amount Released so far |
|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme (IAEPS): | | | |
| (i) | Dzongu watershed project | 198.88 | 72.10 |
| (ii) | Rangpuchu watershed project | 592.29 | 193.54 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|--|--------|--------|
| 2. | Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project for Sikkim. | 346.66 | 103.58 |
| 3. | Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants for Sikkim. | 208.25 | 80.50 |

In addition, the following proposals received from the Government of Sikkim are under consideration:

(i) Under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme:

| Name of the Project | Outlay proposed by State (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|--|---|
| Rothok chu watershed | 322.61 |
| Rongyong chu watershed | 453.82 |
| Namputtam-sanglang (North) | 148.34 |
| Teesta Rangeet Valley (South) | 240.18 |
| Kalez-Rangang-Rangeet | 125.00 |
| Use of improved technologies in Dzongu watershed project (sanctioned earlier) | 15.00 |
| Use of improved technologies in Rangpuchu watershed project (sanctioned earlier) | 39.76 |

(ii) Under Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme, a project proposal for high altitude areas of Sikkim with proposed outlay of Rs.244.25 lakhs for four years.

(iii) Under the "Tree and Pasture Seed Development Scheme", a project with proposed outlay of Rs.43 lakhs.

Shortage of Power in Bihar

2310. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar Government have sent any proposals for approval to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the period of their pendency and the time by which these are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether several projects in the State are lying incomplete due to paucity of funds; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government to overcome the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) One project viz., Sankh St.II HEP of BHPC (2x90+2x3 = 186 MW) was received for Techno-economic Clearance in December, 1997 and the DPR is under examination in the CEA. This is likely to be cleared as soon as the pending inputs are made available by BHPC.

(c) and (d) Tenughat TPP St.II (TVNL) (3X210 MW) and Muzaffarpur TPP Extn (BSEB) (2X250 MW) are lying incomplete due to paucity of funds. These are State Sector Projects and the Government of Bihar is taking appropriate steps to overcome the crisis including identification of sources of funding.

"Ban on Sandalwood Export"

2311. SHRI K.P. MOHAN :
SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

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

(a) whether a large number of sandalwood is lying in Tamil Nadu due to ban on the sandalwood export;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any requests to lift the ban on the sandalwood export; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Government of India has allowed export of sandalwood under ceilings released from time to time to liquidate the accumulated stocks of sandalwood in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) The request of State Government is under consideration.

Aid on NGOs

2312. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :
SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :
SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM :

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

(a) the details of voluntary organisations engaged in the welfare of women being given aid by the Union Government, State/UT-wise;

(b) the criterion fixed for providing assistance;

(c) the details of agencies conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) whether some of these organisations have misutilised the funds;

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against such organisations;

(f) the details of the organisations blacklisted during the last three years; and

(g) the details of schemes being implemented for the welfare of women?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Monastries in Ladakh

2313. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

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

(a) whether nearly one hundred monastries in Ladakh are facing total destruction;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the preservation of these monastries?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958, the A.S.I has declared 13 monuments as of national importance which include seven monastries. These monuments are in a good state of preservation.

[Translation]

Agriculture Education

2314. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

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

(a) whether the students of agricultural education and agricultural science are being discriminated against;

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

(c) whether Dr. Swaminathan Committee constituted on Agriculture Education, has thrown any light on this phenomenon;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether agriculture education has not been accorded the status of technical education;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to do away with this discrimination; and

(h) the grant provided to each State for the agriculture education for the year 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conservation and Growth of Medicinal Plants

2315. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned any project for the conservation and growth of medicinal plants in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated for it and the progress made so far in respect of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Department of Biotechnology has sanctioned a project entitled, "Conservation and Mass propagation of endemic and indigenous forest plant species using tissue culture and clonal propagation" to the Biotechnology Application Centre, Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology, Bhopal. The main objectives of the project are collection, conservation and tissue culture propagation of economically important species which include a few medicinal plant species. The total cost is Rs.56.78 lakhs for five years. Tissue Culture Protocol development studies are being conducted for species of medicinal importance *Rauwolfia* species, *Acorus calamus*. 150 plant species of medicinal importance have been collected and are being maintained in the conservation centre. A green house has been established and large scale production of a number of species is being taken up.

[English]

Development of Sectors with the Assistance of S & T Science & Technology

2316. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientists of the Jawaharlal Nehru University have recently found that the Yamuna Water contains the Cancer causing agents;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The study jointly conducted by the School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa have not found any cancer causing agent in the Yamuna water.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Literacy Mission in Tamil Nadu

2317. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Literacy Mission in Tamil Nadu is concentrating on making people literate in Tamil medium or any other medium; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. In Tamil Nadu, under National Literacy Mission, the non-literate persons in age-group of 15-35 years are being made literate in Tamil language only.

(b) In Tamil Nadu, out of 29 districts covered under literacy campaigns, 6 districts are in total literacy phase, 14 districts in post literacy phase and 9 districts in Continuing Education phase. So far 67,05,709 persons have been made literate in Tamil Nadu under all schemes of National Literacy Mission.

Killing of Wild Animals

2318. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
SHR: SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned "Feast Probe a wild goose chase?" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated November 11, 1998;

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

(c) whether Government have obtained the factual position from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the further action contemplated by the Government in this matter?

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

(b) and (c) Report has been called for from the State Government.

(d) to (f) The report of the State Government is still awaited.

Rural Electrification

2319. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loans/grants provided to the states for rural electrification in the country during 1997-98 and 1998-99; and

(b) the total amount for which the proposals were received from the State Governments for the purpose, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) A statement giving State-wise details of funds disbursed under Rural Electrification Corporation's Programme during 1997-98 and for 1998-99 (up to 30.11.1998 is enclosed).

During the year 1997-98 as against the total receipt of claims amounting to Rs.1133 crores in respect of States mentioned in Annexure, REC has disbursed Rs.1094 crores. During the current financial year 1998-99 REC has disbursed Rs.511.09 crores up to 30.11.1998 as against the claims of Rs.541 crores received from the States. The Corporation makes every effort to meet the demands in respect of technically acceptable claims.

Statement*Statewise Disbursement of Loan/Grants for the Year 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto 30.11.98)*

(Rs. in Lakh)

| Sl.No. | State | Loan disb. during 1997-98 | Kutir Jyoti disb. during 1997-98 | Total disb. during 1997-98 (3+4) | Loan disb. during 1998- 99 (upto 30.11.98) | Kutir Jyoti disb. during 1998-99 (upto 30.11.98) | Total disb. during 1998-99 (6+7) |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6094 | 440 | 6534 | 1329 | 217 | 1546 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1174 | 35 | 1209 | 77 | 0 | 77 |
| 3. | Assam | 0 | 44 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Bihar | 147 | 142 | 289 | 0 | 262 | 262 |
| 5. | Goa | 386 | 0 | 386 | 225 | 0 | 225 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 3931 | 90 | 4021 | 11101 | 25 | 11126 |
| 7. | Hayama | 836 | 1 | 837 | 780 | 0 | 780 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 2060 | 35 | 2095 | 250 | 25 | 275 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2187 | 3 | 2190 | 897 | 0 | 897 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 8655 | 360 | 9015 | 7871 | 626 | 8497 |
| 11. | Kerala | 5200 | 0 | 5200 | 4824 | 11 | 4835 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 6826 | 564 | 7390 | 2473 | 265 | 2738 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 26976 | 342 | 27318 | 10864 | 275 | 11139 |
| 14. | Manipur | 1359 | 40 | 1399 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0 | 18 | 18 | 0 | 18 | 18 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 256 | 51 | 307 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 173 | 26 | 199 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. | Orissa | 3612 | 83 | 3695 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. | Punjab | 3314 | 50 | 3364 | 961 | 25 | 986 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 12009 | 56 | 12065 | 3141 | 24 | 3165 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 0 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 20 | 20 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 11476 | 276 | 11752 | 2100 | 204 | 2304 |
| 23. | Tripura | 323 | 11 | 334 | 309 | 14 | 323 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 9011 | 150 | 9161 | 1856 | 0 | 1856 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 322 | 80 | 402 | 29 | 0 | 29 |
| 26. | Dadar Nagar Haveli | 011 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | RE. Coop-Sircilla | 136 | 0 | 136 | 11 | 0 | 11 |
| Total | | 106463 | 2918 | 109381 | 49098 | 2011 | 51109 |

World Bank Loan to Gujarat

2320. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount of loans and advances allocated to Gujarat by World Bank/Asian Development Bank and other financial institutions for construction and improvement/repair of new National Highways/bridges during the last three years;

(b) whether the whole amount of loan has since been spent on concerned projects; and

(c) if not, the details of diversion of these loans and advances to other projects with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Indigenous Industry for Ship Building

2321. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether indigenous industry will be favoured for ship building in various shipyards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether importable items will be avoided if indigenous items with good quality are available in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of imports of such items which took place disregarding indigenous items during the last three years; and

(e) the details of cost difference involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) As per policy in vogue the shipbuilding industry in India has been de-licensed, except for construction of warships, which is reserved for public sector.

In order to protect the indigenous shipbuilding industry and to improve its competitiveness in global market, especially public sector shipbuilding industry, Government have taken a number of policy measures such as fixation of price of ocean going vessels in terms of US \$/Japanese Yen and releasing payment in Indian Rupees as per different stages of construction as per parity price of foreign exchange prevailing on such date so as to protect it from the adverse impact of fluctuation of foreign exchange. Such shipbuilding yards are also permitted to match the lowest bid in the global

tender and to receive shipbuilding subsidy of 30% over and above the price so determined. This concession is available both for domestic and export orders. Shipping Companies placing orders on Indian Public Sector shipyards could also raise funds for ship acquisition through External Commercial Borrowing (ECB). In addition duty free imports of raw materials and ship components is permitted for both private and public sector shipyards.

(c) to (e) Raw materials and equipments are procured by the shipyards keeping in view the commercial interests of shipyards. However, generally as regards public sector shipyards they do not overlook indigenous items if they are technically suitable and economically priced.

Thermal Power Plant in Karnataka

2322. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up a thermal power plant in Kolar district in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up a Thermal Power Project in Kolar, Karnataka.

[Translation]

Girls Benefited from B.S.Y.

2323. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

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

(a) the number of girl child benefited from "Balika Samridhi Yojana" during the period from August 15, 1997 to July 15, 1998, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the amount being given under this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) An amount of Rs.6000.00 lakhs was sanctioned during 1997-98 to the States/ Union Territories to benefit 12.00 lakhs girl-children. State/ Union Territory-wise break-up of sanctioned amount and number of beneficiaries is enclosed in a Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement*Balika Samridhi Yojana*

(1997-98)

| S.No. | Name of States/ UTs | Total Amount Sanctioned (in lakhs) | No. of Beneficiaries |
|-------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 219.53 | 43,906 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 9.32 | 1,864 |
| 3. | Assam | 215.485 | 43,097 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1068.69 | 2,13,738 |
| 5. | Delhi | 18.815 | 3,763 |
| 6. | Goa | 3.34 | 668 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 158.23 | 31,646 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 27.745 | 5,549 |
| 9. | Haryana | 86.495 | 17,299 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 52.5 | 10,500 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 227.025 | 45,405 |
| 12. | Kerala | 81.925 | 16,385 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 457.42 | 91,484 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 550.35 | 1,10,070 |
| 15. | Manipur | 11.48 | 2,296 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 17.845 | 3,569 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 3.085 | 617 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 5.305 | 1,061 |
| 19. | Chandigarh | 1.92 | 384 |
| 20. | Daman & Diu | 0.7 | 140 |
| 21. | Lakshadweep | 0.39 | 78 |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 5.03 | 1,006 |
| 23. | Orissa | 332.115 | 66,423 |
| 24. | Punjab | 42.415 | 8,483 |
| 25. | Rajasthan | 325.675 | 65,135 |
| 26. | Sikkim | 3.255 | 651 |
| 27. | Tamil Nadu | 238.16 | 47,632 |
| 28. | Tripura | 17.425 | 3,485 |
| 29. | Uttar Pradesh | 1403.91 | 2,80,782 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 412.775 | 82,555 |
| 31. | A & N Islands | 1.65 | 330 |
| 32. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | - | - |
| | | 6000.005 | 12,00,001 |

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*[English]***Joint Venture Company for Power Production**

2324. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Navratna Public Sector Undertakings, Natural Gas Corporation and National Thermal Power Corporation have signed a deal to set up a joint venture company to produce power in India and abroad;

(b) if so, the details of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in this regard;

(c) the places in the country where the power projects are likely to be installed;

(d) whether any decision to set up power project abroad has also been taken; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) & Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 20th April, 1998 to set up a Joint Venture Company (JVC) to produce power in India. There is no proposal to set up power projects abroad.

(b) The MOU provides that:-

(i) NTPC and ONGC shall mutually identify the sites/ locations for the development of power projects. One of the sites identified and agreed for studies is Hazira.

(ii) Both NTPC and ONGC shall enter into a joint venture agreement and thereafter form a JVC for setting up power projects.

(iii) NTPC and ONGC shall subscribe equally to the equity in JVC. The remaining equity shall be mutually decided.

(c) The power project is presently being planned at Hazira District Surat in Gujarat.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

"Clearance to Worli-Bandra Sea Link"

2325. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

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

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal seeking environmental clearance in respect of construction of Worli-Bandra Sea Link Project;

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

(c) the reasons for not according environmental clearance to the project; and

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

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

(b) to (d) The proposal for environmental clearance for the Worli Bandra Sea Link Project was originally referred to Ministry of Environment & Forests in June, 1993. However, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for the entire Western Island Freeway of which Worli Bandra Link forms a part, was submitted in September, 1997. Additional information sought has been submitted recently by the project proponents and is under examination.

Bidding by the Private Sector for Power Distribution Projects

2326. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for a two step bidding process has been recommended by the one man committee for inviting bids in the private sector for power distribution projects;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the committee; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to implemented the same?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) (a) Yes, Sir, the one-member Coelho Committee has recommended a two-step competitive bidding process for selection of private licensees. The first step in the process would be a pre-qualification stage, and second step would be a detailed proposal evaluation stage.

(b) and (c) Distribution of electricity is the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government has considered the Coelho Committee recommendations and circulated the report to all State Governments advising them to consider the recommendations as per their needs and requirements.

Uniform Interest Rates on Inter-Corporate Investments

2327. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose uniform interest rates on the inter-corporate investments in their subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has been consulted in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, so far as interest on inter-corporate loans is concerned, it has been provided in Clause (2) of Section 372A of the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No. 19 of 1998) promulgated on 31-10-1998 that no loan to any body corporate shall be made at the rate of interest lower than the prevailing bank rate of interest.

(c) and (d) The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 has been issued after the same was drafted in consultation with the Law Ministry and on the basis of Cabinet decision.

New Liquid Fuel Policy

2328. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to announce new liquid fuel policy for the power sector;

(b) if so, the procedure likely to be adopted for acquiring the liquid fuel for power projects;

(c) whether Government propose to remove the hurdles in adopting the said policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) In order to meet the energy shortage in the short run, the Government had allocated liquid fuel for about 12,000 MW on projects to the various States. As per the revised liquid fuel policy announced in July, 1998, the existing ceiling of 12,000 MW would apply only to naphtha and States would be free to contract for new power projects based on Furnance Oil and non traditional fuels like condensate and orimulsion. The necessary guidelines regarding these modifications in the policy have been communicated to the concerned State Governments.

"Clearance to Water Supply and Sewerage Project"

2329. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

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

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government had submitted any proposal seeking environmental clearance to the Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project, Stage-II;

- (b) if so, the period of pendency of the proposal;
- (c) the reasons for delay in according the clearance; and
- (d) the time by which environmental clearance is likely to be given to the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) to (d): Do not arise.

Control of UGC over Universities

2330. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether many of the universities are not following their academic calendar and some of them have not been able to conduct their examination for 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the action the UGC proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) In order to ensure that all the academic activities of the University, including conduct of examinations, declaration of results, start of new academic session, etc. take place in time, the UGC has formulated and circulated to all universities an Academic Calendar. The UGC had also set up a Committee to examine the issues relating to implementation of the Academic Calendar in the universities. The Committee, in its report, had suggested award to the universities to encourage implementation of the Academic Calendar. The recommendations were considered by the Commission and circulated to all the universities and State Governments emphasising the need to implement the Academic Calendar as also the main recommendations of the Committee.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts in NVS

2331. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vacant posts of teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas filled up in the country during the last six months;

(b) the criteria followed to fill up vacant posts;

(c) whether these schools are running short of teachers; and

(d) if so, the time by which all the vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Tribals of Nagarhole and Bhadra Sanctuaries

2332. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of families in Nagarhole and Bhadra sanctuaries to be rehabilitated and relocated;

(b) the estimated amount for rehabilitating and relocating the habitants of these national parks and sanctuaries in Karnataka;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to assist the Karnataka in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) 1450 tribal families in Nagarhole National Park and 736 tribal families in Bhadra Sanctuary area to be rehabilitated and relocated on voluntary basis.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal to shift and rehabilitate the tribal families was received from the Karnataka Government and accordingly the Union Government have sanctioned a total amount of Rs.43.50 lakhs for the Nagarhole National Park under 'Beneficiary Oriented Scheme for Tribal Development', of which 25 lakhs has already been released as the first instalment. Similarly an estimated 5.63 crores would be required for Bhadra sanctuary of which 1.68 crores had been released in 1996-97 under the Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries". The rehabilitation cost in the latter case is to be borne by the State Government.

System Financial Assistance from C.R.F.

2333. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the present system of releasing financial assistance from the Central Road Fund for comprehensive repair work of National Highways and for strengthening them;

(b) whether the Government of U.P. has sent certain proposals/suggestions to the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the National Highway Authority of India in collaboration with the Ministry of Petroleum has also chalked out a policy of opening service centres in U.P. to meet particularly the requirements of long distance vehicles on National Highways; and

(e) if so, the details of such centres proposed to be set up along the National Highways in U.P. during the current year and the places where such service is proposed to be provided?

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

(b) No such proposal has been received in the recent past.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Adaptation of Glossaries

2334. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state .

(a) whether agencies have been set up in all States to adapt glossary published by Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology;

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

(c) if not, the time by which these agencies are likely to be set up; and

(d) the manner in which it is being ensured that students of Hindi medium in Hindi speaking States are taught Hindi synonyms of English terms?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Central Government has not set up any Agency in any State to adopt glossaries published by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), but many State Governments have set up Granth Academies/Text Book Boards in their respective States which adopt terminology evolved by the CSTT at University level.

(b) List of such Text Books Boards and Granth Academies set up by the respective State Governments is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The CSTT conducts and organises terminology workshops, meetings, seminars etc. in which teachers, professors and Research Associates are invited. They are provided with the copies of the definitional glossaries published by the Commission, free of cost, to enable them to teach the Hindi synonyms to the students in respective subjects.

Statement

| S.No. | State | Name of the Agency |
|-------|---------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Uttar Pradesh | i) Uttar Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy, Lucknow. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----|----------------|---|
| | | ii) Directorate of Publication, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture, Pant Nagar, U.P. |
| 2 | Bihar | Bihar Hindi Granth, Academy, Patna. |
| 3 | Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy, Bhopal. |
| 4 | Rajasthan | Rajasthan Hindi Granth Academy, Jaipur. |
| 5 | Haryana | Haryana Hindi Granth Academy, Chandigarh. Directorate of Publication, Haryana Agriculture University, Hissar. |
| 6 | Delhi | Hindi Medium Implementation Directorate, University of Delhi. |
| 7 | Andhra Pradesh | Telgu Academy, Hyderabad |
| 8 | Gujarat | University Text Books Production Board, Ahmedabad. |
| 9 | Kerala | State Institute of Languages, Govt. of Kerala, Tiruvananthapuram. |
| 10 | Orissa | Orissa State Bureau of Text Books Preparation and Production, Bhubaneswar. |
| 11 | Maharashtra | Maharashtra University Text Book Production Board, Nagpur. |
| 12 | Punjab | Punjab State University Text Book Board, Chandigarh. |
| 13 | West Bengal | West Bengal Text Book Board, Calcutta. |
| 14 | Tamil Nadu | Tamil Nadu Text Book Society, Chennai. |
| 15 | Assam | i) Deptt. of Publication, University of Guwahati. ii) Coordination Committee for Production of Text Books, University of Dibrugarh. |
| 16 | Karnataka | i) Parsaranga Gyan Bharti, University of Bangalore. ii) University of Agriculture Sciences Deptt. of Kannada Studies, Hebbal, Bangalore. iii) Institute of Kannada Studies University of Mysore, Mysore. iv) Institute of Kannada Studies, University of Karnataka, Dharwad. |

Royalty on Power

2335. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received memoranda from states for the payment of dues pertaining to the royalty on the electricity;

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

(c) whether any decision has taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, Government of Himachal Pradesh in a Memorandum submitted to the Government in October, 1998 has demanded inter-alia, 12% free power from Bhakra Nangal and Beas Projects on the ground that the sources of the State to generate revenue/royalty out of natural resources which got submerged in the reservoirs have been diminished/reduced forever as well as distress caused and surrender of rights to generate power. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has also filed a Suit (Suit No.2 of 1996) under Article 131 of the Constitution of India in June, 1996 in Supreme Court. The matter is now sub-judice.

Use of Fly Ash in Road Construction

2336. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fly ash emitted from power houses is being used in the construction of roads; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Fly Ash has been used as core fill material for construction of embankment of the eastern approach of the second Nizamuddin bridge near Delhi on NH-24.

[English]

"Bill on Bio-Diversity"

2337. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a draft bill on conservation of bio-diversity was prepared by the Government in 1997;

(b) whether an expert committee had gone into the question in depth and advised the Government to pilot the bill in the Parliament; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by the Government in 1998 to process the bill?

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

(b) The Government had constituted an Expert Committee in August 1997 to recommend a suitable draft bill on biodiversity. The Committee gave its report alongwith a brief outline of the Biological Diversity Act in October 1997.

(c) In order to have wider consultations with all stakeholders, the draft outline was sent to all State Governments/Union Territories, experts, NGOs, universities, industry and others in June 1998. A national level meeting to discuss the draft was held on 5.8.98 under the chairmanship of the Minister, Environment and Forests (MEF). Based on the inputs generated in the national level meeting and the comments received, the draft outline was revised and discussed in a meeting of a compact group of experts on 27.10.98 under the chairmanship of MEF. Further action to finalise the bill is underway.

[Translation]

Financial Irregularity in RGSM

2338. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial irregularity has taken place in Rajiv Gandhi Siksha Mission, Bhopal, in Madhya Pradesh in the name of publishing books;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

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

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

[English]

Buddhist Sites

2339. SHRI M. RAJAIHAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether ASI have found Buddhist sites in the North Andhra; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to preserve these sites?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has preserved and protected

thirteen Buddhist sites as per archaeological norms in north Andhra Pradesh.

Infant Milk Substitutes

2340. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
SHRI S.S. OWAIISI :

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

(a) whether infant milk substitutes feeding bottles and infant food (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act (IMS) was formed in 1992 to prohibit infant milk substitutes and feeding bottles to regulate their marketing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many companies are exploiting loopholes of this Act;

(d) if so, the number of cases booked against these companies and action taken so far;

(e) whether the Government propose to amend this act to make it more stringent; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and time by which it is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Act was formed to provide for the regulation of production, supply and distribution of infant milk substitutes, feeding bottles and infant foods with a view to the protection and promotion of breast feeding and ensuring the proper use of infant foods and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. At present one case against a company is pending in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi.

(e) and (f) The matter is under consideration.

Expansion of NH-8-A

2341. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Gujarat Government to expand National Highway No.8-A from Gandhidham-Mundra-Mandavi-Jakhov-Koteshwar ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it would be expanded; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided by this Ministry to extend National Highway No.8-A from Kandla to Mandvi via Mundra.

(c) Does not arise.

Standard of Higher Education

2342. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Government have assessed the reasons for declining standard in higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an acute resource crunch, frequent strikes by teachers and students alike and lack of infrastructure have pushed higher education into a bind;

(d) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken in this regard;

(e) whether universities are treating UGC as only fund distributing agency;

(f) if so, whether there is an urgent need to define the role of UGC;

(g) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(h) whether new task force set up to revamp UGC has made some recommendations; and

(i) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to keep the standard of higher education high?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Government and UGC have taken several measures to arrest the declining standard in higher education. Some of the major steps taken in this direction are as follows:-

- Revision of pay scales of colleges and university teachers w.e.f. 1.1.1996. Opportunities provided for training and career advancement for teachers. All India Eligibility Test introduced to attract best talent to the teaching profession.
- Academic staff colleges established for re-orientation of newly appointed university and college teachers.
- 27 Curriculum Development Centres in Sciences and Humanities established to modernise curricula. Model curricula has been prepared for 27 Disciplines in under-graduate and post-graduate courses.
- Financial assistance provided by UGC for improvement of teaching and research under Special Assistance Programmes.
- Inter-University Centres established by UGC to provide front-line facilities and services for advancement of research in the University system.

- Higher priority given to grant of autonomy to selected colleges.
- Guidelines for implementation of an Academic Calendar circulated. These guidelines emphasise observance of at least 180 teaching days by universities/colleges.
- Regulations for minimum standards for the award of first degree, minimum working days etc. notified by UGC.

(c) and (d) The UGC have been stressing upon the Vice-Chancellors to take steps to ensure that the strikes are avoided so that the academic work does not suffer.

(e) to (g) Section 12 of the UGC Act provides that "it shall be the general duty of the Commission to take, in consultation with the Universities or other Bodies concerned, all such steps as it may think fit for the promotion and co-ordination of University education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in Universities". Disbursement of funds to the Universities and other institutions is one of the functions of the Commission.

(h) to (i) The Task Force is currently seized of the matter.

National Highways

2343. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways approved during Eighth Plan period, State-wise;

(b) the proposals received by the Government from States in this regard during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the total money released so far for the development of National Highways in the country during this period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) a statement-I giving details is attached.

(b) a statement-II giving details at attached.

(c) a statement-III giving details is attached.

Statement-I

Roads declared as New National Highways during Eighth Plan

| NH. No. | Route | Length (km.) | States covered (with lengths) |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 18. | Kurnool-Chittoor | 369 | Andhra Pradesh (369) |
| 19. | Ghazipur-Ballia-Hajipur-Patna | 240 | U.P.(120), Bihar(120) |
| Total | | 609 | |

Statement-II

| Sl. No. | State | No. of Proposals received | Length (In Kms.) |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 9 | 4812 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 409 |
| 3. | Assam | 1 | 178 |
| 4. | Bihar | 6 | 1390 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | - | - |
| 6. | Delhi | - | - |
| 7. | Goa | 3 | 101 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 10 | 2510 |
| 9. | Haryana | 5 | 932 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 618 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | 400 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 14 | 4810 |
| 13. | Kerala | 8 | 1301 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 13 | 6492 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 11 | 4782 |
| 16. | Manipur | 1 | 332 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 1 | 133 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 3 | 441 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 1 | 220 |
| 20. | Orissa | 4 | 837 |
| 21. | Pondicherry | 2 | 104 |
| 22. | Punjab | 5 | 980 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 5 | 1709 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 1 | 30 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 16 | 3355 |
| 26. | Tripura | 1 | 135 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 4 | 1856 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 7 | 530 |
| Total : | | 135 | 39388 |

Statement-III*Allotment of Funds for Development of National Highways during 8th Plan*

| Sl.No. | Name of State/UTs | Funds (Rs.Lakh) |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | ANDHRA PRADESH | 18479.50 |
| 2. | ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 310.00 |
| 3. | ASSAM | 7022.00 |
| 4. | BIHAR | 8375.00 |
| 5. | CHANDIGARH | 124.00 |
| 6. | DELHI | 2200.00 |
| 7. | GOA | 2975.00 |
| 8. | GUJARAT | 23431.00 |
| 9. | HARYANA | 26565.00 |
| 10. | HIMACHAL PRADESH | 6500.00 |
| 11. | JAMMU & KASHMIR | 2850.00 |
| 12. | KARNATAKA | 12510.36 |
| 13. | KERALA | 16669.00 |
| 14. | MADHYA PRADESH | 7939.00 |
| 15. | MAHARASHTRA | 12974.00 |
| 16. | MANIPUR | 1735.00 |
| 17. | MEGHALAYA | 2857.00 |
| 18. | MIZORAM | 0.00 |
| 19. | NAGALAND | 195.00 |
| 20. | ORISSA | 14704.00 |
| 21. | PONDICHERRY | 244.64 |
| 22. | PUNJAB | 19960.00 |
| 23. | RAJASTHAN | 20165.00 |
| 24. | SIKKIM | 0.00 |
| 25. | TAMIL NADU | 9958.50 |
| 26. | TRIPURA | 0.00 |
| 27. | UTTAR PRADESH | 30179.00 |
| 28. | WEST BENGAL | 17135.00 |
| 29. | JOGGIGAPPA BRIDGE | 11950.00 |
| TOTAL : | | 275442.50 |

Note : 1. These includes funds for NH(O) & Externally aided schemes.

2. Besides this, Rs.9179 lakh by NHAI & Rs.24900 lakh by BRDB were spent during eight five year plan on National Highways in various states.

High Courts in States

2344. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the States having High Courts in the State Capitals;

(b) the States having High Courts located outside State Capitals; and

(c) the States having only a Bench of High Court in the State Capitals?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(a) the States having High Courts in the State Capitals are as under:-

| Sl. No. | States | Principal seat of the High Court |
|---------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad |
| 2. | Maharashtra | Bombay |
| 3. | West Bengal | Calcutta |
| 4. | Delhi | New Delhi |
| 5. | Assam | Gauhati |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | Shimla |
| 7. | Jammu & Kashmir | Srinagar |
| 8. | Karnataka | Bangalore |
| 9. | Madras | Chennai |
| 10. | Bihar | Patna |
| 11. | Punjab | Chandigarh |
| 12. | Haryana | Chandigarh |
| 13. | Sikkim | Gangtok |

(b) the States having High Courts located outside State Capitals are as under:

| Sl. No. | Other States | Principal seat of outside Capitals |
|---------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Nagaland | Gauhati |
| 2. | Mizoram | Gauhati |
| 3. | Manipur | Gauhati |
| 4. | Tripura | Gauhati |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------------------|-----------|
| 5. | Meghalaya | Gauhati |
| 6. | Arunachal Pradesh | Gauhati |
| 7. | Kerala | Ernakulam |
| 8. | Madhya Pradesh | Jabalpur |
| 9. | Uttar Pradesh | Allahabad |
| 10. | Goa | Bombay |
| 11. | Rajasthan | Jodhpur |
| 12. | Orissa | Cuttack |
| 13. | Gujarat | Ahmedabad |

(c) *the States having only a Bench of High Court in the State Capitals are as under:-*

| Sl. No. | States | Bench in Capitals |
|---------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow |
| 2. | Goa | Panaji |
| 3. | Rajasthan | Jaipur |
| 4. | Nagaland | Kohima |
| 5. | Mizoram | Aizawl |
| 6. | Manipur | Imphal |
| 7. | Tripura | Agartala |
| 8. | Meghalaya | Shillong. |

Navigable Inland Waterways

2345. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the location of navigable inland waterways in India used for Cargo transportation;

(b) the total cargo moved by inland water transport during the last year; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide more facilities like terminals, navigational aids etc. to attract more cargo transportation in an environment friendly manner?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The location of navigable inland waterways as per National Transport Policy Committee report (1980), is given at in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The total cargo moved by inland water transport during 1997-98 is of the order of 19.78 million tones. This cargo is mainly transported in Mandovi & Zuari rivers in Goa, Haldia

to Allahabad on National Waterway No.1, from Calcutta to Pandu/Dhansirimukh on National Waterway No.2 via Bangladesh, Champakara & Udyogmandal canals and Kochi-Edapallikota sector of West Coast Canal on National Waterway No.3 and Calcutta to Karimganj via Bangladesh.

(c) It is proposed to provide terminals at various locations with mechanical and manual loading, unloading facilities and night navigational aids on National Waterway No.1,2 and 3 during the 9th Plan, subject to availability of funds.

Statement

Navigable Waterways in India

| Sl.No. | State | Navigable Waterways *in km. |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1,999 |
| 2. | Assam | 1,983 |
| 3. | Bihar | 1,262 |
| 4. | Goa,Daman & Diu | 342 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 286 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 200 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 444 |
| 8. | Kerala | 1,548 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 501 |
| 10. | Orissa | 985 |
| 11. | Tamil Nadu | 216 |
| 12. | Uttar Pradesh | 2,441 |
| 13. | West Bengal | 2,337 |
| Total | | 14,544 |

*These include all waterways navigable by country boats.

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

2346. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission will be ready with the regulations to cover power tariffs, private transmission licensing, grid code and transmission tariffs;

(b) the reasons for delay in formulating the power regulations, if any; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The draft regulations governing the conduct of business and tariff of Central Electricity Regulatory

Commission have been released on December 7, 1998. The regulations have been circulated to Central Power entities, State Governments, State Electricity Boards, Consumer Groups, Environmental NGOs, Academic and Research Institutions. Comments have also been invited from the general public through the issue of advertisement in leading national newspapers. The Grid Code, which will also include grant of transmission license, is currently under discussion with the concerned utilities and is expected to be available shortly.

(b) The Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 does not lay down any time frame for formulation of regulations by the CERC. However, the CERC has formulated its draft regulations within four months of its establishment. Hence, there has been no delay in formulating these regulations.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Accordinging Status of Central University

2347. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not according the status of fullfledged Agriculture University to one of oldest agriculture colleges, Sabour Agriculture College, Bhagalpur in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to make the said agriculture college a Central University and a research 1 centre;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Agriculture being a State subject, establishment of Agricultural College/University falls generally within the purview of State Government. ICAR provides support to strengthen agricultural education programmes in the established universities. Sabour Agricultural College is the main constituent college of Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government. As stated above, the Sabour Agricultural College is already the main constituent College of the University and is fully supported by ICAR in respect of strengthening educational programmes. It is the responsibility of the State to consider setting up of Agricultural University based on manpower planning and requirements.

[English]

Restoration of B.Ed. Course

2348. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether B.Ed. course at Regional Institute of Education, Mysore, has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reintroduce it; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the NCERT, an Abbreviated Review of the NCERT conducted during 1993-94, recommended that Regional Colleges of Education should be converted into Regional Centres of NCERT and the present pre-service Courses be phased out.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to restart the 4 - year BA. Ed. Course due to academic and financial constraints.

Closure of a Faculty in IIT, Kanpur

2349. SHRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the faculty of Nuclear Chemistry specialisation in IIT, Kanpur has been closed down;

(b) if so, the date of its closure and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restart this faculty;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total cost of the instruments for the nuclear/cosmo chemistry laboratories and the manner in which these were utilised after the closure?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The programme in Nuclear Chemistry/Cosmo Chemistry was initiated in the Department of Chemistry at IIT, Kanpur in the early 60s, with two faculty members. By 1993, both faculty members retired and attracting Ph.D. students became difficult. Those already trained were finding it difficult to get position either in industries or in academia. There is no proposal to restart this specialisation. Most of the equipments acquired have become obsolete and usable equipments are being used in the area of solid state chemistry and related research.

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project

2350. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tariff for the power generation from the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to rehabilitate the land holders who surrendered their land for the Thermal Power Project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The tariff for the power generation from the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project is yet to be fixed by the Government.

(c) and (d) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has formulated a Rehabilitation Action Plan (RAP) for the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) including landlosers. The RAP is based on a detailed Socio-economic and Demographic survey to find out the number of PAPs on the land acquired for the project. The RAP has finalised after a series of meetings of Village Development Advisory Committee (VDAC) comprising of representatives from the PAPs, State Government, NTPC and other interested groups working in the area. The total number of PAPs are 2244. Various schemes such as poultry farming, dairy farming, fish farming, coir products, coconut farming and other self-employment schemes have been finalised and are under implementation for the rehabilitation of PAPs.

Power Production in Jammu & Kashmir

2351. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Thermal Power Plant in Jammu region where the large quantity of Coal is available;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided to revive Kalakota Project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up a Thermal Power Plant in Jammu.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Salal, Uri Power Projects In Jammu & Kashmir

2352. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to hand over Salal and Uri Power Projects to the Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to install new power projects in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir. There is no decision to hand over the Uri and Salal HE Projects to the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

(b) and (c) The Dulhasti Hydro-electric project (3 x 130 MW) is under execution by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in Jammu and Kashmir. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in the year 2001.

National Highway No. 8

2353. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of National Highway No.8, Delhi-Jaipur road has become worse;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of accidents witnessed on the above National Highway near Gurgaon during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) It is a fact that accidents have been witnessed on this National Highway near Gurgaon. This Highway is being widened to 4 lane, which will reduce the number of accidents to a considerable extent.

Increase in Wild Animals

2354. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of wild animals is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of each of the major species as per the last census and the rate of increase thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save and increase their number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The number of some of the major wild animals have increased in the country.

(b) and (c) The estimated population of major species, as per the last census and rate of increase, State-wise, is given in the enclosed statement I to III.

(d) Steps taken to save and increase their population include:

- i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- iii) Raids are being carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.
- iv) International trade in endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- v) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.
- vi) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programme on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during 1995 and 1996.
- vii) Staff in National Parks and Sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the National Parks and Sanctuaries.
- viii) Analogous to the Centre, the states have also been asked to set up co-ordination committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control illegal trade.

Statement-I

| State | Tiger | | Leopard | |
|-------------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| | 1993 | 1997 | 1993 | 1997 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 197 | 183 | 152 | 290 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | | NA | 98 | 20 |
| Assam | NA | | | NA |
| Bihar | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Goa | 3 | 6 | 31 | 25 |
| Gujarat | 5 | 1 | 772 | 803 |
| Haryana | NA | | NA | |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Himachal Pradesh | | | | NA | |
| Karnataka | | 305 | 350 | | NA |
| Kerala | | 57 | 68 | | NA |
| Madhya Pradesh | | 9 | 12 | 927 | NA |
| Maharashtra | | 276 | 257 | 417 | 431 |
| Manipur | | NA | | NA | |
| Meghalaya | | 53 | 63 | | NA |
| Mizoram | | 28 | 12 | 49 | 20 |
| Orissa | | 226 | 194 | 378 | 401 |
| Rajasthan | | 64 | 58 | | NA |
| Sikkim | | 2 | 4 | | NA |
| Tripura | | NA | NA | 18 | 18 |
| Uttar Pradesh | | 465 | 475 | | NA |
| West Bengal | | 335 | 361 | | NA |
| Dadar Nagar Haveli | | nil | nil | NA | 15 |
| Total | | 2932 | 2959 | 1930 | 2023 |
| % of increase | | 0.92 | | 4.81 | |

The figures reveal that there is increase in the population Tiger and Leopard.

NA - Not available.

Statement-II

| State | Elephant | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 1989 (min.-max) | 1993 (min.-max) |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1800-2000 | 46-46 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 2000-4300 | 2000-3000 |
| Assam | 3500-300 | 5000-6000 |
| Bihar | 335-335 | 500-600 |
| Karnataka | 2200-2650 | 5000-6000 |
| Kerala | 2500-2500 | 3000-4000 |
| Meghalaya | 2750-3825 | 2500-3000 |
| Orissa | 1300-2000 | 1500-2000 |
| Tamil Nadu | 1250-1700 | 2300-2500 |
| Tripura | 120-150 | NA |
| Uttar Pradesh | NA | 750-1000 |
| West Bengal | 155-155 | 200-200 |
| Total | 17910-23265 | 22796-28346 |
| % of increase | 21.83 | |

The figure reveal that there is increase in the population of elephant.

Statement-III

| State | Rhino | | Lion | | Brow antlered deer | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------------|------------|
| | 1991 | 1997 | 1989 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 |
| | (Estate) | | | | | |
| Assam | 1519 | 1530 | | | | |
| Gujarat | | | 284 | 304 | | |
| Manipur | | | | | 143 | 147 |
| U.P. | 9(1989) | 13 | | | | |
| W.B. | 39(1989) | 55 | | | | |
| Total | 1567 | 1598 | 284 | 304 | 143 | 147 |
| % of increase | 1.97 | | 7.04 | | 2.79 | |

The figures reveal that there is increase in the population of Rhino, Lion and Brow antlered deer.

National Highways in Bihar

2355. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway linking Patna-Chapra-Siwan is in a very bad condition and not safe for public transport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Only a part of road linking Patna-Chapra-Siwan is National Highway, which is maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

"Denotified Areas in Reserve Forests"

2356. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of guidelines for denotifying reserve forests; and

(b) the details of denotified areas in the reserved forests of the country during the last three years, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As per the Section 27 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the State Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, direct that from a date fixed by such notification, any forest or any portion thereof reserved under the Act shall cease to be a reserved forest. However, before the issue of such notification, the concerned State Government is required to obtain the prior approval of the Central

Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Research on Plant-Based Drugs/Herbal Drugs

2357. SHRI R.S. GAVAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be please to state :

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research proposes to conduct research on the plant-based drugs and herbal drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have an ongoing R&D programme involving 20 CSIR laboratories for developing plant based drugs and for standardisation of procedures and processing technologies for plant-based and herbal drugs.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Power Finance Corporation

2358. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the liabilities of Power Finance Corporation; and

(b) the works undertaken by the corporation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The liabilities of the Power Finance Corporation as on 31.3.1998 are as under:-

| | Rs. in Crores |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Capital | 1030.45 |
| Reserves & Surplus | 1449.85 |
| Secured loans | 2420.02 |
| Unsecured loans | 2686.61 |
| Current liabilities and provisions | 373.04 |
| Total | 7959.97 |

(b) The Power Finance Corporation is a public financial institution and does not undertake any work/project itself but extends financial assistance to various State Utilities like State Electricity Boards, State Generating Corporations, State Power Departments as also to the private power projects and Central Utilities.

[English]

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant

2359. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kayamkulam NTPC Thermal Power Plant has stated generating power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the project would be fully commissioned;

(d) whether any decision has been taken for the Second Stage expansion of the said project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action plan formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation is implementing Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project (CCPP) based on naphtha with a capacity of 350 MW in Kerala. The first Gas turbine (115 MW) of Kayamkulam CCPP has been commissioned on 5.12.1998. Work on the remaining units is progressing satisfactorily and the units are expected to be commissioned by May, 1999 and March, 2000.

(d) and (e) NTPC is contemplating expansion of this project based on availability of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal at Cochin. NTPC is initiating action for Site Specific Studies/Investigation and the expansion proposal would be firmed up by NTPC after availability of key inputs like fuel, water and financial tie-ups.

Widening of N.H. in A.P.

2360. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for the grant for road widening works on National Highways and for improving road infrastructure in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs.40 crore has been made available to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for development of National Highways during 1998-99.

[Translation]

Publication of Glossaries

2361. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be please to state :

(a) whether the agencies engaged in adopting the glossaries of Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology have provided subject-wise catalogues to the schools in the Hindi Speaking States;

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

(c) if not, the time by which this work is likely to be completed;

(d) whether these agencies have organized seminars and workshops in the schools for teachers in these States;

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

(f) if not, the time by which this objective is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Many State Governments have set up Granth Academies/Text Book Boards in their respective States which are adopting the terminology evolved by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) at University level. Neither the CSTT nor the Granth Academies/Text Book Boards deal with school level Institutions and hence the question of providing subject-wise catalogues to the schools does not arise.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Stadia in the Country

2362. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJHARPUR) : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stadia constructed with the Central assistance in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to construct some more stadia in the rural areas during 1998-99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Details indicating State-wise number of stadia constructed with the Central assistance during the last three years are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Dependent upon the receipt of viable proposals from the State/UT Governments under the relevant scheme.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State/UT | No. of Stadia for which Central assistant provided. | | |
|--------|------------------|---|---------|---------|
| | | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Arunachal Prades | 1 | — | — |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 1 | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------|----|---|----|
| 3. | Bihar | — | 1 | — |
| 4. | Delhi | 1 | — | — |
| 5. | Gujarat | 1 | — | — |
| 6. | Haryana | 2 | — | — |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | — | 1. |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | — | — |
| 9. | Karnataka | 8 | 8 | 3 |
| 10. | Kerala | 6 | — | — |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 4 | — | — |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 10 | — | — |
| 13. | Mizoram | 8 | — | — |
| 14. | Sikkim | 2 | — | — |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 1 | — | — |
| 16. | West Bengal | 1 | — | — |
| | | 48 | 9 | 4 |

[English]

Phase out of CFC

2363. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to phase out the sustained release of Chloro-Fluorocarbons (CFCs) from refrigerators and airconditioners; and

(b) the progress Government made in their plan to set up a centre to identify and promote the adoption of clear technologies, particularly with reference to energy and industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) To comply with the Montreal Protocol, a country programme has been prepared. Steps have been taken to phase out Chloro-Fluorocarbons (CFCs) from refrigerators and air-conditioners by funding projects through the Multilateral Fund created under the Montreal Protocol, and by providing technical assistance and fiscal incentives to these industries.

(b) National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) has been established in Delhi. Programmes related to adoption of clean technologies in industries are being coordinated by this centre with the objective of reducing energy requirement and other inputs of raw materials.

Setting up of District Science Centres

2364. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be please to state :

(a) the objects and reasons behind setting up of District Science Centres;

(b) whether steps have been taken for their moderanisation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the number of such centres, State-wise and the monitoring system set up to supervise them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The District Science Centres were set up by National Council of Science Museums primarily with the objective of popularising Science & Technology in urban and rural areas for the benefit of students and others with a view to developing scientific temper among the people as also to foster a spirit of scientific enquiry and creativity among the students.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Modernisation of these centres has been taken up through measures such as display of interactive exhibits and participatory activities; making the science communication process more visitor-friendly with the application of appropriate software; and introducing contemporary and modern scientific ideas in educational programmes and community awareness programmes.

(e) National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) has set up 8 District Science Centres so far at Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu), Purulia (West Bengal), Dharampur (Gujarat), Gulbarga (Karnataka), Bardhman (West Bengal), Dhenkanal (Orissa), Digha (West Bengal) and Science Park, Kapilesh (Orissa).

The monitoring of these centres is done by Local Advisory Committees and Regional Sub Centres of NCSM at Visveswaraiya Industrial & Technology Museum, Bangalore, Birla Industrial & Technology Museum Calcutta and National Science Centre, New Delhi.

[Translation]

Foreign Investment In Road Sector

2365. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow cent-percent foreign investment in road sector; and

(b) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given.

[English]

**Pitiable Condition of National Highways in
West Bengal**

2366. DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of the stretches of the National Highways falling within the State of West Bengal is pitiable;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the funds released by the Ministry for the maintenance of National Highways to the State Government of West Bengal during the last three years have been utilised by the State Government in time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) National Highways in West Bengal are being maintained generally in traffic-worthy condition within the available resources. However, due to recent floods heavy damages have been reported in some stretches, which are being attended to and adhoc release of Rs.4.00 crores has already been made in this regard.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

"Tiger Sanctuaries"

2367. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds sanctioned and released for various tiger-sanctuaries during the Eight Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount of foreign assistance received during the last three years for the purpose;

(c) the extent of increased or decreased in the number of tigers and other wild animals of this species; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for proper protection and growth of tigers and other wild animals in these sanctuaries during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) An amount of Rs.38.79 crores and Rs.9.16 crores was sanctioned and released for various Tiger Reserves during VIIIth Five Year Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Project Tiger and Ecodevelopment respectively.

(b) The foreign assistance of Rs.41.36 crores has been received during the last 3 years under the World Bank Aided India Eco-Development Project and Forestry Research, Education and Extension Project for six Tiger Reserves.

(c) According to the reports received from the States, the comparative figures of tiger and leopard populations as per the past successive estimations carried out in the country are separately given in Statement I and II enclosed.

(d) The various measures taken by the Government to protect the tigers and other wild animals are enlisted as follows:-

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, leopard and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna.
- (iv) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife animals reaches them.
- (v) International Trade in Endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The trade in ivory is totally banned.
- (vi) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.
- (vii) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on Wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.
- (viii) A "Tiger Crisis Cell" has been set up in the Ministry to suggest improvement in the management of tiger bearing areas of the country.
- (ix) The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
- (x) Steps are being initiated to set up "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas;

(xi) A Protocol has been signed with the Govt of Peoples' Republic of China to coordinate bilateral issues concerning tiger conservation and to check smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body; and

(xii) Steps have been initiated by the Government to establish the 'Global Tiger Forum' for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat throughout the tiger range countries.

Statement-I

Population of Tigers in the Country as reported by the States

| Name of the State | Tigers | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1972 | 1979 | 1984 | 1989 | 1993 | 1997 |
| 1. Tamil Nadu | 033 | 065 | 097 | 095 | 097 | 062 |
| 2. Maharashtra | 160 | 174 | 301 | 417 | 276 | 257 |
| 3. Kerala | 060 | 134 | 089 | 045 | 057 | N.R. |
| 4. West Bengal | 073 | 296 | 352 | 353 | 335 | 361 |
| 5. Orisa | 142 | 173 | 202 | 243 | 226 | N.R. |
| 6. Karnataka | 102 | 156 | 202 | 257 | 305 | 350 |
| 7. Bihar | 085 | 110 | 138 | 157 | 137 | 103 |
| 8. Assam | 147 | 300 | 376 | 376 | 325 | 458 |
| 9. Rajasrhan | 074 | 079 | 096 | 099 | 064 | 058 |
| 10. Madhya Pradesh | 457 | 529 | 786 | 985 | 912 | 927 |
| 11. Uttar Pradesh | 262 | 487 | 698 | 735 | 465 | 475 |
| 12. Andhra Pradesh | 035 | 148 | 164 | 235 | 197 | 171 |
| 13. Meghalaya | 032 | 035 | 125 | 034 | 053 | N.R. |
| 14. Manipur | 001 | 010 | 006 | 031 | - | N.R. |
| 15. Tripura | 007 | 006 | 005 | - | - | N.R. |
| 16. Mizoram | - | 065 | 033 | 010 | 020 | 12 |
| 17. Nagaland | 080 | 102 | 104 | 104 | 003 | N.R. |
| 18. Arunachal Pradesh | 069 | 139 | 219 | 135 | 100 | N.R. |
| 19. Sikkim | - | - | 002 | 004 | 002 | N.R. |
| 20. Gujarat | 008 | 007 | 009 | 009 | 005 | 10 |
| 21. Coa, Daman and Diu | - | - | - | 002 | 003 | 06 |
| 22. Haryana | - | - | 001 | - | - | N.R. |
| Total | 1827 | 3015 | 4005 | 4334 | 3750 | 3241 |

*N.R.—Reports not received from State Governments.

Statement-II

Population of Leopards in the Country as reported by the States

| Name of the State | Leopards | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1984 | 1989 | 1993 | 1997 |
| Tamil Nadu | 198 | 119 | 138 | 110 |
| Maharashtra | 380 | 500 | 417 | 431 |
| Kerala | N.R. | 27 | 16 | N.R. |
| West Bengal | 112 | 108 | 108 | N.R. |
| Orissa | 266 | 279 | 378 | N.R. |
| Karnataka | 238 | 283 | 455 | N.R. |
| Bihar | 113 | 134 | 203 | N.R. |
| Assam | 123 | 123 | 246 | N.R. |
| Rajasthan | 270 | 461 | 475 | 474 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 1322 | 2036 | 1700 | 1851 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 880 | 1095 | 711 | 1412 |
| Andhra Pradesh | N.R. | 301 | 152 | 138 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 199 | 199 | 821 | N.R. |
| Meghalaya | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Pondicherry | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Manipur | 7 | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Tripura | 27 | 37 | 18 | N.R. |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | N.R. | 10 | 15 | 15 |
| Mizoram | 6 | 38 | 49 | 28 |
| Nagaland | 72 | 72 | N.R. | N.R. |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 21 | 121 | 98 | N.R. |
| Sikkim | N.R. | 702 | N.R. | 832 |
| Gujarat | 498 | N.R. | 772 | N.R. |
| Delhi | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Haryana | 10 | 19 | 25 | N.R. |
| Punjab | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Lakshdweep | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Goa Daman & Diu | 10 | 18 | 31 | 25 |
| Andaman & Nicobar Islands | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Chandigarh U.T. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 4 | 4 | N.R. | N.R. |
| TOTAL | 4744 | 6763 | 6828 | 5316 |

*N.R. - Reports not received from State Governments.

[English]

(c) the progress of each project as on date; and

Highway Projects with A.D.B. Collaboration

2368. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the highway projects being implemented in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank;

(b) the funds obtained from ADB for these projects;

(d) the target period fixed for the completion of each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d) Details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement*Details of highway projects being implemented with ADB Loan Assistance***I. SECOND ADB LOAN ASSISTANCE (LOAN NO.1041-IND)**

Laon Amount US \$ 250 million

Amount in Crores

| Sl. No. | State | Name of Project | Length in km. | Progress upto 31.10.98 (%) | Target Date/Remarks |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS : | | | | | |
| 1. | Karnataka | 4 laning of Bangalore-Hosur Section of NH-7 | 25.00 | 99.55 | Substantially completed. |
| 2. | Kerala | 4 laning of Alwaye-Sherthalai Section of NH-47 | 47.00 | 95.48 | by 3/99 |
| 3. | Rajasthan | 4 laning of Achrol-Kotputli Section of NH-8 | 68.50 | 99.90 | Substantially completed. |
| STATE ROAD PROJECTS: | | | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Improvement of Kakinada-Rajanagram Road | 54.00 | Completed | Completed. |
| 2. | Orissa | Improvement of Rourkela-Sambalpur Road | 164.00 | Completed | Completed |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | Improvement of Varanasi-Shaktinagar Road | 182.00 | 92.67 | June. 99 |
| 4. | West Bengal | Improvement of Panagarh-Moregram Road | 152.00 | 72.35 | December, 99 |

II. NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECT (LOAN NO.1274-IND)

Laon Amount US \$ 250 Million

Amount in Crores

| Sl. No. | State | Name of Project | Length in km. | Progress upto 31.10.98 (%) | Target Date/Remarks |
|---------|---------------------|--|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Haryana & Rajasthan | 4-laning of Gurgaon to Kotputli Section of NH8 (Km. 36.33 to 162.50) | 125.93 | 10.10 | 03/2001 |
| 2. | West Bengal | 4-laning of Raniganj-Panagarh Section of NH-2 (Km. 474.0 to 516.0) | 42.00 | 10.00 | 01/2001 |
| 3. | Bihar | 4-laning of Barwa Adda-Barakar Section of NH-2 (Km.398.75 to 441.44) | 42.70 | 19.70 | 06/2000 |
| 4. | Andhra Pradesh | Strengthening of Nandigama-Vijayawada Section of NH-9 (Km. 217.0 to 265.0) including 4-laning from Km.252.0 to 265.0) | 48.00 | 13.60 | 04/2000 |
| 5. | Andhra Pradesh | Strengthening of Vijayawada-Eluru Section of NH-5 (Km.3.4 to 53.8 & Km. 69.2 to 75.0) including 4-laning from Km.3.4 to 13 and a 17.88 Km. long bypass for Eluru town (Km. 53.80 to 69.20) | 74.08 | 1.50 | 06/2001 |

[Translation]

Power Generation

2369. SHRI HIRA LAL ROY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 50 percent of Power generated from the Kanalgaoon Power Plant is supplied to other States;

(b) if so, whether there is any scheme to met the requirement of Bihar;

(c) whether the Bihar Government have decided to allot land to the K.T.P.C. for installing power plants; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Allocation of power to various beneficiaries in the Eastern Region including Bihar from Kahalgaoon Super Thermal Power Station (840 MW) is as follows:-

| Beneficiaries | MW |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| West Bengal State Electricity Board | 180 |
| Bihar State Electricity Board | 285@ |
| Damodar Valley Corporation | 67 |
| Grid Corporation of Orissa | 135 |
| Sikkim | 15 |
| Unallocated | 158 |
| Total | 840 |

\$ including share of Home State.

(b) In addition to its share of 285 MW in Kahalgaoon STPS. Bihar has also a share in Farakka STPS (1600 MW) and Talcher STPS (1000 MW) of NTPC to the extent of 375 MW and 239 MW respectively. Further, NTPC has almost 3000 MW surplus power in Eastern Region. Bihar can meet its requirement from this surplus NTPC power subject to payment.

(c) and (d) In 1996, Government of Bihar conveyed that 2300 acres of land has been earmarked for coal based Nabinagar Mega Power Project in Bihar. This project has now been identified to be implemented in private sector.

[English]

Funds for Inland Waterways in Kerala

2370. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocations made for various facilities and developments at Inland Waterways in Kerala during the current year; and

(b) the details of schemes Inland Waterways Authority of India have taken up for implementation of various facilities and developments in Kerala State?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Budget provision of Rs.10.30 crores has been made during 1998-99 for development activities in National Waterway No.3.

(b) Various schemes for provision of infrastructural facilities on National Waterway No.3, have been taken up by Inland Waterways Authority of India since declaration of this waterway as National Waterway. This includes surveys, channel marking, maintenance dredging, repairs and maintenance of locks and environmental studies. Besides, schemes for capital dredging for widening of narrow sections of canal, 24 hrs navigational aids, Land acquisition for terminals are under implementation.

Heavy Fuel based Power Project

2371. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on a 36 MW Heavy Fuel Based Power Project is propose to be commenced on or before 31st December, 1998 and is likely to be completed by October, 1999; and

(b) if so, the funds allocated and released till date from the Non-lapsable Infrastructure Development Fund?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Turn-key contract has been placed on M/s BHEL on 10.11.1998 for execution of the heavy oil-based Leimakhong DG Power Project (6x6 MW) in Manipur. Advance to the extent of Rs.800 lakhs has been made to M/s BHEL. The project has been rescheduled for commissioning by March, 1999. In view of the fund constraint and the present status of execution of the project, the commissioning schedule is likely to slip to year 1999-2000.

Development of Forests in U.P., Gujarat and Bihar

2372. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any scheme from the Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar Governments for the development of the forest areas during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely time by which it will be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details of the proposals sanctioned during the last three years (1995-98) for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar under the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests are given in Statement I enclosed. Details of

proposals which are still under consideration are in Statement II enclosed. Their sanction is dependent on availability of adequate funds. In addition, externally aided projects listed in

Statement I have also been approved for Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat in this period.

Statement-I

Proposals Approved:

I. Schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

Amount sanctioned in last three years (1995-96 to 1997-98)
(Rs. in lakhs)

| | Uttar Pradesh | Gujarat | Bihar |
|--|---------------|---------|-------|
|--|---------------|---------|-------|

1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme*:

| | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| (i) Uttarkashi/Tehri, Dehradun, Nainital, and Pauri districts in Uttar Pradesh. | 1696.87 | | |
| (ii) Bhavnagar district in Gujarat | | 271.94 | |
| (iii) Deogarh, Giridih, Ranchi districts in Bihar | | | 319.31 |
| 2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme | 2145.61 | 1280.05 | 1074.71 |
| 3. Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants | 262.75 | 613.86 | 230.80 |
| 4. Tree and Pasture Seed Development Scheme | 7.0 | 39.41 | 27.30 |

*This centrally sponsored scheme is operated on 50:50 sharing basis. The figures above are of the central assistance component.

II. Externally-Aided Projects

1. Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project with World Bank assistance commenced in 1997-98. The project cost is Rs.272.00 crores for a duration of four years.
2. Gujarat Forestry Project with OECF (Japan) assistance commenced in 1995-96. The project cost is Rs.608.00 crores for a duration of six years.

Statement-II

Proposals Pending:

1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme:

| Name of the project | Outlay proposed by State (Rs. in lakhs) |
|--|--|
| Uttar Pradesh | |
| Ramganga Soil Conservation Divisions, Gorakhpur, Haridwar, Bijnor, Shivalik Forest Divisions, Sohagibarwa Wildlife Division, and Hardoi, Jhansi Districts. | 3161.55 |
| Gujarat | |
| Panchmahal, Surat, Bhavnagar, Banaskantha Districts. | 659.00 |
| Bihar | |
| Jamui, Dumka and Gumla Districts | 487.32 |
| 2. Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of the Degraded Forests on usufruct sharing basis Scheme: Proposals for Rs.188.00 lakhs and Rs.647.00 lakhs were received from the State Governments of Gujarat and Bihar respectively. The State Governments have been asked to submit revised proposals with lower outlays. | |
| 3. Forest Protection: | |
| Proposal for Forest Protection in Uttar Pradesh for Rs.26696.23 lakhs. | |
| 4. Forest Fire Prevention and Control: | |
| Proposal for Forest Fire Prevention and Control in Uttar Pradesh for Rs.10283.43 lakhs. | |

New Technique for Treating Diseases

2373. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Centre for Cell Science under the Department of Biotechnology has invented a new technique for treating many diseases;

(b) if so, whether the new technique has been tried on an experimental basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(a) whether his Ministry are planning to establish three hospital based centres to make the said technique available on a wider scale and on a continuous basis;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, has developed and standardized the technique for the culture of human skin to use it in cases of Vitiligo, burns and non-healing ulcers. In addition, it has also standardized the technique for cryo-preservation of bone marrow for cancer patients undergoing radical therapies.

(b) The method to culture skin, and grafting the same on human subject, has been standardized and applied in the treatment of over 80 patients. Bone marrow cryo-preservation technology is yet to be used in clinical practice.

(c) Out of 80 cases treated by this skin culture and grafting technology, 26 vitiligo cases, four Giant Nevi cases and nine Burn cases have been successfully cured.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) To further use this technology for the benefit of mankind, three hospital-based centres have been identified. These are:

- i) KEM Hospital and Research Centre, Pune.
- ii) Lok Manya Tilak Municipal Medical College and Hospital, Sion, Mumbai.
- iii) Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Hospital, New Delhi.

Initially for three years, the Government will support these centres and thereafter, the host organization is expected to run the same.

(f) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

"Bhurelal Committee on Pollution"

2374. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhurelal Committee set up by the Union Government regarding pollution control has submitted its report.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether after complete ban the tannery units are still working in the capital, Delhi, and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The authority has prioritized measures to reduce pollution in Delhi.

(c) The Government is implementing the measures proposed by the authority.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee has been directed to close any unauthorised operation of the tannery units in Delhi.

[English]

Krishna-Godavari Action Plan

2375. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given approval to Krishna-Godavari purification action plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure earmarked by Government for this purpose;

(a) the share of expenditure of Centre and State of Maharashtra in this project; and

(e) the time by which work is likely to be started on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government have approved pollution abatement schemes of the rivers Krishna and Godavari in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh under the National River Conservation Plan. The State-wise and town-wise approved cost of the schemes are given below:

| State/river | Towns | Approved cost (Rs. in crore) |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. MAHARASHTRA | | |
| (i) Krishna | Karad | 13.31 |
| | Sangli | 14.84 |
| (ii) Godavari | Nashik | 68.89 |
| | Nanded | 14.50 |
| | | 111.54 |
| 2. ANDHRA PRADESH | | |
| (i) Godavri | Mancharial | 4.57 |
| | Bhadrachalam | 2.94 |
| | Rajamundry | 23.90 |
| | Ramagundam | 19.74 |
| | | 51.15 |

(d) Out of the approved amount of Rs.111.54 crore of the Action Plans of Maharashtra State, the cost of land of Rs.7.13 crore will be borne by the State Government and the balance cost of Rs.104.41 crore will be provided by the Central Government.

(e) The work on this project has already started. Amounts of Rs.2.57 crore and Rs.5.81 crore have been released by the Central Government so far to the Governments of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

Development Project for Kotti Kottapuram Inland Waterway

2376. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any recommendation for the Kotti-Kottapuram inland waterway development project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and response of the Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Kerala had submitted a proposal for development of this waterway as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) at a cost of Rs.321.21 lakhs with 100% central assistance and later confirmed for taking this scheme under CSS (50% central loan assistance). The scheme is under consideration of the Government.

Dubious Foreign Universities

2377. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some dubious foreign universities are collecting millions of dollars as fees from resident Indian students who have enrolled themselves for various specialised management and other courses run by these foreign universities and their Indian affiliates;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether degrees offered by these foreign universities are recognised by UGC or All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE); and

(a) if so, the details of the recognised courses?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The legality of foreign universities or branches thereof functioning in the country has been challenged before the Madras High Court on a Petition moved by one Shri R. Sethuraman and the whole issue is subjudice. While the case is yet to be finally disposed off, the Hon'ble Court has permitted such universities to operate in the country subject to certain restrictions till the final disposal of the case.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Non-formal Education Projects in Rajasthan

2378. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details and names of the projects for which assistance has been provided under the non-formal education scheme to Rajasthan during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE), financial assistance as per details given below was provided to Rajasthan during the last three years.

| Year | Amount released (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 703.64 |
| 1996-97 | 1423.47 |
| 1997-98 | 1544.01 |

(b) and (c) A representation from Rajasthan Non-Formal Education Workers' Union has been received in which it has been alleged that the Government of Rajasthan is proposing to replace the Supervisors working under the NFE Scheme. Rajasthan Government has been requested to furnish their comments on the said representation.

[English]

Setting up of Software Technology University

2379. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Software Technology University in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of universities proposed to be set up?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Power Generation of Power Station in Bihar

2380. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise increase in the Power generation capacity of each of the power station in Bihar during last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the Power generation capacity of these Power stations in the state; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The increase in power generation capacity in Bihar during the last three years is given below .

| Name of Station | Existing capacity as on 31-3-95 (MW) | Additions during (MW) | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| | | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| 1. Eastern Gandak Canal HE | 5 | - | 5 | 5 |
| 2. Sone Eastern Canal HE | - | 3.3 | - | - |
| 3. Tenughat TPS | 210 | - | - | - |
| Central Sector | | | | |
| 1. Kahalgaon STPS | 630 | 210 | - | - |

(b) and (c) Addition to capacity of the Tenughat TPS is under the consideration of the Government and Eastern Gandak Canal HE.

Norms for setting up of Technical Courses

2381. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed by the Government to set up/introduce technical and non-technical education courses/centres;

(b) whether no technical and vocational education centre has been set up in Bhojpur district in the Central Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per the regulations framed under the AICTE Act, 1987, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) considers granting approval to new courses and institutes in technical education after taking into account financial viability, manpower requirement of the region, technical competence, etc. of the applicant/society/trust.

(b) and (c) As of now, there is no technical institute at Degree/Diploma level in Bhojpur District in Central Bihar. During 1996-97, one agency in Bhojpur was provided financial assistance for running innovative programmes in the field of vocational education.

Non-formal Education Centres

2382. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-formal education centres functioning in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the year-wise amount spent thereon and the number of persons made literate through such centres during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding, mal-functioning of these centres;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government would make an assessment as to what extent the amount spent on this scheme has been utilised; and

(e) whether this scheme is worth continuing?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE), this Ministry has sanctioned 37,340 centres for Madhya Pradesh. The year-wise grants released during the last three years is as under:-

| Year | Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 2453.67 |
| 1996-97 | 2819.28 |
| 1997-98 | 2554.21 |

The curriculum of the NFE programme is based on Minimum levels of Learning, as such, the successful learners are treated at par with their counterparts in formal education.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh as well as District Collectors have furnished/are furnishing fresh reports with regard to such complaints. The utilisation of amount spent on the Scheme is assessed/monitored through Quarterly Progress Reports and Annual Progress Reports.

(e) Yes, Sir.

[English]

Rural Libraries

2383. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines regarding the construction of Rural Libraries, and

(b) the details of the fund allotted for Rural Libraries during 1998-99 in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There is no scheme

for rural libraries under the Department and hence no guidelines.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of Power from Pakistan

2384. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Move to buy power from Pak flayed" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated November 18, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the decision of the Union Government to buy power from Pakistan has adversely affected in the Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(c) the details of States in which the power purchased from Pak would be utilised?

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

(b) and (c) Technical level discussions were held at Islamabad on Nov. 25-26, 1998 between the two countries on purchase of power from Pakistan. It was agreed during the discussions that the next round of discussions would be held in New Delhi on mutually convenient dates for consideration and in-principle agreement in the power export possibility identified for the short term and subject to the conclusion of such agreement, commercial discussions would follow. No final decision has yet been taken.

Construction of Bombay-Ahmedabad-Baroda Express Highway

2385. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Baroda Express Highway contracted to M/s Continental Constructions company in April 1986 is going to be undertaken soon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the company has demanded more funds;

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

(e) whether in view of the huge traffic on the route, the Government propose to make the said Highway into 4 lanes instead of 2 lanes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The balance work of Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway would be executed in two phases by the National Highways Authority of India as per details given below:-

(i) Phase-I : Ahmedabad to Nadiad (Km.0/0 to Km.43.4) and

(ii) Phase-II : Nadiad to Vadodara (Km.43.4 to Km. 93.302).

Proposals for prequalification of contractors for Phase I works have been invited.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, the demand was not accepted by the Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The proposal is for the construction of 4-lane Expressway in view of huge traffic on this route.

[Translation]

Setting up of Agarculture Information Centre

2386. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up agriculture information centres to provide the weather information to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Govt. of India has already an S&T Project on National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) and Development of Agrometeorological Services under the Deptt. of Science & Technology for providing medium range weather forecast based agrometeorological advisories to the farmers in various agroclimatic zones of the country.

(b) NCMRWF prepares agroclimatic zone-specific medium range forecast valid for 3 days and the same is disseminated through Telephone/FAX/VSAT to the Agrometeorological Forecasting Units (AMFUs) opened by the said National Centre at State Agricultural Universities/ICAR Institutes. These Units prepare weather based agriculture advisory bulletins on day-to-day basis and disseminate the same through mass communication modes like All India Radio, Doordarshan and Local News papers. Starting with establishment of five units in 1991, till date eighty units (AFMUs) have been opened which are at different stages of development.

(c) The remaining 47 Units to cover all the 127 agroclimatic zones of the country are proposed to be established during IXth Five Year Plan.

Investment in Indian Ports

2387. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned 'British dal Bhartiya

bandargahaun mein nivesh ki ichhuk' published in the 'Dainik Jagran' (Delhi Edition) dated 20 September, 1998;

- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An unofficial British delegation comprising of port sector industries visited India in September, 1998 to explore business opportunities in the Indian ports and the delegation held discussions with various agencies.

(c) The Government have not received any specific proposals.

[English]

Bankers reject ISPAT's Corporation

2388. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Bankers reject ispat's corporate structure for Bhadravati Project' appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated October 7, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the International bankers have rejected the tripartite corporate structure floated by the Ispat Group;

(c) if so, the details of objections raised by International bankers in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India (Go I) has issued counter-guarantee to the Bhadravati thermal power project (1082 MW), which would become effective only after certain conditions precedent laid down therein are fulfilled. The Industrial Development Bank of India has informed that the International Bankers have not raised this issue during this discussions with IDBI. No International bankers have communicated any objections to Go I on this issue. The Central India Power Company, which is the generating company for developing this project, have also informed that no such objections have been raised by International bankers.

(d) Does not arise.

District Primary Education Programme

2389. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB :
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :
SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR :
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

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

(a) the number of districts brought under DPEP, State-wise;

(b) the amount allocated and spent under the programme during the last three years, State-wise.

(c) the details of funds received for the programme from both internal and external sources during the said period;

(d) the achievements made by the programme, State-wise;

(e) whether there is any proposal to improve the implementation of DPEP;

(f) if so, the steps being taken in this direction;

(g) whether there is large scale bungling relating to DPEP in several States;

(h) if so, the details of the steps being taken in this regard; and

(i) the monitoring mechanism set up to supervise this programme throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) 149 districts of 14 States, namely, Assam (9), Kerala (6), Karnataka (11), Haryana (7), Tamil Nadu (6), Maharashtra (9), Madhya Pradesh (33), Himachal Pradesh (4), Orissa (8), Gujarat (3), Andhra Pradesh (5), West Bengal (5), Uttar Pradesh (15) and Bihar (27) are presently covered under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP).

(b) and (c) 85% of the project cost under DPEP is met by the Government of India and is resourced through external funding. The remaining 15% is shared by the concerned State Governments. The Government of India's share is released to the State Implementation Societies as grant. Funds released to the State Implementation Societies by the Government of India during the last 3 years (1996-97 to October, 1998), expenditure incurred and reimbursement made by the external funding agencies are indicated in the Statement - I enclosed.

(d) The physical achievements made by various States under the project are indicated in the statement - II enclosed. The first phase of the programme in 42 districts of 7 States, which was launched in 1994, was subject to an in-depth review during September-October, 1997 jointly by the Government of India and the external funding agencies. The in-depth Review and the various studies conducted for the purpose have indicated that there has been a spurt in enrolment, reduction in repetition rates and there is evidence of increase in learning achievements. Increasing community involvement, improvements in classroom processes and concerted equity focus have emerged as a key success of the programme.

(e) and (f) Improvement in the programme implementation is an ongoing process. In fact decentralisation and participatory process in planning and management is an essential characteristic of DPEP. There is an active participation of public, teachers, Village Education Committees and educational functionaries at the local level at all stages of the programme implementation.

(g) to (i) No, Sir. Funds are released to the State Implementation Societies and the expenditure is incurred by them in accordance with the norms stipulated in the project guidelines and on the activities included in their Annual Work Plan & Budget which are approved after detailed appraisal. The State Societies have well defined Memorandum of Association & Rules and the Financial Regulations with a provision of annual audit to ensure proper utilisation of funds. Physical and financial achievements against the project parameters are also monitored periodically through visits of Supervision Missions, Project Management Information System and meetings of the Executive Committees. The Annual Reports alongwith the Audited Accounts of the State Societies are also laid in Parliament.

Statement-I

Amount released by Government of India, expenditure incurred by the various States under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and amount disbursed by external funding agencies during 1996-97 to 1998-99 (upto Oct., 98)

| Sl. No. | Name of the States | Amount released by Govt. of India | Expenditure | Disbursement by External Funding Agencies |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Assam | 59.37 | 42.30 | 36.82 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 56.19 | 50.00 | 14.74 |
| 3. | Bihar | 18.02 | 17.12 | 13.75 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 25.25 | 21.52 | 18.89 |
| 5. | Haryana | 50.27 | 52.00 | 46.18 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 26.03 | 23.32 | 20.42 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 131.18 | 122.16 | 106.67 |
| 8. | Kerala | 55.88 | 49.28 | 45.18 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 253.09 | 250.00 | 464.62 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 64.76 | 78.24 | 68.67 |
| 11. | Orissa | 29.87 | 21.63 | 18.95 |
| 12. | Tamil Nadu | 55.14 | 62.89 | 55.00 |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh | 60.00 | 36.75 | 32.84 |
| 14. | West Bengal | 19.00 | 8.27 | 5.63 |
| 15. | National Component | 21.23 | 18.60 | 18.47 |
| Total (DPEP) | | 925.28 | 854.08 | 966.83 |

Statement-II

Major physical achievements under DPEP upto 30.09.1998

| Sl.No. | States | New Primary School Buildings constructed/ in progress | Construction of buildings For existing schools completed/ in progress | No.of schools repaired/ under progress | Additional Classrooms Constructed/ in progress | No.of BRC/CRC constructed/ in progress |
|--------|------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1. | ASSAM | - | 443 | 68 | 93 | 296 |
| 2. | ANDHRA PRADESH | 443 | 65 | - | 417 | - |
| 3. | BIHAR | - | 62 | - | 26 | 55 |
| 4. | GUJARAT | - | - | 323 | - | - |
| 5. | HARYANA | 105 | 39 | 410 | 753 | 294 |
| 6. | HIMACHAL PRADESH | 175 | - | - | 55 | 67 |
| 7. | KARNATAKA | 458 | - | 200 | 16 | 273 |
| 8. | KERALA | 18 | 23 | 160 | 584 | 258 |
| 9. | MADHYA PRADESH | 2687 | - | 1701 | 2244 | 198 |
| 10. | MAHARASHTRA | 426 | - | 764 | 1011 | 29 |
| 11. | ORISSA | - | 10 | 354 | 3 | 447 |
| 12. | TAMIL NADU | - | - | 406 | 839 | 71 |
| 13. | UTTAR PRADESH | - | - | - | 270 | 610 |
| 14. | WEST BENGAL* | - | - | - | - | - |

*Civil Works yet to start

Amendments to Motor Vehicles Act

2390. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has sought amendments to Section 138 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to reduce operating risks on highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal is at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given.

[Translation]

Foreign Investment in Express Highway Project

2391. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow hundred percent direct foreign investment in Express Highway Projects;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal;

(c) the latest position of the said proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The proposal is at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given.

Translation of Books

2392. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the original books published in Hindi and English by the National Book Trust and the National Council of Educational Research and Training;

(b) the arrangement made for translation of these original books into other Indian languages;

(c) the names of the Hindi books sent for translation into other languages; and

(d) the number of the Hindi books not sent for translation and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The names of the original books published in Hindi and English by the NCERT and the NBT are given in the Check-list of NCERT Publications 1998 and NBT's Catalogue 1998, copies of which are in the Parliament House Library.

(b) to (d) The National Council for Educational Research and Training brings out school level books (Classes I-XII) in English, Hindi and Urdu languages. It does not bring out its publications in other Indian languages but grants permission to such State Governments which may desire to translate and print its publications.

The National Book Trust publisher originals and translation of books not only in Hindi and English but also in the major Indian languages. An effort is made to maintain a balance in bringing out good titles in all the languages.

A Statement of Hindi books selected for translation into other languages by the National Book Trust is enclosed.

Statement

1. Bharat ki Nadiyan
2. Hamara Samvidhan
3. Master ji
4. Saanjh Savera
5. Teen kahaniyan Panchtantra Se
6. Turant Upchar
7. Neeli Jheel
8. Vakil ki Fees
9. Ujala
10. Kamar ka Dard
11. Ghar laut chalo
12. Paani
13. Ek thi Lata
14. Bimari mein Bhojan kaisa ho
15. Dhaniram ki Baagi

[English]

National Law School

2393. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bar Council of India had recommended setting up of an institution on the model of National Law School in each State for the promotion of better legal education in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the States which established such schools in their States;

(c) the number of States who have not yet established such schools in their States;

(d) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the States regarding setting up of these institutions in the respective States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and time by which such new institutions are likely to be set up in each State?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Besides National Law School of India University, Bangalore, National Academy of Legal Studies and Research, Hyderabad and National Law Institute University, Bhopal have been established in Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, respectively. In other States; no Law Schools have so far been established.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Regularisation of Services in CSIR

2394. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casual workers and employees regularised in various institutes of CSIR during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof for the said period, institute-wise;

(c) whether the posts meant for technical personnel have been filled up by non-technical personnel in several institutes of CSIR;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last p 4Xthree years and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the contractual workers are being employed for carrying out jobs for permanent nature; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the numbers thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Completion of Power Projects

2395. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tehri Dam project, Nathpa-Jhakari project and the Dulhasti project are under construction;

(b) if so, the dates on which the said projects commenced and the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed;

(c) whether the construction cost of these projects has escalated manifold than that of their original construction cost;

(d) if so, the details of original construction cost vis-a-vis the actual construction cost as of now and the amount incurred on each project by the end of March, 1998, project-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Tehri Hydroelectric Project Stage-I (1000 MW), Nathpa Jhakri HE Project (1500 MW) and Dulhasti HE Project (390 MW) are under construction. The project-wise details regarding date of commencement, original cost, latest cost, expenditure incurred upto 31st March, 1998 and the commissioning schedule of these projects are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

| Details | Tehri HE Project Stage-I (1000 MW)* | Nathpa Jhakri HE Project (1500 MW) | Dulhasti HE Project (390 MW) |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Date of commencement (investment approval) | 15.3.94 | 5.4.89 | 12.7.89 |
| 2. Estimated cost (Rs. crores) | | | |
| (a) Original : (price level) | 2963.66 (3/93) | 1678.02 (9/88) | 1262.97 (10/88) |
| (b) Latest cost (price level) | 4962.43 (12/97) | 7666.31 (6/98) | 3559.77 (11/96) |
| 3. Expenditure incurred upto 31.3.98 (Rs.Crores) | 1642.45 | 2918.56 | 1866.56 |
| 4. Commissioning schedule | 2002 | March, 2002 | March, 2001 |

*The Project includes ongoing commitments for Koteswar Dam & HPP and Essential works of Tehri PSP.

[English]

Sanctuary at Jayakwadi Project

2396. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to develop a Sanctuary at Jayakwadi Project;

(b) if so, the details of fresh policy initiatives for the better development of the proposed sanctuary site;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation stating that site for the Sanctuary at Jayakwadi Project is a wrong choice;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the final decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra is considering the proposal to declare Jaikwadi area of Aurangabad district as a Sanctuary. Development of the sanctuary can be undertaken only after its declaration.

(c) and (d) Some representations highlighting the likely hardships to the local people due to proposed declaration of the Jaikawadi Sanctuary have been received.

(e) The power of notifying any area as 'Wildlife Sanctuary' vests with the State Government. Settlement of rights of the people including acquisition of the settled rights or allowing the continuance of the rights is integral part of the sanctuary notification process.

Bharati Dasan University

2397. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date from which the Bharati Dasan University has commenced giving Technical Education;

(b) the time when All India Council for Technical Education found that Bharati Dasan University was functioning without permission of AICTE;

(c) the reasons for the AICTE not taking any action before starting the University;

(d) the number of students who studying in that University;

(e) the fate of students due to closure of the University;

(f) whether the Government have made any alternate arrangements for the admission of the students in other Universities; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (g) After noticing an advertisement issued by the Bharati Dasan University inviting applications for admission to the Bharati Dasan Institute of Engineering & Technology, Tiruchirappalli; to be established by the University on self-financing basis, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) issued a notice to the University on 22nd May, 1998. Subsequently, as a precaution for students seeking admission, the AICTE issued appropriate press releases to clarify the exact status of the

proposed Institute. The matter also came up before the High Court of Judicature at Chennai. In accordance with the court judgment, the University was not permitted to establish the new Institute. Eventually, the Institute did not start its functioning and hence the question of admitting the students or making alternative arrangements for them for admission in other Universities does not arise.

[Translation]

Ongoing Power Projects

2398. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount allocated for the construction of the ongoing power projects could not be utilized during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the names of such projects;

(c) the amount allocated to each of the project during 1997-98 separately;

(d) the amount which was returned in April, 1998 due to non utilisation in this regard; and

(e) the funds to be allocated for these projects during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) In so far as Central PSUs are concerned the information regarding the actual utilisation of Plan funds during 1997-98 is as follows:

| Organisation | Rs. in Crores | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| | 1997-98 (Provisional) B.E. | Actual |
| 1. N.T.P.C. | 2122.60 | 1504.95 |
| 2. N.H.P.C. | 898.35 | 506.47 |
| 3. POWER GRID | 1600.65 | 1579.50 |
| 4. D.V.C. | 270.00 | 166.97 |
| 5. T.H.D.C | 225.00 | 321.91 |
| 6. N.O.P.C. | 960.00 | 774.50 |
| 7. P.F.C. | 550.00 | 716.77 |
| 8. NEEPCO | 160.98 | 167.18 |
| 9. R.E.C. | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 10. MOP (OTHERS) | 125.37 | 109.38 |
| TOTAL CENTRAL PLAN | 6942.85 | 5876.63 |
| STATE PLAN | | |
| 11. R.E.C. | 348.00 | 648.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 7290.85 | 6524.63 |

**Concessions to Private Power
Generating Companies**

2399. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to grant any concessions to the Private Power generating companies for expansion of Power Projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) It has been made mandatory from 18.2.1995 to award power projects to private generating companies through a process of competitive bidding. However, Government had taken a decision that expansion of an existing power project being developed by a private company, inter alia, is exempted from the requirement of competitive bidding for award of the project. Apart from this, no other concession has been granted to private power generating companies for expansion projects.

[English]

Viability of Power Trading Corporation.

2400. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and the Reserve Bank of India have questioned the viability of the independent Power Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have decided to withdraw the proposals mooted earlier in this connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER : (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Government has recently recast the policy on development of Mega Power Projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one State. The policy, inter alia, stipulates for setting up of a Power Trading Corporation (PTC) which would buy power from the identified private Mega Power Projects and sell it to the beneficiary States. Security to the PTC would be provided by means of a Letter of Credit and recourse to the beneficiary States' share of Central Plan allocations and other devolutions. PTC could also, if found feasible, supply power directly to a cluster, like licensees and industrial establishments. There is no proposal to re-examine the viability of the PTC.

[Translation]

Condition of Delhi-Dehradun National Highway

2401. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi-Dehradun National Highway is in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government to improve the condition of Delhi-Dehradun National Highway during the last three years in view of the importance from tourism point of view;

(d) whether several fatal accidents have occurred on this route during the last three years due to the said reason; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Dehradun is not on National Highway, Delhi-Meerut-Haridwar-Rishikesh Section has been declared as National Highway No.58 recently and is not in dilapidated condition. This National Highway section is being maintained in traffic-worthy condition, within the available resources.

(c) Delhi-Rishikesh road has been declared as National Highway on 5.6.98. Prior to declaration, this was a State Highway and was being maintained by the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh from their own funds. After declaration of this road as National Highway, the National Highway Wing of the U.P., PWD has started carrying out the maintenance of this road from August, 1998 onwards. Four Special Repairs estimates totaling to an amount of Rs.199.61 lakhs for repairs of the road have been sanctioned in the month of November, 1998.

(d) and (e) There are no records to indicate that fatal accidents have occurred on this Highway due to the bad condition of the road.

Women Literacy

2402. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any state-wise comprehensive assessment of women literacy campaign in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have not got an expected success in fulfilling the aim of the said campaign in some States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the percentage of success of the campaign in Maharashtra and Gujarat separately?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Under the National Literacy Mission, literacy campaigns have been launched in 448 districts all over the country to cover the entire population, both male and female. The number of persons made literate under National Literacy Mission as on 1.6.1998 is 73.89 million out of which 60 percent are female. Based on evaluation reports a variety of factors have been found to be responsible for poor female literacy rate viz. gender bias, inequality, social discrimination and economic exploitation, occupation of the girl child in domestic chores, low enrolment of girls schools and low retention rate and high drop out rate.

(e) The percentage of females made literate under National Literacy Mission in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat is 67% and 62% respectively.

*[English]***Monument, Temples and Masjids for Renovation**

2403. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of monuments, Temples and Masjids, whose renovation work has been undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India in the country, State-wise;

(b) the progress made in this direction so far and the total expenditure incurred thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The number of centrally protected monuments State-wise which include Temples/Masjids, etc., proposed for maintenance, conservation, preservation and environmental development during 1998-99 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The maintenance conservation and preservation of the centrally protected monuments is a continuous process. The works taken up are in various stages of implementation. Their completion would depend on the stages involved in the process of conservation and the overall availability of funds.

The expenditure incurred by the A.S.I. on the maintenance and conservation of centrally protected monuments in the country in the last three years is as follows:

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 1995-96 | Rs.1473.12 lakhs |
| 1996-97 | Rs.1740.17 lakhs |
| 1997-98 | Rs.2339.30 lakhs |

Statement

The number of centrally protected monuments State-wise including Temples, Masjids etc., proposed for maintenance, conservation, preservation and environmental development during 1998-99 referred in part 'A' of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Question No. 2403 for 14.12.98.

| S.No. | State/Union Territory | No.of Monuments/ Temples and Masjids |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 93 |
| 2. | Assam | 49 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 |
| 4. | Bihar | 70 |
| 5. | Delhi | 05 |
| 6. | Diu & Daman | 10 |
| 7. | Goa | 15 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------------|-----|
| 8. | Gujrat | 125 |
| 9. | Haryana | 70 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 20 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 50 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 334 |
| 13. | Kerala | 13 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 170 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 156 |
| 16. | Manipur | 1 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 3 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 3 |
| 19. | Orissa | 35 |
| 20. | Pondicherry | 1 |
| 21. | Punjab | 14 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 75 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 2 |
| 24. | Tamilnadu | 200 |
| 25. | Tripura | 5 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 300 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 85 |

European Commission Assistance in Ports Development

2404. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether for the first time the European Commission (EC) has decided to provide assistance to India for the development of ports.

(b) if so, the project that will be undertaken from this project-aid;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve the services in Jawahar Lal Nehru Port in Mumbai, Tamil Nadu and Visakhapatnam Port; and

(d) if so, the steps being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A project titled 'EU-India Maritime Transport Project; will be undertaken with this aid and it is aimed at improving the efficiency of Jawaharlal Nehru Port container terminal and the Tuticorin Port and to support Government of India to introduce Electronic Data Interchange in the Ports, including Visakhapatnam Port.

(d) A Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Government of India has been finalised and after its signing, the project will be implemented by the Union by the year 2003.

Regional and Development Plan of Maharashtra under CZMP'

2405. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has submitted any request to consider the proposals of Regional Plan and Development Plans under Coastal Zone Management Plan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have refused to accept the request;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Government has again submitted the proposals for approval;

(e) if so, the reasons for delay in its clearance; and

(f) the time by which clearance is likely to be accorded to the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The State Government of Maharashtra had submitted the draft Coastal Zone Management Plan of Maharashtra to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, which was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forests vide letter No.J-17011/8/95-IA-III dated 27th September, 1996 along with certain conditions and modifications.

(d) to (f) The State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for amendments in the Coastal Zone Management Plan for Mumbai and Navi Mumbai, which has been received in the Ministry of Environment & Forests on 30.11.98. The proposal involves reclassification of certain areas within the Coastal Regulation Zone. The Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority is required to submit recommendations on this proposal to the National Coastal Zone Management Authority, which, in turn, would submit the proposal to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for consideration and approval.

Tariff Rates for Major Ports

2406. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to delay in announcing tariff proposals by Tariff Authority for Major Ports financial losses have been suffered by Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal;

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

(c) the time by which the tariff rates are likely to be cleared?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The tariff rates of the Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal are likely to be notified shortly in the Gazette of India.

[Translation]

Family Counselling Centres

2407. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Family Counselling Centres are being run and financed by the Central Social Welfare Board in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Central Social Welfare Board provides financial support to Non-Government Organisations for running Family Counselling Centres in various States/UTs of the country. The Centres are administered by the individual NGOs. Besides this, 18 Family Counselling Centres are being run directly by various State Social Welfare Advisory Boards with financial support from CSWB. The CSWB also runs directly one such FCC in Crimes Against Women's Cell in Delhi.

(b) Information is given as per Statement I and II.

Statement-I

Statement showing Position of Sanction/Release during 1997-98 under Family Counselling Centre as on 31-3-1998

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | No. of FCCs | Sanction | Release |
|---------|-------------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | ANDHRA PRADESH | 19 | 1762560 | 1507625 |
| 2. | ASSAM | 11 | 911040 | 1012539 |
| 3. | BIHAR | 15 | 1394710 | 1342046 |
| 4. | GUJARAT | 34 | 3227708 | 2274500 |
| 5. | HARYANA | 10 | 969248 | 764678 |
| 6. | HIMACHAL PRADESH | 6 | 567120 | 402637 |
| 7. | J & K | 1 | 90240 | 70240 |
| 8. | KARNATAKA | 23 | 1928480 | 1546782 |
| 9. | KERALA | 23 | 2061664 | 1633534 |
| 10. | M.P. | 25 | 2169352 | 1907652 |
| 11. | MAHARASHTRA | 30 | 2434587 | 1342427 |
| 12. | MANIPUR | 4 | 305760 | 338180 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-----------|----|---------|---------|-------|-------------------|-----|----------|----------|
| 13. | MEGHALAYA | 3 | 255680 | 241500 | 23. | ARUNACHAL PRADESH | | | |
| 14. | NAGALAND | | | | 24. | CHANDIGARH | 1 | 76320 | 55490 |
| 15. | ORISSA | 13 | 1009167 | 727448 | 25. | DELHI | 21 | 1996640 | 1500499 |
| 16. | PUNJAB | 8 | 641746 | 423576 | 26. | GOA | | | |
| 17. | RAJASTHAN | 10 | 818520 | 736287 | 27. | LAKSHDWEEP | | | |
| 18. | TAMILNADU | 29 | 2560906 | 1925226 | 28. | MIZORAM | 3 | 294560 | 306296 |
| 19. | TRIPURA | 4 | 382400 | 286294 | 29. | PONDICHERRY | 2 | 194720 | 184736 |
| 20. | U. P. | 25 | 2009290 | 1641551 | 30. | SIKKIM | 1 | 92000 | 78605 |
| 21. | W. B. | 24 | 2158728 | 1558293 | TOTAL | | 348 | 30592346 | 23952727 |
| 22. | A & N | 3 | 279200 | 139600 | | | | | |

Statement-II

Statement showing the Position of Sanction/Release under Police Family Counselling Centre during 1997-98

| Sl.No. | Name of the State | Name & Address | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released |
|--------|-------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | ANDHRA PRADESH | W.P.C., C.B., CIO, Lakdi Ka Pool, Hyderabad | 228800 | 121146 |
| 2. | ASSAM | Inspector General of Police, CID, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati. | 140400 | 70200 |
| 3. | GUJARAT | Mahila Police Station, Karang, Bhadra, Ahmedabad. | 144200 | 72100 |
| 4. | KARNATAKA | Office of the Police Commissioner, Infantry Road, Bangalore. | 246800 | 251711 |
| 5. | MANIPUR | F.C.C. Supdt. of Police, Distt. Police Head Quarters, Imphal West District, Manipur. | 133400 | 133400 |
| 6. | MEGHALAYA | F.C.C. Police Main Thana, Shillong. | 133400 | 88600 |
| 7. | NAGALAND | F.C.C. (Crime Women Cell) Nagaland Police Head Quarters, Kohima. | 133400 | 66700 |
| 8. | ORISSA | H.R.P.C., Police Head Quarter Dewasahi, Tulasipur, Cuttack. | 133400 | 66700 |
| 9. | PUNJAB | Punjab State Police Deptt. (PHQ), Police Premises, Jalandhar | 133400 | 66700 |
| 10. | TAMIL NADU | F.C.C. Police Head Quarters, Chennai. | 228800 | 114400 |
| 11. | TRIPURA | F.C.C. (Police Head Quarters) Arundhuti Nagar, West Tripura | 133400 | 124619 |
| 12. | UTTAR PRADESH | Mahila Sahayata Prakoshti, Apradh Anusandhan Vibhag, (PHQ), 2-Vikarmaditya Marg, Lucknow. | 133400 | 165366 |
| 13. | GOA | F.C.C. Police Head Quarters, Goa. | 133400 | 66700 |
| 14. | PONDICHERRY | F.C.C. Police F.C.C., 24 J.N. Street, Pondicherry. | 133400 | 139718 |
| 15. | SIKKIM | F.C.C. Police Head Quarters, National Highway, Gangtok, East Sikkim. | 133400 | 66700 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|-------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 16. | HARYANA | Family Counselling Centre Police Headquarters, Karnal. | 133400 | 127784 |
| 17. | KERALA | Family Counselling Centre, Police Headquarters, Trivandrum. | 133400 | 66700 |
| 18. | WEST BENGAL | Family Counselling Centre, Police Headquarters, Calcutta. | 228800 | 114400 |
| 19. | DELHI | Family Counselling Centre, Crime Against Women Cell, Nanakpura, New Delhi. | 238800 | 201481 |
| Total | | | 30,57,400 | 21,25,125 |

[English]

Development of Construction Technology by CRR I

2408. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Road Research Institute has developed low cost road construction technologies for rural roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the states benefited by the technologies?

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

(b) Central Road Research Institute (CRR I), a constituent unit of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have developed several low cost technologies for construction of rural roads, some of these are for construction of:

(i) low volume roads on weak subgrade in command areas through stabilisation techniques;

(ii) subbase and bases of the rural roads by mechanical stabilisation using low grade local materials;

(iii) rural roads using tractor towed agricultural implements;

(iv) rural roads using modified design curves;

(c) The technologies have been demonstrated by the CRR I in collaboration with local PWDs and other construction agencies in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Archaeological Sites in Solapur

2409. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the condition of maintenance of historical and archaeological sites in Solapur and around it in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the detail of the ASI's report in this regard;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure due maintenance thereof; and

(d) the reasons for delay in setting up a museum at Solapur?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Under the AMASR Act the ASI has declared 15 Monuments protected as of national importance in Sholapur district. The centrally protected monuments are in a good state of preservation. The maintenance of these monuments is a continuous process.

(d) The proposal to set up a museum in Sholapur is under discussion with the district authorities. It will not be possible to indicate a time frame for finalising the proposal.

[Translation]

Power Situation in U.P.

2410. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to spend one and a half billion rupees for the improvement in power situation in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which State Government propose to utilise the said amount?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The Government of India had launched the Renovation and Modernisation (Phase II) Programme during the year 1990-91. Under this scheme, R&M Programme is proposed to be carried out in certain thermal stations located in U.P. The latest sanctioned cost of this programme in U.P. is Rs.219.91 crores. Additional R & M works are also proposed to be carried out during the Ninth

Plan and the estimated cost of these additional activities is Rs.297.24 crores. The Central Power Sector Undertakings such as NTPC, NHPC, PFC, and REC are also undertaking investment in U.P.'s power sector. During 1998-99, the plan allocation for these undertakings for investment in U.P. was approximately of Rs.800 crores.

[English]

Development of Minor Port into Major Port

2411. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals/requests from various Government regarding development and upgradation of several minor ports into major ports during the Eighth Five Year Plan as well as current year.

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

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

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Blockage of Power Projects due to Fuel and Transportation

2412. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether fuel and transportation issues are blocking power projects;

(b) if so, the names of projects adversely affected due to this blockage;

(c) whether any concrete measures are being worked out by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Projects require a fuel linkage and wherever necessary clearance from Railways before the project is given techno-economic clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The TEC cleared projects in central/state sector are not being blocked on account of these issues. However, in the private sector some projects have faced difficulties in finalising commercially acceptable fuel supply and transportation agreements. Government has been trying to resolve these issues. A model fuel supply agreement (FSA) has been circulated for liquid fuel projects and a model FSA has also been developed for coal based projects. Railways have also finalised certain guidelines for transportation agreements.

Expenditure on N.H. in J&K.

2413. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Highways in Jammu and Kashmir affected by the natural calamities during last two years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on the repair works of these National Highways during this period till date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) There are two National Highways in Jammu & Kashmir, i.e. NH-1 A and NH-1B. None of these National Highways have been affected by Natural calamities during the last two years.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the repairs of these two National Highways during the last two years, i.e. 1996-97 & 1997-98 is Rs.11.21 crores.

[Translation]

State Pollution Control Boards

2414. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

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

(a) whether any World Bank sponsored scheme is being carried out in various States to strengthen the State Pollution Control Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been taken from any foreign agency in this regard;

(d) if so, the names thereof;

(e) the States where this scheme is being run indicating the respective dates from which it is being run;

(f) the amount out of the total grant received from the World Bank allocated to the States; and

(g) the progress achieved in respect of the scheme, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (f) Yes Sir. Two World Bank aided projects viz. Industrial Pollution Control Project in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh and Industrial Pollution Prevention Project in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Karnataka are under implementation for strengthening the State Pollution Control Boards. Financial assistance from the World Bank to the tune of US \$ 155.6 million for the Industrial Pollution Control Project and US \$ 168 million for Industrial Pollution Prevention Project have been allocated under the project which have been implemented since November, 1991 and June, 1995 respectively. There is no State specific allocation of funds under both the Projects. The projects aim to strengthen the identified State Pollution Control Boards by provision of equipment, training and infrastructure.

(g) The Industrial Pollution Control Project will be completed in March, 1999 and the Industrial Pollution Prevention Project will be completed in June, 2001.

*[English]***Power Projects in Goa**

2415. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some private entrepreneurs have evinced interest to set up power projects in Goa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) As per the available information, M/s Reliance Salgaocar Power Company Limited propose to set up a liquid fuel based combine cycle power project at Sancoale, Goa. The project has been granted fuel linkage (naphtha) by the Central Government for 40 MW capacity.

Amount Spent on Research Projects

2416. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount spent on the Research Projects during the last five years;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to increase the allocation for such projects; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has been collating information on sponsored Research & Development (R&D) projects funded by various Central Government Departments/Agencies. According to this compilation available up to 1996-97, the amount approved for the preceding five years by various reporting Central Government Department/Agencies has been as follow:

| Year | Approved amount (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 104.51 |
| 1993-94 | 127.16 |
| 1994-95 | 131.34 |
| 1995-96 | 161.98 |
| 1996-97 | 186.48 |

The year-wise amount approved for the sponsored research projects has been continuously on increase.

Scholarships to SCs/STs

2417. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of programmes being implemented by the Union and State Governments in Maharashtra to provide scholarships to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) whether some social voluntary organisations are also implementing such type of programmes; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of IIT and IIMS

2418. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether requests have been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government for sanctioning an Indian Institute of Technology and an Indian Institute of Management in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a request to the Central Government for establishment of an Indian Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Management in that State. The Central Government has no plans to establish any Indian Institute of Technology or Indian Institute of Management for the time being.

Working Girls Hostels in Bihar

2419. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi has received three proposals for providing grants for the working girls hostels in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken thereon and the grant given for each of those Hostel so far?

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

(b) and (c) Information is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement*List of Proposals/New Recommendations received during 1998-99*

- (a) Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra, (a) The case is under consideration.
at Bahera, P.O. Brindavan
Via. Chouparan
Distt. Hazari Bagh.
- (b) Mahila Antyoday Niketan, (b) Since NGO is a defaulter in loan repayment of a dairy unit, this proposal has been withdrawn by Bihar State Board.
Dariba Baj Bahadur Road,
Mangal Talab,
P.O. Patna City,
P.S. Chowk, Patna.
- (c) Mahila Sewa Sanstha, (c) The proposal has been rejected and sent back to State Board since the proposal was incomplete.
Dudari Bazar,
Lohardaga-835302.

Internet Facility in Schools

2420. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to start Internet facility in all the Government schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) the funds earmarked for the purpose, if any?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The National IT Action Plan, envisages providing easy Internet accessibility to Schools, Other Educational Institutions etc., by the year 2003. Implementation details in this behalf are being worked out.

[Translation]

Youth Policy

2421. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether formulation of youth policy is pending for the last many years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had constituted a committee of youth representatives for recasting the youth policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir. The existing National Youth Policy was adopted in 1988. Over the years, a need to review it was felt so as to make it more need based. Accordingly, the process to formulate a New National Youth Policy has been initiated in consultation with various State Governments, Political Parties, Members of Parliament, Youth Organisations, Youth representatives as well as other concerned agencies.

(b) Salient features of Draft New National Youth Policy are:

1. A Statement of the rationale for as well as the objectives of the New Youth Policy;
2. Outlines the Privileges as well as the responsibilities of Youth;
3. Thrust areas as under:
 - Youth Empowerment
 - Gender Justice

- Inter sectorial Approach
- Information & Research work

4. Identifies key Sectors of youth concern for special attention, such as, Education, Training and employment, Health, Environment, Sports, Recreation and Leisure, Art and Culture, Science and Technology, Civics and Citizenship;
5. Emphasis on Priority target groups; and
6. Creation of an implementation Mechanism with the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports as the nodal Department for all youth related programmes, etc.

(c) No, sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Dredging Work in National Waterway-3

2422. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) the total provision for undertaking dredging work in National Waterway-3 in the current financial year;
- (b) the status of the work and expenditure made so far for dredging in National Waterway-3;
- (c) the number of posts sanctioned for National Waterway-3;
- (d) whether all the posts have been filled up; and
- (e) if not, the number of posts lying vacant in Kochi and the action proposed to be taken, to fill up the same?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) A sum of Rs.4.00 crores had been provided for capital dredging including land acquisition by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for current financial year.

(b) Ever since its declarations NW-3 in 1993-94, approximately 6.30 lakhs cu.m. quantity has been dredged since 1993-94 for which expenditure of Rs.370.39 lakhs (approx.) has been made till November, 1998 by IWAI. Further, a scheme for capital dredging including land acquisition for widening of canal has been approved by the Government at a cost of Rs.26.00 crores. Payment of Rs.7.00 crores has been made to Govt. of Kerala for acquiring the land.

(c) At present, 19 posts have been sanctioned for National Waterway No.3.

(d) and (e) Yes, except the 9 posts which have not been filled up as Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of Ministry of Finance has recommended for creation/abolition of some posts.

In addition to the existing sanctioned posts, 5 additional incumbents have been positioned in National Waterway No. 3.

However, action to fill up the vacant posts would be initiated after the implementation of the recommendations of SIU.

Dilapidated Condition of Sikkim National Highway

2423. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway connected with the Sikkim State is in very dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve its dilapidated condition; and

(c) the funds earmarked during each of the last three years for maintenance/repair of this National Highway and the amount actually spent thereon; year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The road is being maintained in traffic worthy conditions within the available resources.

(c) The funds earmarked and expenditure incurred during last three years are as follows:

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1995-96 | Rs.100.35 lakhs |
| 1996-97 | Rs. 87.41 lakhs |
| 1997-98 | Rs.105.65 lakhs |

Development of Technologies

2424. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Biotech Consortium India Ltd. New Delhi and other Research Institutions sponsored by the department of Biotechnology have developed technologies for Bio-pesticides and Bio-Fertilizer and neem based pesticides for small enterprises;

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

(c) whether BCIL have formally entered into an agreement with its foreign counterpart for transfer of such technologies to small enterprises in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof with products and country of origin;

(e) whether such technologies have been transferred for commercialisation;

(f) if so, the names and addresses of the parties and norms for such technologies transfer, serial-wise; and

(g) the activities and functions of BCIL and their achievements since inception as on date, serial-wise?

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

have been developed through DBT sponsored R&D projects in the area of Biopesticides and Biofertilizer. Three technologies for the production of Blue Green Algae and Rhizobium and eight Biopesticide technologies for mass production of various biocontrol agents have been developed. Neem based pesticides are also in the process of development.

(b) (i) Biopesticides : Mass production technologies for eight biopesticides viz. Nuclear Polyhedrosis virus (NPV) of *Heliothis armigera*, NPV of *Spodoptera litura*, Granulosis virus (GV) of *Chilo infuscatellus*, *Chrysopa*, *Trichogramma*, *Trichoderma viride*, *Gliocladium virens* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* have been developed. Two biocontrol production units were set up one each at TNAU, Coimbatore and MKU, Madurai through the financial support (grant-in-aid) of BCIL based on the technology packed of TNAU for the commercial production of the biopesticides.

(ii) Biofertilizer: Mass production technology for quality assured Blue Green Algae in Flexibioreactor and also under polyhouse condition have been developed. Fermentation based technologies for large scale production of Rhizobium biofertilizers suitable for chickpea, rajmash, moongbean and soyabean have also been developed.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes.

(f) The technologies for biopesticides were transferred to various industries Crop Health Products Limited has started production of *Trichogramma* and NPV on a limited scale. The others are at various stages of implementation. (The details are given in the enclosed Statement - I).

(g) Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL) was set up with the objectives of providing the linkages to facilitate accelerated commercialization of biotechnology. BCIL has been engaged in technology development, technology transfer, project constancy, fund syndication, information dissemination and manpower and placement training related to biotechnology. As on date, it has assisted over 120 clients including scientist, technologist, research institutions, universities, first generation entrepreneurs, the corporate sector, government, banks and financial institutions.

BCIL was incorporated as a public limited company in 1990 under the Indian Companies Act 1956, promoted by the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India. Its core capital of 5.37 crores has been contributed mainly by the All India Financial Institutions including IDBI, ICICI, IFCI, UTI and RCTC and the corporate sector including Ranbaxy laboratories, Glaxo India, Cadila laboratories, Lupin Laboratories, Kothari Sugars and Chemicals, Rallis India, SPIC, Madras Refineries, Zuari Agro, EID Parry, ACC and Excel Industries.

The major areas of BCIL's operation are:

- Technology Development
- Technology Transfer

Consultancy

Manpower training and placement.

Fund Syndication

The details of major assignments completed are given in the enclosed Statement - V.

Information Services

Statement-I

| | Name and Address of the Company | Technology | Terms |
|----|--|---|---|
| 1. | Crop Health Products Limited. D-31/1, Industrial Area, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad-201003 | a. Heliothis NPV b. Trichogramma c. Trichoderma | 7 lakhs as knowhow fee 3% royalty on sales for 7 years. |
| 2. | Maharashtra State Cooperative Oil Seeds Grower Federation Ltd. 24, Ramdoss Colony PB.No.104, Jalgaon - 425 001 Maharashtra. | a. Trichoderma | 3 lakhs as knowhow fee 3% Royalty on sales |
| 3. | Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd. Fazhalboy Building 45-47, Mahatma Gandhi Road Fort, Bombay - 400 023. | a. Trichogramma | 5 lakhs as knowhow Rs.80000 as Royalty for 5 years |
| 4. | Hoechst Schering Agrevo Ltd. Hoechst House Nariman Point 193, Backbay Reclamation Bombay - 400 021. | a. Trichoderma | 3 lakhs as knowhow royalty of 3% on gross sales for 3 years |

Statement-II*Major Assignment*

| CLIENT | ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT |
|--|---|
| TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER | |
| Technology Scale up | |
| Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, (TNAU), Coimbatore | Financing scale up & demonstration plant for biopesticides |
| Praman technology solutions (P) Ltd., Thane | Development of single cell electroporation equipment |
| Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Tamil Nadu | Development of Industrial Prototype BOD Biosensor |
| Technology Packaging | |
| Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India. | Blue green algae, Rhizobium |
| Central Institute for Fisheries Education, (CIFE), Bombay | Freshwater prawn hatchery |
| Central Institute for Fisheries & Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar | Composite carp culture |
| Technology Transfer | |
| Crop Health Products Ltd. (CHPL), Ghaziabad | Biopesticides |

| CLIENT | ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT |
|--|--|
| Maharashtra Oilseeds Co-operative Federation Ltd. (MAHAFED), Jalgaon | Biopesticides |
| Hoechst Schering Agr Evo Ltd., Bombay | Biopesticides |
| Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd. (Somaia Group), Bombay | Biopesticides |
| UB Group of distilleries Bangalore | Energy efficient high alcohol yeast |
| Ranbaxy Laboratories, New Delhi | Pregnancy detection kit |
| TMT (India) Ltd., Hyderabad | Freshwater pearl culture |
| Eastern Organic Fertilizers Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta | Conversion of municipal garbage into organic manure |
| Leaf Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Thane | Conversion of municipal garbage into organic manure |
| SPJ Bioagro Pvt. Ltd., Chandigarh | Conversion of municipal garbage into organic manure |
| J. Mitra & Company Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi | HIV-1 and 2 diagnostics (Western Blot) |
| ACE Diagnostics & Biotech Ltd., New Delhi | HIV-1 and 2 diagnostics (ELISA) |
| CONSULTANCY | |
| Status/Sectoral studies | |
| DSIR, Govt. of India | Biopesticides |
| DSIR, Govt. of India | Biofertilisers |
| DSIR, Govt. of India | Capital goods |
| SAARC Fund, IDBI, Bombay | Cutflower industry in the SAARC Region |
| Export Import Bank of India, Bombay. | Indian Floriculture Industry |
| APEDA, Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi | Organic Farming for Agro Exports |
| Export Import Bank of India, Bombay. | Indian Medicinal plants |
| Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi. | Status on Status of Indian Biotech Industry. |
| Prefeasibility studies | |
| ATI, USA | Rhizobium application. |
| MSAMB, Pune | Establishment of tissue culture facility and biotechnology unit in Maharashtra |
| Kirloskar Electric Co., Bangalore | 100% Floriculture EOU |

| CLIENT | ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT |
|---|--|
| Mahila Chetna Manchh, Bhopal | Setting up of tissue culture cum hardening facility |
| Royal Freshwater Cochin | Pilot project on backyard giant freshwater shrimp hatchery |
| Aqua Triumph, Bhubaneswar | Setting up of fresh water prawn hatchery |
| Weikfield Agro Pvt. Ltd. Bombay | Treatment of mushroom waste into manure |
| Techno Economic Feasibility Reports | |
| Madras Fertilisers Ltd., Madras | Plant tissue culture unit |
| MMTC, New Delhi | Floriculture : 100% EOU |
| DBT, ICICI and NABARD | Micropropagation technology park |
| Detailed Project Reports | |
| Ankur Bioculture Ltd., New Delhi | Commercial production of ornamental plantlets by tissue culture for export |
| Aqua Triumph, Bhubaneswar | Freshwater prawn hatchery and farm |
| Crop Health Products Ltd., Ghaziabad | Biopesticides |
| Maharashtra Oilseeds Cooperative Federation Ltd., Jalgaon | Biopesticides |
| Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd., Bombay | Biopesticides |
| Punjab Council for Science & Technology | Centre of excellence for biotechnology |
| Market Surveys | |
| Consortium of Pharma Inds. | Medical diagnostics |
| Department of Electronics Govt. of India, New Delhi. | Bioelectronics |
| Sewa Diagnostics, U.S.A. | Diabetes management kits |
| Canadian High Commission New Delhi | Diagnostics and vaccines |
| Madhya Pradesh State Council for Science & Tech., Bhopal | Medicinal plants |
| Mascot Exims (P) Ltd., Madras | Export of placenta |
| APEDA | Market survey of crops suitable for organic agriculture |
| Business Plans | |
| Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), Pune | Horticulture plan for Maharashtra |
| Jay Bharat Maruti Ltd., New Delhi | Investment opportunities in floriculture, mushroom cultivation and processing |
| Stepwel Industries Ltd., New Delhi | Diversification into agri biotechnology |

| CLIENT | ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT |
|---|--|
| SRM Pvt. Ltd., Vishakapatnam | Diversification into biotechnology |
| Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad | Analytical, Biotech & Environment monitoring eqps./instruments |
| Project Appraisal and Monitoring | |
| Valplus Biotech Limited, Vadodara | Floriculture : 100% EOU |
| Euro Asia Flowers Ltd., New Delhi. | Floriculture : 100% EOU |
| India Meristem Ltd., Jaipur | Tissue culture project |
| IDBI | Floriculture |
| ICICI | Biopesticides |
| ICICI | Tissue culture |
| Ajay Biotech Limited, Pune | Biofertilizers |
| S.S.Clontech | Immunodiagnostic kits |
| Biotissue Labs (P) Ltd. | Tissue culture |
| Aqua marine Green Development, New Delhi | Organic farming 100% EOU |
| Miscellaneous | |
| Premier Ziba Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi | Environment clearance for import of microbes |
| Madhya Pradesh State Council for Science & Technology, Bhopal | Setting up of a biotechnology application centre in MP |
| Varimpex, France | Joint venture formation. |
| Fermenta Pharma Biodil Ltd. | Information survey on industrial enzymes. |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs-International Cooperation, Netherlands | Indo-Dutch mission for AP biotech project |
| UNIDO | Business interface meetings in India for UNIDO mission to explore business opportunities in biotechnology. |
| Sanders International, U.S.A. | US biotreatment delegation interface meetings with Indian companies |
| Madhya Pradesh State Council for Science & Technology, Bhopal | Enterpreneurs' meet |
| Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation, Kerala Financial Corporation | Enterpreneurs' meet |
| DBT, SIDBI | Enterpreneurs' meet for biofertilizers |
| Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India | Biodiversity workshop |
| Training & Placement, DBT | Postgraduate industrial training and placement |
| Kee Pharma Ltd., Delhi | Clearance for import of animal vaccines |

| CLIENT | ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT |
|--|--|
| Department of Biotechnology | Workshop on biosafety issues emanating from use of GMOs |
| Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority. | Study on formulation of national standards for organic farming |
| FUND SYNDICATION | |
| Animal Biotech Ltd., Bangalore | Development and commercialisation of diagnostic kits for animal health care management (SIDBI) |
| Sangeeta Biochem Ltd., Calcutta | Modernisation cum expansion project for production of lactic acid and its derivatives (Venture Capital Fund, IDBI) |
| Eastern Organic Fertilisers Ltd., Calcutta | Conversion of municipal garbage (IDBI) |

"Museum of Natural History in Maharashtra"

2425. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Regional Museum of Natural History in Maharashtra's Marathwada Region in order to promote non-formal environmental education and create conservation awareness among the people of this area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Looking to the financial constraints and the administrative complexity involved in setting up regional museums, there is no proposal to set up any regional museum other than the three regional museums already approved. However, it has been decided to provide technical assistance to the museums which would be established by State governments and other statutory and non-governmental organisations.

Four lane National Highways from Pune to Satna

2426. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned four lane stretch of National Highways from Pune to Satna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on this stretch has started;

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

(e) whether this work has been awarded to any private party; and

(f) if so, the names thereof and time by which the work is likely to be completed?

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

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Funds for Non-formal Education Centres

2427. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of non-formal education centres in Bihar;

(b) the amount sanctioned as first instalment in this regard;

(c) whether the second instalment has not been released for these centres;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government contemplate to release the second instalment for these centres; and

(f) if so, the amount likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE), this Ministry has sanctioned 50,000 and 3,640 NFE centres under State sector and Voluntary Agency sector respectively.

(b) to (f) Instalments are released on receipt of Quarterly Progress Reports, Annual Progress Reports, details of Accounts, audited statements and requests for continuation of NFE project. Due funds are released on the basis of completion of above formalities.

*[English]***Sports Activities in Karnataka**

2428 SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any Centrally sponsored schemes regarding sports activities being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allotted under the scheme during 1998-99 and proposed to be allotted during Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir, there is no specific scheme only for Karnataka. However, the Department operates a Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" under which Central assistance, subject to a ceiling limit, is provided on matching share basis between the State/UT Governments and the Union Government. There is a budget provision of Rs.11.60 crores under the Scheme during 1998-99 and Rs.45.00 crores during Ninth Plan. State-wise funds are not allotted under the scheme but depending upon the receipt of viable proposals from the State Governments, admissible Central assistance is provided.

National River Conservation Plan

2429. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cleaning operation is taking place under the National River Conservation Plan;

(b) if so, the rivers included in the Plan;

(c) whether Government propose to include some more rivers under this plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The Government approved during the period April 1993 to October 1996 the schemes of the Ganga Action Plan Phase II and the National River Conservation Plan. Under these two schemes, pollution abatement works have been approved on polluted stretches of 22 rivers in 14 States covering 141 towns. The list of the rivers included in these programmes is given in the Statement enclosed. The work on these schemes is in progress.

(c) and (d) It has been decided not to include new rivers under this plan during the Ninth Plan.

Statement

| Sl.No. | Name of State | River |
|--------|----------------|------------|
| I. | ANDHRA PRADESH | |
| | | 1 Godavari |
| | | Godavari |
| | | Godavari |
| | | Godavari |

| Sl.No. | Name of State | River |
|--------|----------------|-------------------------|
| II. | BIHAR | |
| | | 2 Subamarekha |
| | | Subamarekha |
| | | Subamarekha |
| | | 3 Ganga |
| | | 4 Damodar |
| III. | GUJARAT | |
| | | 5 Sabarmati |
| IV. | KARNATKA | |
| | | 6 Tunga (Krishna) |
| | | 7 Tungabhadra (Krishna) |
| | | 8 Bhadra (Krishna) |
| | | Tungabhadra (Krishan) |
| | | 9 Cauvery |
| | | Cauvery |
| | | Cauvery |
| | | Cauvery |
| V. | MADHYA PRADESH | |
| | | 10 Khan |
| | | 11 Kshipra |
| | | 12 Tapti |
| | | 13 Betwa |
| | | Betwa |
| | | Betwa |
| | | 14 Narmada |
| | | 15 Wainganga |
| | | Wainganga |
| | | Wainganga |
| | | 16 Chambal |
| VI. | MAHARASHTRA | |
| | | 17 Krishna |
| | | Krishna |
| | | Godavari |
| | | Godavari |
| VII. | ORISSA | |
| | | 18 Mahanadi |
| | | 19 Brahmini |
| | | Brahmini |
| | | Brahmini |

| Sl.No. | Name of State | River |
|--------|---------------|---|
| VIII. | PUNJAB | 20 Satluj Satluj Satluj Satluj |
| IX. | RAJASTHAN | Chambal Chambal |
| X. | TAMIL NADU | Cauvery Cauvery Cauvery Cauvery Cauvery |
| XI. | DELHI | 21 Yamuna |
| XII. | HARYANA | Yamuna |
| XIII. | UTTAR PRADESH | Yamuna Ganga 22 Gomati |
| XIV. | WEST BENGAL | Ganga Damodar |

Jagannath Temple at Puri

2430. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB :
DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :

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

(a) whether a limestone slab weighing 3-4 Kg has fallen from the main temple of Lord Jagannath at Puri injuring one person inside the premises;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Archaeology Survey of India Circle in Orissa is headed by temporary superintendents;

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

(e) whether the ASI Circle could not spend about 34 lakh rupees sanctioned for protection and conservation during 1997-98; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to preserve the temple property?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, a chunk of lime plaster fell from the Kalasha of the Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri, injuring one person.

(c) and (d) Due to a vacant post of Superintending Archaeologist, who normally heads the Circle, a Deputy Superintending Archaeologist is holding the charge.

(e) and (f) There was a shortfall in expenditure on account of administrative and technical reasons. However, adequate attention has been given towards the conservation of the Jagannath Temple at Puri.

National Status to Four Waterways

2431. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to grant National status to four waterways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and investment proposed and projects finalised/under consideration along with physical targets and additional traffic potential proposed to be created thereby, waterways-wise.

(c) the details of restructuring of Apex level administrative set up proposed on the lines of National Highways Authority; and

(d) the details of present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Techno-Economic Feasibility, Studies and Hydrographic Surveys have been carried out/under progress on the potential waterways such as Godavari, Krishna, Sunderbans, D.V.C. Canal, Kakinanda-Mercuanam canal, Extension of National Waterway No.3 towards North and South for establishing their techno-economic viability for development of National Waterways. The declaration of these waterways as National Waterways and their subsequent development would be subject to the availability of resources.

(c) Inland Waterways Authority of India has already been set up in Oct. 1986 for regulation and development of Inland Waterways for purposes of shipping and navigation.

(d) Out of the above mentioned waterways, proposal for declaration of river Godavari depends upon the availability of funds. As regards the Sunderbans waterways, the environmental clearance is awaited from Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Meeting of Council of National Literacy Mission Authority

2432. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of Council of the National Literacy Mission Authority was held in August, 1998 after nearly six years;

(b) if so, the main points discussed therein and the decisions arrived at;

(c) whether any special role has been carved out for the State directorates of adult education;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any affiliation requirement for all the literacy campaigns; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and further programmes chalked out by the CNLMA to remove illiteracy from the country?

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

(b) The main points discussed in the meeting were (i) role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in adult education; (ii) greater involvement of political parties and participation of political executives in the literacy programmes; (iii) bridging the gender gaps in literacy; (iv) greater devolution of powers and responsibilities to states etc.

Some of the broad consensus arrived at in the meeting were (i) the necessity of enhanced focus on female literacy in the Hindi heartland; (ii) urgent need to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions more intimately with literacy campaigns; (iii) more effective involvement of NGOs to supplement Government's efforts in eradication of illiteracy; (iv) need for evolution of new strategies for implementing literacy programmes including use of Block/Taluk as a unit; (v) restriction of Post Literacy Campaigns to one year; (vi) decentralisation of powers of sanction of projects; (vii) need for obtaining firm support and commitment from State Governments for literacy, etc.

(c) and (d) The State Directorates of Adult Education have been assigned the task of ensuring effective monitoring through regular monthly monitoring meetings in which the literacy programmes being implemented in the states are reviewed and remedial measures are taken where deficiencies are noticed. Further, the State Directorates are functioning as the Secretariats of the State Literacy Mission Authorities which have been empowered to approve the literacy campaign projects for Continuing Education in the States.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Independent Power Plants

2433. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the independent power plants (IPP) which could not finalised the fuel supply contract within the stipulated time;

(b) the reasons for not finalizing contract within the stipulated time;

(c) whether the investment proposals of these companies which have shown slackness in the project implementation are likely to be cancelled; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) As per available information, 21 private sector power projects mentioned in the enclosed statement had not signed the FSAs for various reasons including the proposal of many developers of these projects to import the fuel on their own.

(c) and (d) As per the revised policy on use of liquid fuels announced in July, 1998, the State Governments can, if they feel that existing promoters would not be able to develop the projects, forward proposals to Government of India for re-allocating the fuel linkage in favour of other projects.

Statement

| Sl. No. | Name of project developer | State | Capacity (MW) |
|---------|--|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | Reliance Salgaonkar | Goa | 40.00 |
| 2. | Ahmedabad Elec. Co | Gujarat | 150.00 |
| 3. | GNFC, Bharuch | Gujarat | 31.00 |
| 4. | Sanghi Industries Ltd. Kutch | Gujarat | 52.50 |
| 5. | Arvind Mills, Naroda Road | Gujarat | 23.00 |
| 6. | Core Parental Health Care Ltd. Sachana | Gujarat | 19.20 |
| 7. | Alembic Chemical Works, Vadodra | Gujarat | 8.00 |
| 8. | Tributon Exports Ltd., Jhagadia | Gujarata | 4.00 |
| 9. | Kannur Power Project, Kannur | Kerala | 513.00 |
| 10. | Reliance Patalganga Power | Maharashtra | 410.00 |
| 11. | Century Rayon, Kalyan | Maharashtra | 18.00 |
| 12. | Aban Lloyd Chiles Off-shore Ltd. Ennore. | Tamilnadu | 126.13 |
| 13. | Enpro India Ltd., Gajraula | U.P. | 100.00 |
| 14. | DCM Shriram, Jhagadia | Gujarat | 18.00 |
| 15. | Western India Industries Ltd., Gurgaon | Haryana | 25.00 |
| 16. | Kontek Abbadi, Bhikangaon | M.P. | 25.00 |
| 17. | Kontek Abbadi, Dewas | M.P. | 25.00 |
| 18. | Kontek Abbadi, Khandwa | M.P. | 25.00 |
| 19. | Kontek Abbadi, Ratlam | M.P. | 25.00 |
| 20. | BHEL, Bhopal | M.P. | 6.00 |
| 21. | National Rayon, Kalyan | Maharashtra | 20.00 |

CESS on Import of Technology

2434. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cess is levied on the import of technology in the country;

(b) if so, the rate and manner thereof;

(c) the average annual income likely to be accrued from levying of this cess;

(d) the amount collected from this Cess till March 1998 and the total amount spent out of it alongwith the needs under which it has been spent; and

(e) the names of the areas identified for spending this amount alongwith order of their priority?

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

(b) Currently Cess is levied @ 5% on all payments made by industrial concerns towards import of technology under any foreign collaboration. The Cess is payable at Reserve Bank of India and State Bank of India.

(c) Based on the past data available, the annual income likely to accrue during the current year from the levy of the R&D Cess would be Rs.80 crores.

(d) The amount of Cess collected till March, 1998 has been of the order of Rs.526.43 crores. Out of this, an amount of Rs.107.74 crores has been released by Government for financing the commercialisation of indigenous technology and adaption of imported technology for wider application. Since September, 1996, the funds are released to the Technology Development Board (TDB) created for this purpose under an Act of Parliament.

(e) In order to encourage indigenisation of technology and wider application of imported technology, over as many areas as possible, no order of priority has been drawn up. TDB has so far covered areas in health care, engineering, electronics, chemicals, lubricants, agriculture, bio-technology, transport, energy, waste utilisation and telecommunication.

Companies Registered under Companies Act

2435. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies registered under the Companies Act, 1956 during the current year till date, State-wise; and

(b) the number of new companies registered under the new industrial classification/policy during the said period and the maximum authorised capital thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The number of companies registered

under the Companies Act, 1956 during April-October, 1998, state-wise is given in enclosed Statement - I.

(b) The number of companies registered during April-October, 1998 classified according to Industrial Activities with authorised capital is given in enclosed Statement - II.

Statement-I

*Companies limited by share registered during
1.4.98 to 31.10.98*

| State & UT | No. of companies registered |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 1261 |
| Assam | 147 |
| Bihar | 218 |
| Gujarat | 980 |
| Haryana | 150 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 50 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 94 |
| Karnataka | 800 |
| Kerala | 366 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 397 |
| Maharashtra | 3194 |
| Manipur | 11 |
| Meghalaya | 6 |
| Mizoram | 1 |
| Nagaland | 9 |
| Orissa | 266 |
| Punjab | 415 |
| Rajasthan | 446 |
| Tamilnadu | 1356 |
| Tripura | 4 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 656 |
| West Bengal | 1258 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 10 |
| Goa | 70 |
| Chandigarh | 197 |
| Delhi | 3785 |
| Daman & Diu | 5 |
| Pondicherry | 52 |
| Total | 16204 |

Statement-II

Industry-wise distribution of companies limited by share registered during 1.4.98 to 31.10.98 and their authorised capital

| Industrial classification | No. of Companies | Authorised capital (Rs. lakhs) |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Agriculture and Allied Activities | 736 | 12091.90 |
| 2. Mining & Quarrying | 141 | 122482.00 |
| 3. Manufacturing | | |
| (a) Food-stuffs, Textiles, Wood Products, Leather & Products thereof | 1985 | 56158.59 |
| (b) Metals, Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery & Equipment | 3868 | 123272.63 |
| (c) Electricity, Gas & Water | 113 | 13356.00 |
| 4. Constructions | 1219 | 43360.08 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade and Restaurants & Hotels | 2695 | 43211.08 |
| 6. Transport, Storage & Communication | 825 | 15156.90 |
| 7. Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services | 3892 | 100256.45 |
| 8. Community, Social & Personal Services | 730 | 12768.25 |

Investment in Power Sector through Resurgent Bonds

2436. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to invest amount collected through the Resurgent India Bonds in the Power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (c) The Power Finance Corporation has received Rs.100 crores out of the proceeds of Resurgent India Bonds (RIB) from the State Bank of India, as subscription of 12.75%, 5 years Taxable Bonds allotted by the Corporation. These funds have been received by Power Finance Corporation to augment its long term resources and are being used to fund power projects as per objectives of the corporation.

[English]

Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund for Power Plant

2437. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has got the go-ahead from the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund for awarding the main plant package of the proposed 1,000 MW project being set up at Simhadri;

(b) if so, the total cost of this project;

(c) whether Japanese agency had earlier expressed reservations of this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) conveyed its 'no objection' in November, 1998 to the recommendation of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for award of Main Plant Turnkey Project for Simhadri Thermal Power Project (2x500 MW) to M/s. BHEL.

(b) The total estimated cost of the project is Rs.3650.79 crores at first quarter 1997 price level.

(c) and (d) The OECF had raised queries on the method of land filling/reasonableness of the stipulated schedule and also preparedness of M/s BHEL for carrying out the required quantity of land filling and levelling the same, within the stipulated time period for Main Plant Turnkey Package for the project. NTPC had provided detailed justification on these issues based on which OECF conveyed their 'No Objection' to the award of the work for the package to M/s BHEL.

(e) The preliminary work at the project site has already commenced. The Main Plant Turnkey Package has been awarded to M/s BHEL on 23.11.1998.

[Translation]

Amendment of Companies Act, 1956

2438. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

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

(a) whether the Government have since been implemented the recommendations of the report submitted by the task force constituted for amendment of Company Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the kind of control likely to be exercised on the operation and functioning of the companies of the country under the new Company Act;

(d) whether the existing laws for companies filing their annual returns and violating their promises made at the time of floating shares are to be made more stringent in the forthcoming amendments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Companies Bill, 1997 was introduced on 14th August, 1997 in Rajya Sabha to re-enact and consolidate the provisions of Company Law on the basis of recommendations of the Working Group constituted in the year 1996. The Bill stands referred to the Department related Standing Committee on Home Affairs for its deliberations and submission of its recommendations to the Parliament.

(b) and (c) The main object of the Companies Bill, 1997 is to provide effective protection to investors, creditors and public at large for good corporate governance and at the same time leave the management free to employ its energies in the pursuit of Company's objectives.

The Bill provides for a three-fold classification of companies as under:

- (1) private companies, which are proposed to be largely self-governing but prohibited from inviting and accepting deposits from the public and not to be deemed as public companies;
- (2) unlisted public companies, which will be subject to minimum Government regulations;
- (3) listed public companies, which will be subject to greater regulation including stricter disclosure norms;

The Companies bill, 1997 recognises the international trend and makes an endeavour to adopt a flexible but balanced approach, namely, greater self-regulation by companies subject to making better disclosure by increasing responsibility of directors and auditors in this regard, more effective enforcement of law, and prompt and deterrent punishments for violation of the provisions of the Act. The Bill also seeks to remove or replace the inadequate and obsolete provisions in the existing Act.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. As per clause 130 of the Companies Bill 1997 the fine for non-filing of Annual Return/Balance Sheet is proposed to be raised from Rs.50 to Rs.500 for every day during which the default continues. The scope of the annual returns has been suitably widened and the period for filing annual returns has been reduced from sixty to thirty days. As per clause 55, the fine for mis-statements in prospectus issued for public issue of shares shall be imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees.

[English]

"Danger to Hamalayas"

2439. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRIMATI JAYABEN BHARATKUMAR THAKKAR :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Stop exploiting Himalayas" Bahuguna" appearing in the Statesman, dated September 16, 1998;

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

(c) whether the construction of Tehri Dam is posing danger to the Hamalayas and incidents of land slides near Himalayas are of grave concern for the Government; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to save the Himalayas from further exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item mentions about disturbances in Himalayas due to development activities and suggests some remedial measures. Taking into account the fragile nature of Himalayas, developmental activities are undertaken with due consideration to the possible adverse impact on ecology of the area.

(c) According to the information available with this Ministry, there is no evidence to indicate that Tehri Hydro Electric Project under execution is posing any danger to the Himalayas. A study conducted on the stability of Tehri Dam Reservoir rim slopes has found these slopes to be safe. Landslides in Himalayas generally occur due to its young geology, steep slopes and heavy rains.

(d) Government have taken various measures to contain damage to Himalayas. State Government have been advised to ban felling of trees about 1000 metres height. The Border Roads Organisation is constantly upgrading its road construction techniques to minimise damage on account of use of explosives. Schemes promoting cultivation of fuel and fodder, non timber forest produce, joint forest management are being undertaken. Afforestation and protection of ecologically critical areas have been initiated. Developmental projects including power, irrigation, flood control, roads and mining require Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Cases pending in MRTP Commission

2440. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the status of pending cases in the MRTP Commission, till date separately;

(b) whether any review has been made about the status of pending cases with regard to metropolitan cities and State-wise registration and settlement by MRTP Commission during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reorganise and strengthen the MRTP Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) There were 4478 enquiries/cases pending in the MRTP Commission as on 30th November, 1998. The break-up of the enquiries/cases is as under :

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|------|
| Unfair Trade Practioes Enquiries | - | 1379 |
| Restrictive Trade Practice Enquiries | - | 1398 |
| Monopolistic Trade Practice Enquiries | - | 8 |
| Compensation Applications | - | 1693 |

(b) and (c) The MRTTP Commission holds the Courts only in Delhi at its Headquarters. It does not have Benches at other places. Cases are taken up according to dates fixed for hearing. The MRTTP Act, 1969 does not envisage to take up the cases citywise or statewide. Consequently, there is no scope for review on this account.

(d) The Government has administratively strengthened the MRTTP Commission by increasing the sanctioned strength of its Members from three to five in addition to the Chairman and by creating more posts of supporting staff.

Crisis in Indian Shipping Industry

2441. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Shipping Industry is facing an acute crisis due to the exodus of talented merchant navy officers to the foreign companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to help the shipping industry facing brain drain?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) While it is a fact that some difficulties are faced by Indian shipowners as a result of merchant navy officers joining foreign companies because of higher pay scales and preferential tax system, it is not correct to say that Indian shipping industry is facing an acute crisis.

(c) The major steps taken by the Government to address the problem include special dispensation, delinking training from sponsorship by shipping companies resulting in increase in number of trained personnel and involvement of private sector in establishing training facilities.

Pending Hydro-Power Projects

2442. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Hydro-power projects lying pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) the present installed capacity of Hydro-power Sector in the country and its utilisation;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase capacity of the Hydro-power sector; and

(d) the funds allocated by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) 17 Hydro-electric schemes (each costing more than Rs.100 crores) are presently under various stages of examination in Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission. 21 Hydro-Electric schemes (each costing more than Rs.100 Crores) cleared/appraised by Central Electricity Authority are awaiting investment sanction.

(b) The installed capacity of hydro power as on 31.3.1998 was 21891.08 MW. These hydro-electric projects generated 51645 MUs of electricity against the target of 51119 MUs upto October 1998 during 1998-99.

(c) Government has taken several measures for accelerating the growth of hydro power development. These include higher budgetary support to Central Public Sector Undertakings like National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Ltd., North Eastern Electric Power Corporation and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation, advance action for new hydel projects, liberalised policy to attract private sector participation and action plan for hydro power development in North Eastern Region.

Government of India has also announced a Policy on Hydro Power Development in August, 1998 in order to accelerate the pace of hydro power development. The objectives of the policy are as under:-

- (i) Ensuring targeted capacity addition during the 9th Plan;
- (ii) Exploitation of vast hydroelectric potential at a faster pace;
- (iii) Promoting small and mini hydro projects;
- (iv) Strengthening the role of PSUs/SEBs for taking up new hydel projects;
- (v) Increasing private investment.

(d) A provision of Rs.1645.02 crores for hydro power projects has been made in the Budget of the Ministry of Power for the year 1998-99.

[Translation]

Setting up of Biotechnology Centre

2443. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Biotechnology Centre to be set up with the assistance of Union Government is to come up at Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up and the purpose thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The U.P. Council for Science and Technology is considering the setting up of a Centre for Biotechnology Application and Research at Lucknow with financial assistance from the State Government. The proposal is being formulated. The Department of Biotechnology has been associated in providing technical guidance for the formulation of the work plan, technical programme etc. The DBT would consider proposals for financial support for specific R&D activities of the Centre after its establishment.

[English]

**Supply of Power from Western Region to
Southern Region**

2444. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to supply surplus Power of 500 MW from the Western Region to the Southern Region on a permanent basis has been approved by the Western Regional Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ratio for apportioning Power amongst the states has been worked out; and

(d) the names of States which are likely to be benefited under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. WREB has approved the proposal of SREB for supply of surplus off-peak Power of Western Region to Southern Region w.e.f. 1.11.1998 to be shared by all Southern Regional States. The arrangement has been implemented w.e.f. 1.11.1998 and Power from 100 MW to 500 MW has been flowing during off-peak hours from Western to Southern Region.

(c) It has been decided by the Southern Regional Electricity Board that for the present, the Western Region Power would be apportioned to the State of the Southern Region in the following ratio:

| | | |
|------------|---|-----|
| AP | - | 30% |
| Karnataka | - | 25% |
| Kerala | - | 15% |
| Tamil Nadu | - | 30% |

(d) Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu would benefit from the Power imported from Western Region.

[Translation]

**Maintenance of Standard in
Distance Education**

2445. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:

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

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts to maintain quality in the field of distance education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had recently organised a seminar in this regard;

(d) if so, the issues considered in the seminar;

(e) the number of students enrolled at present in the field of distance education in the country;

(f) whether the number of students in the field of distance education has been decreasing;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, has the responsibility to take steps for the promotion of open university and distance education systems and for the determination of standards of teaching, evaluation, and research in such system. For the purpose of performing this function, the IGNOU had established in 1992, the Distance Education Council as an authority of the University.

(c) and (d) The Distance Education Council in collaboration with School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education, University of Delhi, Delhi, and Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi organised a two days National Seminar on 17th and 18th November, 1998 on Quality Assurance in Distance and Higher Education at University of Delhi, Delhi.

(e) The distance mode is used for imparting education in the country by (a) State Open Universities and (b) Correspondence Course Institutes of Conventional Universities. The cumulative enrolment for the year 1998-99 in 8 State Open Universities and 1 National Open University is approximately 10,559,88. The enrolment in Correspondence Course Institute is approximately 8.5 lakhs.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

[English]

A.D.B. Loan for National Highways Project

2446. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether ADB loan for National Highways Project in country has been approved;

(b) if so, the total amount of loan to be received from ADB;

(c) the length in kilometers proposed to be covered under the said project; and

(d) the length in kilometers out of it proposed to be covered in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) US \$ 245 million.

(c) About 330 kms.

(d) Nil.

**Proposal to Set Up Hydel
Power Projects**

2447. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Electricity Authority have submitted any proposal for the setting up of 21 Hydel Power Projects in the country;

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

(c) the criteria adopted for a selection of projects;

(d) whether State Government were consulted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) In September 1998, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) identified 21 (twenty-one) projects in the country which could be taken up for execution by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC).

(b) The State-wise details of the projects identified by CEA are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The broad criteria for identification of the Projects are:

(i) the schemes should be of large capacity.

(ii) As far as possible, the projects located in the vicinity of projects being developed or already developed by NHPC could be considered for taking up by NHPC so that infrastructure available with NHPC in the vicinity area be utilised to optimise the cost of the project.

(iii) The projects involving inter state aspects.

The list of projects identified by CEA also included two hydro projects for execution by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC), two hydro projects for execution by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), three hydro projects for execution by Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation and eight hydro projects for execution by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO).

(d) and (e) The projects identified by CEA to be taken up by NHPC and the other Central Public Sector Undertakings are subject to the approval of the State Governments.

Statement

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | State | Installed Capacity (MW) |
|---------|--------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Sawalkot | J&K | 600 |
| 2. | Kol Dam | H.P. | 800 |
| 3. | Parbati St.II | H.P. | 800 |
| 4. | Kishau | U.P. | 600 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---------------|-------------------|-------|
| 5. | Kadwan | Bihar | 450 |
| 6. | Teesta St.III | Sikkim | 1200 |
| 7. | Teesta St.II | Sikkim | 373 |
| 8. | Teesta St.IV | Sikkim | 495 |
| 9. | Tipaimukh | Manipur | 750 |
| 10. | Dihang-I | Arunachal Pradesh | 10000 |
| 11. | Dihang-II | Arunachal Pradesh | 3400 |
| 12. | Subansiri-I | Arunachal Pradesh | 2400 |
| 13. | Subansiri-II | Arunachal Pradesh | 4900 |
| 14. | Demwe | Arunachal Pradesh | 520 |
| 15. | Lohit | Arunachal Pradesh | 3000 |
| 16. | Kimi | Arunachal Pradesh | 1100 |
| 17. | Debang Dam | Arunachal Pradesh | 1000 |
| 18. | Bhopalapatnam | M.P. | 1000 |
| 19. | Pimpalgaon | Maharashtra | 600 |
| 20. | Mananthawadi | Kerala | 240 |
| 21. | Hoganekkal | Tamil Nadu | 850 |

Approval to Technical/Engineering Institutes

2448. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

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

(a) names of Technical Engineering Institutes approved by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the terms and conditions imposed by them while approving them; and

(c) the funds allocated to each institute during each of the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The details of State-wise number of institutions in technical education as approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) as on date under the provisions of AICTE Act, 1987 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The AICTE approves establishment of new institutions after taking into account financial viability, manpower requirement of the region, technical competence of the applicant, etc. as prescribed in the relevant regulations made under the Act.

(c) There has been no institution-wise funds allocation by the AICTE. However, institutions can apply for financial support under various schemes launched by AICTE from time to time

Statement*Number of Institutions Approved*

| State Union Territories | Engg. & Tech. | | Pharmacy | | MBA | MCA |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Degree | Diploma | Degree | Diploma | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| MADHAY PRADESH | 30 | 55 | 7 | 9 | 27 | 11 |
| ORISSA | 20 | 25 | 6 | 19 | 21 | 13 |
| MIZORAM | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| SIKKIM | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | — |
| WEST BENGAL | 19 | 43 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 1 |
| TRIPURA | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| MEGHALAYA | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| ANDAMAN & NICOBAR | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| ASSAM | 3 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| MANIPUR | 1 | 3 | — | — | 1 | — |
| NAGALAND | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| BIHAR | 12 | 29 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 1 |
| UTTAR PRADESH | 51 | 107 | 10 | 32 | 83 | 19 |
| CHANDIGARH | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | — |
| HARYANA | 27 | 29 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 4 |
| JAMMU & KASHMIR | 8 | 14 | — | 3 | 5 | — |
| DELHI | 6 | 26 | 2 | 8 | 29 | 1 |
| PUNJAB | 18 | 40 | 1 | 22 | 10 | 2 |
| RAJASTHAN | 11 | 27 | 5 | 11 | 20 | 2 |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | 2 | 7 | — | 3 | 1 | — |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | 87 | 86 | 20 | 19 | 109 | 98 |
| PONDICHEERY | 2 | 4 | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| TAMIL NADU | 125 | 202 | 28 | 21 | 105 | 105 |
| KARNATAKA | 69 | 193 | 49 | 91 | 39 | 32 |
| KERALA | 19 | 52 | 3 | 22 | 11 | 3 |
| GUJARAT | 20 | 38 | 8 | 11 | 20 | 2 |
| MAHARASHTRA | 118 | 168 | 46 | 72 | 113 | 11 |
| GOA | 2 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 2 | — |
| TOTAL | 655 | 1177 | 196 | 377 | 646 | 309 |

[Translation]

"Inspection by CBPC"

2449. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has made on the spot inspection of some factories and mills spreading environmental pollution in different States during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any report in connection with all these factories mills; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) makes regular on the spot inspections of various factories and mills in different States. The inspections are made to monitor compliance status in respect of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries, status of grossly polluting industries discharging their pollutants directly into rivers and lakes, industries located in critically polluted areas, public complaints and directions by the various courts. The details of on the spot inspections carried out by CPCB during the last three years is given in the attached statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Based on the reports, action have been taken against the defaulting units under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State | No. of Inspected Units | Locations |
|--------|------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 40 | Vishakapatnam, Srikakulam, Viziana-gram, Jampani, Dowleeswaram |
| 2. | Kerala | 16 | Udyogmandal, Tiruvilla, Cochin, Pal-kkad, Ernakulam |
| 3. | Karnataka | 28 | Belgaum, Havcri, Shimoga, Bidar, Gul-barga, Bijapur, Bramhavara, Shirali, Hassan, Kollegal, Mysore, Gouribi-danur, Bangalore, Ugar Khurd, Gokak, Mandya, Anjanapura. |
| 4. | Tamil Nadu | 57 | Pammal, Tiruvalangadu, Vallalar, Thanjavur, Ennore, Chengalpattu, MGR District, V.R.P. Dist. Neyveli, Manali, Ranipet. |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 52 | Kopargaon, Aurangabad, Koradi, Nashik, Deepnagar, Akola, Pari, Chitali, Roha, Ambemath, Kaylan, Ahmednagar. |
| 6. | Gujarat | 170 | Bhavnagar, Valsad, Bharuch, Nandesari, Vadodara, Vapi, Valsad Dist. Kheda Surendranagar. |
| 7. | West Bengal | 50 | Howrah, Durgapur. |
| 8. | Bihar | 3 | Bhagalpur, Amjohra, Palamau |
| 9. | Uttar Pradesh | 107 | Ghaziabad, Sonbhadra, Kanpur, Nandganj, Barabanki, Bareilly, Bahraich, Unnao. |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 43 | Dhar, Ratlam, Durg, Rajgarh, Raisen. Seoni, Khandwa, Damoh, Satna, Gwalior, Chachai, Korba, Khargaon |
| 11. | Haryana | 30 | Kaithal, Jind, Hissar, Rohtak, Faridabad, Hathin. |
| 12. | Punjab | 10 | Sangrur, Hoshiarpur, Patiala, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Ludhiana, Nakodar, Ferozapur. |
| 13. | Himachal Pradesh | 4 | Kala Amb. Parwanoo |
| 14. | Delhi | 191 | |
| 15. | Daman Diu | 18 | |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 5 | Khetri |
| 17. | Assam | 1 | Digboi |

Note: This excludes repeat visits to industries in compliance of Court directions.

**Dilapidated Condition of G.T. Road from
Delhi to Khurja**

2450. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the G.T. Road from Delhi to Khurja in Uttar Pradesh is in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the total amount spent every year by the Union Government on the maintenance of the said road during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to allocate special funds for the maintenance of said road; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d) Central Govt. is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. Responsibility for development and maintenance of all other roads fall within the purview of the respective State Government. The portion of G.T. Road from Delhi to Khurja being a State road falls within the purview of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Setting Up of a Central University at Aizwal

2451. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring a legislation for setting up of a Central University at Aizwal during the winter session of Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The matter is engaging serious attention of the Government. All the relevant issues are currently under active examination for bringing legislation.

Transfer of Technologies

2452. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of sophisticated, advance and update

technologies and support services being offered by the 'Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology' (APCTT-New Delhi) to small enterprises, sector-wise and country of origin-wise;

(b) the norms laid down for the transfer of such advance technologies to Indian entrepreneurs by APCTT and/or Agencies abroad;

(c) whether foreign loan, Aid, Financial assistance, Grant-in-Aid are offered by the foreign countries through APCTT and/or through their financial institutions or agencies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), a United Nations Organisation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is currently promoting more than 5,000 advanced technologies from around 50 countries. The technology offers cover all sectors relevant to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). An illustrative list of technologies offered, sector-wise and by country of origin-wise is given in the Statement enclosed.

APCTT provides a complete set of support services including matching of technology transfer partners, assistance in business negotiations, market studies, feasibility studies, finance syndication, contract drafting, and market assistance.

(b) APCTT only facilitates in arranging transfer of technologies in the Asia and Pacific region including India. The usual international norms and regulations apply to Indian entrepreneurs for transfer of advanced technologies, whichever relevant. These are laid down by various international organisations and trade agreements (e.g. WTO, TRIPs), standards (e.g. ISO 9000 14000 series), etc.

(c) and (d) While technology offers are not usually packaged with a foreign loan or grant from the very beginning, APCTT has developed partnerships with many commercial and development financing institutions from both within Indian and abroad. Due to these links, the Centre is able to assist the technology buyer in raising funds in the form of loans, venture capital or grants from various sources. In particular, APCTT in cooperation with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) established the Technology Bureau of Small Enterprises (TBSE) that facilitates access of Indian small-scale industries to SIDBI loans and venture capital, whenever they buy or sell technology through APCTT TBSE.

Statement

| Sector | Technology | Country of Origin |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Agriculture & Agroindustry | Feed Protein from Wastes of Grain-Based Distilleries | China |
| | Chromium Recovery and Reuse in Tannery Industry | India |
| Chemical Industry | Fluorescent Whitening Agent | China |
| | Synthetic Fattiquors Used for Leather Processing | India |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Construction Industry | Expanded Slag Gravel from Metallurgical Slag | Russian Federation |
| | Environmentally-Friendly Timer Polymer Products Made of Timber & Polyethylene Processing Wastes | Russian Federation |
| Electrical & Electronics | Portable Infrared Thermograph for Visualisation and Measuring of Thermal Fields | China |
| | Electronic Emergency Lighting Equipment and Electronic Ballasts | Switzerland |
| Energy | Small Steam Turbine | China |
| | Electricity Power, Steam and Process Heat from Agro-Wastes Residues Gasification Plant | India |
| Environment | Thermal Exhaust Air Treatment with Highest Cleaning Efficiency | Germany |
| | Permanent Magnets Preventing Scale Formation in Water Heating Transfer Systems | Italy |
| Food | Production Line for Making Ice Cream Sucker and Ice Cream | China |
| | Spirulina Algae | India |
| Machinery, Equipment | Low Temperature Diffusion Welding | Russian Federation |
| Materials and Coatings | Protectol FX-A Revolutionary Friction Eliminating Product for Engines | United Kingdom |
| Medicine and Pharmaceuticals | Collagen Sheet Used as Temporary Biological Wound Cover for Raw Areas | India |
| | Dental Leaser | Rep.of Korea |
| Metal and Metalworking | Ring Cores | Germany |
| Paper, Wood and Textile | Waste Water Treatment in Textile Dyeing Industries | Kazakstan |
| | Paper Cones for Spinning of Natural Fibres | Russian Federation. |

Joint Venture among Foreign Ports, Minor Ports & Public Sector Oil Companies

2453. SHRI S.S. OWASI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided that the major ports in the country can form joint ventures with publically held foreign ports, minor ports and public sector oil companies without taking recourse to the tender routes for the selection of partners;

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

(c) the main guidelines framed by Government in this regard;

(d) whether by doing away with the tender route, the joint ventures are likely to take shape in shorter time; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and total investment envisaged by Government in the port sector during the Ninth Plan period to create the additional handling capacity?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Joint Venture has yet been formed under this policy so far.

(c) The foreign Port should have proven capability in the identified area of collaboration, in the Special Purpose Vehicle formed for implementation of the project, the Major Port would always hold controlling stake necessary to block a special resolution, and the period of collaboration will be up to 30 years. A joint venture between a Major Port and Minor Port should result in strategic alliance for coordinated development of Major and Minor Ports, the Major Port will hold atleast controlling stake necessary to block a special resolution and the period of collaboration between the Ports may be in perpetuity. In the case of Joint Venture between a public sector oil company and the Major Port, the extent of participation by the Major Port Trust will be decided on case to case basis in all cases, the Joint Venture formations will be with the approval of Central Government.

(d) Yes, Sir. The scheme of Joint Venture formation aimed at facilitating the Major Port Trusts to-

- (i) Attract new technology,
- (ii) introduced better managerial practices;
- (iii) expedite implementation of Schemes,
- (iv) foster strategic alliance with minor ports for creation of optimal port infrastructure, and
- (v) enhance confidence of private sector in funding ports.

(e) In addition to public sector outlay of Rs.7215 crores, it is proposed to mobilise private funds of about Rs.8000 crores for development of major ports during Ninth Five Year Plan period.

[Translation]

Arrears of Ferriage against Firms

2454. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the firms against whom arrears of Ferriage pertaining to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust are outstanding;

(b) the amount thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ferriage to the tune of Rs.8.23 crore of the said trust has not been recovered from two firms;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the responsibility fixed for this loss?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The term 'Ferriage' is not clear. If the reference is to 'Wharfage', which is charged from the Ships handled by the Port alongside the berths, it is collected in advance from the parties. There is no outstanding from any firm as on date.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Power Generation

2455. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total installed capacity for Power generation in the country by the end of 1997-98;

(b) whether the Power generation has not been as per the installed capacity in the year 1997-98; and

(c) if so, the quantum of Power generation along with the percentage of utilisation of the installed capacity and the reasons for shortfall in Power generation during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The total installed Power generating capacity in the country by the end 1997-98 was 89090 MW.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The total power generation during the year 1997-98 was 420622 Million Units which was 98% of the targetted generation. The thermal plants recorded a PLF of 64.7% against the target of 66.5%. The major reason for shortfall in Power generation was the backing down in generation due to low system demands in Northern, Western & Eastern regions. On all India basis, it was 3.72% of the actual generation.

[English]

Conference

2456. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a three day conference was organised by the centre of Science and Environment;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in pursuance of issues taken up in the Conference.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A 3-day National Conference on the Potential of Rainwater Harvesting - Traditions, Technologies, Policies and Social Mobilisation was organised by the Centre of Science & Environment during 3-5 October, 1998 at New Delhi. It focused on the importance and potentials of harvesting rainwater to overcome the water scarcity problem being faced in the country.

The Conference discussed broad topics ranging from traditional technologies and history of water harvesting in the country and community based rainwater harvesting systems, including the international efforts in this regard and the need to establish a network amongst the NGOs and individuals involved in the rainwater harvesting process. The recommendations of the Conference have not been received by the Government till date.

A.D.B. Loan for Paradeep Port

2457. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether for the development of Paradeep Port loan has been taken from the Asian Development bank;

- (b) if so, the total amount of loan obtained so far;
- (c) the various development activities undertaken therewith;
- (d) the amount of Asian Development Bank loan refunded by the Port Trust Authority (Paradeep) so far; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) US\$ 40.8 million by 14.11.98
- (c) Construction of facilities for mechanical loading of 20 million tonnes per annum of coal AT Paradip Port.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise since the loan is to be repaid by the Government of India.

Hindu Marriage Act

2458. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Cabinet has recently approved the proposal to amend the Hindu Marriage Act as reported in the Statesman, dated September 18, 1998;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the purpose of making amendments in the Hindu Marriage Act?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) The news item referred to in the question relates to the decision of the Government to further pursue in Parliament the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997 which was introduced in Rajya Sabha on the 13th August, 1997. The Bill seeks further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954 so as to omit references to 'epilepsy' in those Acts.

National Highways in Gujarat

2459. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) the total length of National Highways net work in India and length of National Highways in Gujarat;
- (b) whether only one third of the targetted length of 4800 KMs could be achieved that was projected in the development plan for 1981-2001 in respect of Gujarat; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for this poor performance and action proposed by the Government to accelerate the development of National Highways network in the country with special reference to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) At present, the total national highway network in the country is 38,517 Kms. of which 2002 Kms is in Gujarat.

(b) The length of National Highways in Gujarat which was 1631 Kms. at the end of 8th Plan has increased to 2002 Kms during 1997-98. It has also been decided to add a further length of 239 Kms. in the year 1998-99 which would bring the total length of National Highways to 2241 Kms. in Gujarat.

(c) Targetted length could not be achieved due to constraints of financial resources. The Govt. have now opened up private sector participation for development of National Highways in the country.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

2460. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the target fixed for the electrification of villages in Orissa during Eighth Five Year Plan; and
- (b) the target achieved during the said plan period?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Against a target for electrification of 1570 villages during Eighth Five Year Plan under Rural Electrification Corporation's financed schemes in Orissa 1713 villages have been electrified during the said Five Year Plan.

Major Port Modernisation Projects

2461. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are in the process of evolving a model document for ensuring a universal tendering process to select partner, for the major port modernisation projects of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total agreements reached so far for the development of ports and the number of these with the foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to evolve a model Licence Agreement and bidding document for selection of developers and operators for port facilities in a transparent manner.

(c) Total 9 agreements have been signed so far on development of ports on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Out of which 2 agreements are with foreign parties.

Technologies Developed by CSIR

2462. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CSIR has developed technologies for reducing the post-harvest losses and for generating wealth and employment in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have developed a number of technologies for reducing the post harvest losses and adding value to primary farm produce. Some of these technologies being simple, are extensively utilised for setting up tiny and cottage industries in rural sector which enable generation of wealth and employment in rural areas. The technologies developed are for conservation and processing of fruits & vegetables, cereals & pulses, spices & plantation crops, oilseeds and for infestation control.

Transfer of Assets of Incomplete Power Projects by SEBs

2463. SHRI MAGANTI VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banks and financial institutions have favoured transferring assets of incomplete power projects by the State Electricity Boards to separate companies floated for their implementation;

(b) if so, whether the banks and financial institutions have informed the Government that such projects would be transferred to the new entity should be treated at par with the independent power producers;

(c) if so, whether the banks have also assured that such projects could also be provided with funds by the institutions; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the Government have agreed to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) According to information available the banks and financial institutions have no proposal presently under consideration with them for transferring of assets of incomplete power projects by the State Electricity Boards to separate companies floated for their implementation.

Yoga Teachers

2464. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Yoga Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas had threatened to self-immolate themselves if the injustice meted out to them was not undone;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) One Yoga Teacher had threatened to self immolate on 23.11.1998 if his following grievances were not settled.

i) Confirmation as Yoga Teacher;

ii) Conversion as Physical Education Teacher (PET);

iii) Grant of Selection Higher Scale of pay etc.

He however informed Commissioner on 23.11.98 that he was withdrawing and postponing his self immolation.

(c) There are well defined guidelines rules for Confirmation and Conversion of Yoga Teacher and those Yoga Teachers who fulfil these requirements are Confirmed Converted into PET.

The above referred Yoga Teacher has not been confirmed since a disciplinary case is pending against him. He could not be converted into PET as he does not fulfil the requirements. As regards grant of Selection Higher Scale of pay to Yoga Teachers, the matter is under consideration of the Government.

Modernisation of Laboratories

2465. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the laboratories functioning under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research are equipped with old and obsolete equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the money spent on the modernisation of laboratories in the last five years; and

(d) the steps taken to generate internal resources for the modernisation of laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Over 80% of the laboratories functioning under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research were established over 30 years ago, as a result some of the equipments in these laboratories have become old or obsolete.

(c) Whilst some investment in modernisation of equipment in the laboratories has been going on over the

years, specifically funds have been earmarked for modernisation of equipment and facilities from the year 1995-96. Since then, an amount of Rs.66 crore has been spent on modernisation from the budgetary grant to CSIR. A total allocation of Rs.250 crore has been made by the Govt. for modernisation and upgradation of equipment in the CSIR laboratories over the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) In addition to the Government grant to CSIR for modernisation, the laboratories are endeavouring to supplement the resources for modernisation through sponsored, collaborative and grant-in-aid R&D programmes.

Field Trials of Transgenic Hybrid Cotton Seeds

2466. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted some multinational companies to conduct field trials of transgenic hybrid cotton seeds in five States;

(b) if so, the details of the companies and names of States where these companies have been permitted;

(c) whether the concerned States had sought permission before finalising any agreement in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. An Indian Co. M s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd. (MAHYCO), Mumbai, in which a foreign company MONSANTO has 26% equity, was permitted by the Government to conduct field trial in open environment initially at 5 locations in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Haryana, and subsequently at 40 locations in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The State Governments have been kept informed by the Central Government about the field trials.

Menaka Panel

2467. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Menaka Panel norms may impeded bio-medical research;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made therein;

(c) the details of action taken proposed to be taken to ensure that bio-medical research is not impeded; and

(d) the present status regarding implementation of the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The draft of Breeding and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervi-

sion) Rules, 1998 formulated by the Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals is being reconsidered as per the suggestions of scientists and others so that they would not impede bio-medical research. The rules are only intended to establish standards for the care and use of animals in scientific research. A Sub-Committee consisting of scientists and representatives of Animal Welfare Organisations has been constituted to work on the draft rules.

Vaccine Application Programme

2468. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are receiving any foreign aid for Vaccine Application Programme (V.A.P.);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any permission has been granted for the trial use of any new vaccine under this programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Under the Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme the US side has agreed to provide grants for new projects. So far, no foreign aid has been received under the programme during Phase-III which has just commenced.

(c) to (e) No field trials has been initiated under the programme. The candidate vaccine developed by Indian and US scientists jointly under this programme would undergo clinical trials both in US and India, simultaneously. Two candidate rotaviral vaccines have jointly been developed. The toxicological and Phase-I clinical trials of same have been conducted in the US. The trials in our country would be conducted by the Indian scientists with the approval of the Drug's Controller of India.

[Translation]

Permanent Appointment in CSIR

2469. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Scientists, technical assistants and administrative employees for sponsored projects in the Institutes of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have been appointed on permanent basis;

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

(c) whether this sort of appointment is against the laws of the CSIR; and

(d) if so, the action to be taken against those found responsible for violating the rules?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

*[English]***SPDA Scheme**

2470. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) scheme in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend this scheme to remaining States;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) In May 1995, Schemes of Sports Project Development Area and Sports Hostel were merged and renamed as "SAI Training Centres". The aim of the Scheme is to catch young and talented sports-persons and provide them intensive in-house training/coaching facilities. Details of these Centres, State-wise and location-wise are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Sports Authority of India is presently concentrating on consolidation and strengthening of its existing schemes. However, subject to availability of funds, the scheme may be extended to other States on receipt of viable proposals from the State Governments.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State/UT | Location |
|--------|----------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Karnataka | Bangalore |
| 2. | " | Dharwad |
| 3. | " | Medikeri |
| 4. | Kerala | Calicut |
| 5. | " | Kollam |
| 6. | " | Trichur |
| 7. | Tamil Nadu | Chennai |
| 8. | " | Salem |
| 9. | Pondicherry | Pondicherry |
| 10. | Andhra Pradesh | Secundrabad |
| 11. | " | Eluru |
| 12. | " | Nizamabad |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Kandivali |
| 14. | Gujarat | Gandhinagar |
| 15. | Rajasthan | Alwar |
| 16. | " | Jodhpur |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------------|--------------|
| 17. | Goa | Margaon |
| 18. | Orissa | Cuttack |
| 19. | " | Dhankanal |
| 20. | West Bengal | Burdwan |
| 21. | " | Lebong |
| 22. | " | Silliguri |
| 23. | " | Calcutta |
| 24. | Haryana | Bhiwani |
| 25. | " | Kurukshetra |
| 26. | Punjab | Patiala |
| 27. | Himachal Pradesh | Bilaspur |
| 28. | " | Dharmshala |
| 29. | Chandigarh | Chandigarh |
| 30. | Madhya Pradesh | Dhar |
| 31. | " | Jabalpur |
| 32. | " | Bhopal |
| 33. | " | Kashipur |
| 34. | Uttar Pradesh | Raibareilly |
| 35. | " | Safai Etawah |
| 36. | Nagaland | Dimapur |
| 37. | Manipur | Imphal |
| 38. | Assam | Guwahati |
| 39. | " | Golaghat |
| 40. | Meghalaya | Shillong |

Tehri Dam Project

2471. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Russians have shown keen interest in renewing their participation in the Tehri Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the detailed project report for the proposed scheme has been prepared; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) has awarded three contracts to a Russian Consortium for supply of electro-mechanical equipment, supervision services, as well as design and consultancy services for ongoing Tehri HE Project Stage-I (4x250=1000 MW).

A contract was also awarded to Russians for conducting survey and investigation as well as for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Koteshwar Dam and HE Project (4x100=400 MW) which is 20 Km downstream of Tehri Project.

The Russians have also made an offer for executing the Koteshwar Project. Russian side have been requested to participate in the competitive bids when called for by the THDC for execution of Koteshwar Project as Government has decided to follow the process of inviting competitive bids for all major hydro-electric projects because of cost effectiveness and transparency.

Targets set for CSIR

2472. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set any specific targets for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines have been provided to the scientists in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Government had constituted a working group for the formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan for Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR). The working group in its report had recommended quantifiable and measurable targets to be achieved over the Ninth Plan period by CSIR as a whole and not at the scientists; level.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conversion of Major Ports into Corporate Entities

2473. SHRI K.S. RAO :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a departure from its earlier decision of Corporatising only the Ennore port, the Government have decided to convert all the 11 major ports into corporate entities;

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

(c) the extent to which this decision will help in improving the conditions of the ports;

(d) the Government propose to amend the Major Ports Trusts Act, 1963; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A Bill namely Major Port Trusts (Amendment) Bill, 1998 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 2.12.98.

Inter Corporate Investment

2474. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the applications of certain industries for inter-corporate loans and investments under Section 370 and 372 of the Companies Act, have been held up by the Department of Company Affairs for over six months; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) In terms of sub-Section (15) newly inserted in Section 372 of the Principal Act, through the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No.19 of 1998) promulgated on 31.10.1998, no prior approval of the Central Government under Section 370 and 372 of the Companies Act, 1956 is now required for making inter-corporate loans and investments. Accordingly, no application is required to be filed to the Department of Company Affairs for this purpose.

Damayanti Hydro Electric Power Station

2475. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Burma has sought the help of India for the development of 1200 MW Damayanti Hydroelectric Power Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it will be beneficial to India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government of Myanmar (Burma) have invited foreign participation for joint development of a number of power projects including Tamarthi Hydro-electric Project (1200 MW) on the river Chindwin in the Sagaing Division of Myanmar.

(c) and (d) A fact finding Mission has been constituted to study the feasibility of this project having regard to the cost of generation and the investments required to be made for evacuation of power to the load centres.

New Tariff Rates

2476. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to implement new tariff rates for bulk power purchases by the State Electricity Boards of the four Southern States;

(b) if so, whether this will be the first phase of switching from the flat tariff rates; and

(c) if so, the extent to which it will help in improving the power situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The Government is considering the implementation of a new tariff based on 'Availability' in all the five electricity regions of the country in a phased manner in place of the existing tariff which is plant load factor based.

The proposed tariff aims at generating commercial signals for achieving higher level of Availability of Central Sector Generating units and optimal utilisation of resources through merit order operation of the generating plants. It also aims at promoting grid discipline by providing deterrents against over drawals at low frequency, and excess generation/under drawals under high frequency through a frequency linked tariff.

Development of Indian Water Transport

2477. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to assess future potential of traffic for the Development of Indian Water Transport;

(b) the recommendation of the National Transport Policy Committee regarding the suitability of the Godavari, Krishna and Mahanadi rivers as national waterways for development of navigation to transport cargo economically;

(c) whether extensive survey's and investigations have been carried out on the said waterways; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has carried out Techno-Economic Feasibility studies on almost all potential waterways recommended to be declared and developed as National Waterways by the National Transport Policy Committee which include assessment of future potential of traffic. Assessment of future potential of traffic on declared National Waterways is also available through studies already conducted.

(b) These rivers have been recommended by the National Transport Policy Committee as being suitable for development as National Waterways.

(c) Techno-Economic Feasibility studies have been conducted on these rivers.

(d) Cherla-Rajahmundry stretch of river Godavari was found to have potential for development as navigable route. Development of Krishna river was not found economically viable. Backwaters of Mahanadi river were found to be feasible for development of navigable route for transportation of Talchar coal through Brahmani/Mahanadi river system.

Toxic Waste of Union Carbide Plant

2478. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far for the disposal of toxic waste left by the Union Carbide Plant in and around the factory premises at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh where an unprecedented gas-leak disaster took place;

(b) whether ground water and soil of the area within and around the plant premises have been tested;

(c) if so, whether the same are still contaminated due to prolonged spillage of toxic waste in the area; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Steps taken so far for the disposal of toxic waste left by the Union Carbide plant in and around the factory premises at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh are as follows:

(i) Waste left in the three solar evaporation ponds of the factory has been safely disposed in a secured landfill located in pond No.III in 1998 as per the recommendations of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur.

(ii) Studies for the disposal of 46.5 MT tar residues lying in the factory premises are being carried out at Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) Hyderabad. Final report on the studies is expected in January 1999.

(iii) M/s Union Carbide India Ltd. (UCIL), Bhopal during operations have spilled/dumped some chemicals/residues in the plant premises. NEERI, Nagpur was retained by the UCIL to make an assessment of the areas contaminated due to past waste disposal practices. According to NEERI report, approximately one hectare of land in different pockets is contaminated and needs reclamation. Prior to decontamination, treatability studies are required to be carried out.

(iv) The district Industries Centre, Bhopal has taken possession of the site on 9.7.1998 from the Department of Industry. They are required to take all remedial measures for decontamination, reclamation and all relevant actions to prevent any health hazards.

(b) to (d) Ground water and soil around Union Carbide factory have been tested by NEERI, Nagpur and Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Bhopal. No contamination has been detected.

Proxy Voting by Armed Forces

2479. DR. T. SIVBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a High Level Committee to suggest amendments to the Representation of

People's Act one of its terms of references being consider the question of allowing the proxy voting for personnel of the armed forces;

(b) if so, the composition and detailed terms of reference of the Committee; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its recommendations to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The issue of proxy voting for personnel of the Armed Forces is not amongst the terms of references of the Committee on State Funding of Elections headed by Shri Indrajit Gupta, Member of Parliament. The present term of the Committee is upto 31st December, 1998 and the Committee is likely to submit its report by that time.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of US Technology

2480. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and the United States have come to any conclusion regarding the supply of US technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US is also keen to supply the latest technology to India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the latest US technology that is being provided to India?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) USA announced certain economic measures under its Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994 against India first on 13th May, 1998 in the wake of the nuclear explosions by India. On 19 November, 1998 US notified in the Federal Register 40 Indian entities along with 200 subordinate entities which will be covered by export restrictions. US exports to the listed entities would require licenses and most licenses would be denied. Subject to these restrictions, Government are receiving proposals aimed at technology collaborations involving US companies.

Development of Ports and Build Container Terminals

2481. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.K. Government has shown keen interest in the development of ports and build container terminals in the country;

(b) if so, whether a Ports and Terminals Group delegation from U.K. visited India in the month of September, 1998;

(c) if so, the main proposals submitted by the U.K. Government; and

(d) the extent to which the U.K. Government has agreed to develop the ports and build container terminals in the country?

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

(b) A delegation of the United Kingdom comprising of various industries in the Port Sector visited India during the month of September, 1998 to explore business opportunities in development and management in Indian ports.

(c) No proposal have been received from the U.K. Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Hazardous Chemicals & Materials

2482. SHRI MAGANTI VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to Amend the Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989;

(b) if so, the details of amendment proposed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the act relating to work activities, safety and hazardous materials processing is also pending with the Government;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the likely time by which the decision is taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Draft amendments to the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 have been finalised. Major amendments proposed are :

(i) "Major Accident" is being redefined.

(ii) Definition of "Hazardous Chemicals" in Part I, Schedule 1 has been modified and list of chemicals in Part II of Schedule 1 has been expanded.

(iii) The scope of the application of the Low Level Controls prescribed under the Rules, namely, Reporting of Major Accidents, Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets, Reporting of Imports of Chemicals and Dissemination of information to the public, has been expanded to cover all hazardous chemicals defined in Part I, Schedule 1.

(iv) The applicability of Rules 7 to 15 for isolated storages of chemicals listed in Schedule 2 has been modified.

(v) Threshold planning quantities in Column 3 for 5 entries of explosives in Schedule 3, Part I, Group 4 have been amended.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) No Sir.

Production of Cloth

2062. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the target of production of cloth (in meters) during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total production in the organised and unorganised sectors during these years as per target fixed by the Government;

(c) whether the production has been satisfactory to meet the demand in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of per capita availability of cloth in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) No State-wise targets for production of cloth are set. A statement on projection of cloth production and figures of actual production is attached.

(c) The production is considered satisfactory.

(d) Per capita availability of cloth in the country during the last three years is as follows:-

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 1995-96 | - | 27.99 sq.meters |
| 1996-97 | - | 29.30 sq.meters |
| 1997-98 | - | 30.78 sq.meters |

Statement

Projections of cloth production and figures of actual production.

*Projections (in million sq.meters)**

| | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Cotton | 16993 | 17820 | 19025 |
| Blended | 3641 | 4100 | 4346 |
| 100% NON-COTTON | 7110 | 7680 | 10658 |

*source: Working Group Report on Textiles Jute Industry for Ninth Five Year Plan.

*Actual Production (in million sq.meters)***

Mill Sector

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
| Cotton | 1159 | 1222 | 1238 |
| Blended | 602 | 488 | 466 |
| 100% Non-cotton | 258 | 247 | 244 |

Handloom Sector

| | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|
| Cotton | 6239 | 6441 | 6699 |
| Blended | 18 | 52 | 69 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 100% Non-cotton | 945 | 963 | 835 |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|

Decentralised Powerloom Sector

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
| Cotton | 7014 | 7238 | 6652 |
| Blended | 3137 | 3948 | 4481 |
| 100% Non-cotton | 7050 | 8166 | 9818 |

Decentralised Hosiery Sector

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
| Cotton | 4488 | 4940 | 5403 |
| Blended | 268 | 400 | 735 |
| 100% Non-cotton | 282 | 193 | 256 |

**Source* Material for Annual Administrative Report (1998-99) furnished by the office to TXC.

Export Processing Zones

2063. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Export Processing Zones (EPZ) have been set up by the State Governments;

(b) whether any such export processing zones have also been set up in the joint/private sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Only one Export Processing Zone has been approved for establishment at Greater Noida (distt. Gautambudh Nagar) by the Govt. of U.P. No such proposals have so far been received from any other State.

(b) and (c) Three Export Processing Zones have been approved for establishment in private sector, as under:

| Name of the Promoter | Location |
|--|--|
| 1. M/s Diamond & Gem Development Corporation (DGDC), Mumbai. | Surat (Gujarat) |
| 2. M/s Kay Foam Ltd., Mumbai. | Kandivli (E), Mumbai |
| 3. M/s Colonac International (P) Ltd. Madras. | Singidivakam Village, Kancheepuram Taluk, (Tamil Nadu) |

The private EPZ at Surat has become functional from 2.1.1996 and six projects have been approved for establishment in this zone. The other private EPZs are yet to become operational. No EPZ has, however, been approved for establishment in joint sector.

Export of Marine Products

2064. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity and value of marine products exported during 1997 and 1998, till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : The following are the figures of exports of fish and fishery products from India during the calendar year 1997 and in the period from January 1998 to October 1998:

| Period | Quantity Exported (in Metric tons) | Value Realised | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | | Rs.Crores | US \$ (Millions) |
| Calendar Year 1997 | 398977 | 4661.58 | 1285395 |
| (January 1998 to October 1998 | 244103 | 3803.94 | 953.66 |

[Translation]

Trade & Exhibition Premises

2065. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct trade and exhibition premises in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the States where these premises are being constructed;

(c) the amount estimated to be spent thereon and the provision made in this regard;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for early construction of these premises; and

(e) the time by which the construction of these premises is likely to be started/completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (e) The Central Government is not setting up trade and exhibition premises in the country. However, the Govt. is encouraging State Govts. to undertake such ventures for helping regional industrial units in exposure of their products. The proposal is that such projects would be in the nature of joint ventures between ITPO and the State Govts. with the land and infrastructure being provided by the latter and technical expertise and management services to be rendered by ITPO. Commercial revenue would be shared by ITPO with the State Govts. in a manner to be mutually determined.

ITPO is working out the modalities of the scheme.

Statement-I

Bank-wise/State-wise statement showing Educational Loans disbursed by Public Sector Banks to Students for Medical/Dental course in private professional colleges (As per the scheme formulated by Supreme Court in 1995), for the year ended March 1996 [1995-96 (April-March)]

(Amount in Rupees Lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of the Bank | Names of States | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------|--------|
| | | Maharashtra | | Karnataka | | Tamil Nadu | | Andhra Pradesh | | Harayana | |
| | | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1 | State Bank of India | 11 | 2.70 | 1 | 0.15 | - | - | 1 | 10.50 | - | - |

Loans to Engineering and Medical Students in Rajasthan

2066. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some nationalised banks have provided loans to students in various States, particularly in backward and rural areas of Rajasthan for engineering and medical education during the last three years;

(b) if so, the State-wise and bank-wise details thereof during the above period;

(c) the details of such nationalised banks which have not provided such loans and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide bank loans by all branches of the nationalised banks in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) State-wise and Bank-wise details of educational loans granted during the years ended March, 1996, 1997 and 1998 by public sector banks in the country under the scheme formulated by the Supreme Court of India for the academic year 1995-96 (still continued) are given in the enclosed statement-I, II and III respectively. The Statement showing Bank-wise details of loans provided by the major nationalised banks in the State of Rajasthan as furnished by Bank of Baroda (Convenor of State Level Bankers' Committee for Rajasthan) is given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

(c) and (d) Banks grant loans to such students in private Medical/Dental Colleges who fulfill the eligibility norms and approach banks for the purpose. RBI has reported that 10 public sector banks viz. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Saurashtra, State Bank of Travencore, Indian Overseas Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab and Sind Bank, United Bank of India and UCO Bank have not reported grant of loans to students in the country.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|-------|-------------------------|----|-------|----|------|---|------|---|------|----|------|
| 2 | State Bank of Hyderabad | 8 | 2.25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3 | State Bank of Mysore | - | - | 3 | 0.36 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4 | Canara Bank | 6 | 2.30 | 12 | 1.92 | 1 | 0.25 | 1 | 0.19 | - | - |
| 5 | Union Bank of India | - | - | 3 | 0.78 | - | - | 1 | 0.50 | - | - |
| 6 | Vijaya Bank | 1 | 0.15 | 5 | 1.45 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7 | Bank of Maharashtra | 14 | 5.36 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8 | Indian Bank | 2 | 1.00 | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 |
| 9 | Corporation Bank | - | - | 2 | 0.30 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 | Syndicate Bank | 1 | 0.15 | 2 | 0.30 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 11 | Allahabad Bank | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.50 |
| 12 | Dena Bank | 1 | 0.50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | | 44 | 14.41 | 29 | 5.76 | 2 | 0.75 | 4 | 1.69 | 2 | 1.00 |

All India : No. of students-81; Amount-Rs. 23.61 lakhs.

Statement-II

Bank-wise/State-wise statement showing Educational Loans disbursed by Public Sector Banks to Students for Medical/Dental course in private professional colleges (As per the scheme formulated by Supreme Court in 1995), for the year ended March 1997

1996-97 (April-March) (Amount in Rupees Lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of the Bank | Name of States | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | Maharashtra | | Gujarat | | Haryana | | Tamilandu | | Karnataka | | Andhra Pradesh | | Bihar | |
| | | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| 1. | State Bank of India | 9 | 2.2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| 2. | S.B. of Hyderabad | 8 | 2.25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3. | Andhra Bank | 1 | 0.14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4. | Bank of Baroda | 9 | 2.05 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | Bank of Maharashtra | 6 | 1.95 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6. | Vijaya Bank | 4 | 1.3 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.5 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7. | Bank of India | 1 | 0.15 | 1 | 0.43 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8. | Central Bank of India | 2 | 0.75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 9. | Dena Bank | 3 | 1.5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | Indian Bank | 3 | 1.03 | - | - | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| 11. | Union Bank of India | 3 | 1.5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 12. | S.B. of mysore | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.15 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 13. | Allahabad Bank | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 10.5 |
| TOTAL | | 49 | 14.82 | 1 | 0.43 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.65 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0.5 |

Total - All India : Students : 59; Amount : Rs.19.40 Lakhs.

Statement-III

Bank-wise/State-wise statement showing Educational Loans disbursed by Public Sector Banks to Students for Medical/Dental course in private professional colleges (As per the scheme formulated by Supreme Court in 1995), for the year ended March 1998 [1997-98 (April-March)]

(Amount in Rupees Lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of the Bank | Names of States | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------|------|-----|------|-----------|------|---------|------|---------|------|-----------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | | Maharashtra | | Goa | | Tamilnadu | | Haryana | | Pradesh | | Karnataka | | Punjab | | Bihar | |
| | | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. | No. | Amt. |
| 1. | State Bank of Hyderabad | 12 | 3.55 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2. | Bank of Baroda | 4 | 0.75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3. | Bank of Maharashtra | 5 | 1.45 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4. | Corporation Bank | - | - | 1 | 0.15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | Dena Bank | 2 | 0.65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6. | Indian Bank | 5 | 1.10 | - | - | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7. | Canara Bank | - | - | - | - | 2 | 0.60 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 0.65 | - | - | - | - |
| 8. | Punjab National Bank | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 0.75 | - | - |
| 9. | Union Bank of India | 1 | 0.45 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.50 | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | Allahabad Bank | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0.50 |
| Total | | 29 | 7.95 | 1 | 0.15 | 3 | 1.10 | 1 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.50 | 3 | 1.15 | 2 | 0.75 | 1 | 0.50 |

All India Position : No. of students - 41; Amount - Rs.12.60 lakhs.

Statement-IV*[English]*

Statement showing Grant of Loan provided by Nationalised Banks to Students in various States, particularly in backward and rural areas of Rajasthan for Engineering and Medical Education during last three years

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of the Bank | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. | State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur | 22.32 | 9.38 | 34.53 |
| 2. | Allahabad Bank | 0.44 | 0.76 | 1.84 |
| 3. | Bank of Baroda | 5.50 | 7.50 | 8.00 |
| 4. | Bank of India | 2.50 | 4.99 | 6.93 |
| 5. | Central Bank of India | - | 6.24 | 4.00 |
| 6. | Indian Overseas Bank | - | - | 1.25 |
| 7. | Punjab National Bank | - | - | 2.23 |
| 8. | Bank of Rajasthan | - | 1.00 | 7.00 |
| 9. | Union Bank of India | - | - | 3.00 |

Centrally Sponsored Projects for Sericulture

2067. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the areas where Centrally Sponsored Sericulture Projects have been launched, State-wise; and

(b) the achievements made in those projects during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) There are no Centrally Sponsored Projects with Ministry of Textiles in sericulture sector. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Departments, the Central Silk Board (CSB) implemented a number of schemes/projects/programmes for promoting development of all the four types of silk. These include schemes for extension of R&D, training infrastructural & extension support to the sector through network of CSB's units & implementation of certain developmental/incentive/financial assistance schemes for encouraging adoption of modern sericultural practices for production of quality silk. The State-wise expenditure break up for the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement*Statewise expenditure for last three years*

(Rs. in Crores)

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | 1995-96 | | | | 1996-97 | | | | 1997-98 | | | |
|---------|-------------------|---------|------|------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|
| | | N-Plan | NSP | Plan | Total | N-Plan | NSP | Plan | Total | N-Plan | NSP | Plan | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 0.48 | 2.91 | 0.98 | 4.37 | 0.58 | 2.81 | 0.99 | 4.38 | 0.69 | 0.00 | 2.76 | 3.45 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.28 | 0.28 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.21 | 4.35 | 5.02 | 9.58 | 0.23 | 0.71 | 3.04 | 3.98 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 2.73 | 3.05 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.23 | 0.62 | 1.15 | 2.00 | 0.27 | 2.24 | 1.77 | 4.28 | 0.64 | 0.00 | 2.61 | 3.25 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.19 | 0.09 | 0.28 | 0.56 | 0.19 | 0.05 | 2.10 | 2.34 | 0.25 | 0.00 | 2.26 | 2.51 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 0.00 | 0.54 | 0.01 | 0.55 | 0.00 | 0.27 | 0.04 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.18 | 0.18 |
| 7. | Haryana | 0.00 | 0.31 | 0.13 | 0.44 | 0.00 | 0.17 | 0.07 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.04 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.08 | 0.03 | 0.24 | 0.35 | 0.10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.00 | 0.05 | 0.19 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 0.15 | 2.55 | 0.27 | 2.97 | 0.17 | 2.53 | 0.54 | 3.24 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 1.94 | 2.26 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 0.03 | 7.32 | 0.85 | 8.20 | 0.02 | 8.80 | 1.57 | 10.49 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 5.96 | 6.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 0.00 | 0.51 | 0.10 | 0.61 | 0.00 | 0.63 | 0.18 | 0.81 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.19 | 0.41 | 0.95 | 1.55 | 0.19 | 0.46 | 1.22 | 1.87 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 1.95 | 2.26 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 0.11 | 1.10 | 0.31 | 1.52 | 0.13 | 0.71 | 0.61 | 1.45 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 1.22 | 1.38 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0.70 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.80 | 0.65 | 0.00 | 0.27 | 0.92 | 0.91 | 0.00 | 0.32 | 1.23 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|-------------------------|---|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| 15. Meghalaya | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.51 | 0.51 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.79 | 0.79 |
| 16. Mizoram | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.30 | 0.30 |
| 17. Nagaland | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.20 | 0.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| 18. Orissa | | 0.25 | 0.77 | 0.95 | 1.97 | 0.24 | 1.10 | 0.94 | 2.28 | 0.34 | 0.00 | 1.65 | 1.99 |
| 19. Punjab | | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.15 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.13 | 0.06 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 0.14 |
| 20. Rajasthan | | 0.00 | 0.49 | 0.01 | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.28 | 0.07 | 0.35 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.22 | 0.22 |
| 21. Sikkim | | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.08 |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | | 0.42 | 2.34 | 0.57 | 3.33 | 0.51 | 2.46 | 0.72 | 3.69 | 0.63 | 0.00 | 2.02 | 2.65 |
| 23. Tripura | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.56 | 0.56 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | | 0.32 | 1.37 | 1.49 | 3.18 | 0.38 | 3.00 | 1.57 | 4.95 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 2.36 | 2.83 |
| 25. West Bengal | | 0.25 | 4.38 | 1.82 | 6.45 | 0.25 | 4.30 | 1.67 | 6.22 | 0.41 | 0.00 | 4.41 | 4.82 |
| 26. Main Inst. & Comman | | 5.70 | 9.33 | 10.92 | 25.95 | 8.20 | 17.80 | 11.52 | 37.52 | 9.00 | 0.00 | 14.95 | 24.95 |
| Total | | 9.39 | 39.49 | 27.22 | 76.10 | 12.20 | 48.36 | 30.35 | 90.91 | 14.75 | 0.00 | 49.98 | 64.73 |

Industrial Park

2068. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the assistance provided by the Union Government to set up Industrial Parks in the States;

(b) the number of Industrial Parks already set up in various States and the assistance given to each of them, State-wise;

(c) the number of such parks proposed to be set up during 1998-99, State-wise; and

(d) the amount allocated for setting up of new parks, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) The Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP) scheme provides that 75% of the capital expenditure, limited to Rs.10 crores, incurred towards creation of infrastructural facilities will be met from a Central Grant to the State Governments. Details of EPIPs and assistance provided by the Government to States are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) A proposal to set up an EPIP in Manipur has been approved in 1998-99. No proposals are pending. An amount of Rs.20 crores has been provided in budget for 1998-99 towards implementation of ongoing and new EPIPs.

Statement*Details of approved Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIPs) and Central Grant released*

| Sl. No. | Name of the State Government | Location of EPIP | Central Grant released (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Kerala | Kakkanad, Distt. Ernakulam. | Rs.8.49 |
| 2. | Maharashtra | Ambamath, Distt. Thane | Rs.10.00 Park completed. |
| 3. | Himachal Pradesh | Baddi, Distt. Solan | Rs.3.00 |
| 4. | Rajasthan | Sitapura, Distt. Jaipur | Rs.10.00 Park completed. |
| 5. | Haryana | Kundli, Distt. Sonapat. | Rs.5.00 |
| 6. | Karnataka | Hoodi, Distt. Bangalore | Rs.10.00 Nearing completion |
| 7. | Uttar Pradesh | Surajpur, Distt. Gautambudh Nagar. | Rs.10.00 Nearing completion. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-----------------|---|---|
| 8. | Tamil Nadu | Gummidipundi, Distt. Chegalpattu- MGR. | Rs.3.37 |
| 9. | Andhra Pradesh | Pashamylaram, Distt. Medak. | Rs.7.05 |
| 10. | Gujarat | Savli, Distt. Baroda. | Rs.7.20 |
| 11. | Bihar | Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali. | Rs.3.00 |
| 12. | Meghalaya | Bymihat, Distt. Ribhoi. | Rs.7.50 |
| 13. | West Bengal | Durgapur, Distt. Burdwan. | Rs.5.75 |
| 14. | Orissa | Bhubaneshwar, Distt. Khurda. | Rs.4.50 |
| 15. | Punjab | Dhandari Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana | R.5.90 |
| 16. | Assam | Amingaon, Near Guwahati, Distt. Kamrup. | Rs.6.75 |
| 17. | Jammu & Kashmir | Samba, Distt. Jammu | Rs.4.25 |
| 18. | Madhya Pradesh | Pithampur, Distt. Dhar | Rs.4.50 |
| 19. | Manipur | Khunuta Chingjin in Thoubal Distt. | No amount of Central assis- tance released as proposal from State Govern- ment has not been received. |

Committee of Chief Ministers

2069. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has set up a Committee of six Chief Ministers to go into the sales war among States, introduction of value added tax and incentives to backward areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee in this regard;

(e) whether any suggestions have been made regarding non-banking finance companies in the States in regard to effective supervision, monitoring and tight regulations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) Sir, a Committee comprising of Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Orissa and Arunachal Pradesh has been constituted with the following terms of reference:

(i) To formulate an implementation schedule for uniform floor rates for sales tax;

(ii) To recommend phasing out of sales tax based incentive schemes;

(iii) To formulate the criteria for defining backward areas that may be eligible for incentive schemes, the maximum quantum of such incentives and the mechanism for its monitoring; and

(iv) To suggest a time frame for introduction of VAT and for reduction of CST.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Pending Unsettled Claims

2070. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question 5460 on 24 July, 1998 regarding pending unsettled claims and to state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of claims settled so far; and

(d) the further steps taken by the Government to clear all the pending claims immediately?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (c) The requisite information is contained in the enclosed statement.

(d) Instructions have been issued to all public sector undertakings under the Min. of Commerce to examine each case specifically and find out ways and means for its quick disposal.

Statement

| Sl. No. | Name of Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) | Period | Amount (Rs. in lakhs) | No. of cases referred to arbitration | Details of cases settled year-wise | |
|---------|--|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | | Year | No. of cases |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Spices Trading Corporation Ltd., Bangalore. | 1-2 year | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| | | 2-3 year | 3.39 | | | |
| | | 3 year & above | 10.74 | | | |
| 2. | Export Credit Guarantee Corpn. of India Ltd., Mumbai. | 1-2 year | 13286.00 | 1 | 1995-96 | 682 |
| | | 2-3 year | 4755.00 | | 1996-97 | 816 |
| | | 3 year & above | 23.00 | | 1997-98 | 763 |
| 3. | Projects and Equipment Corpn. of India Ltd., New Delhi | 1-2 year | 50.00 | 4 | 1995-96 | Nil |
| | | 2-3 year | 20.00 | | 1996-97 | 1 |
| | | 3 year & above | 3812.00 | | 1997-98 | 1 |
| 4. | India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi. | 1-2 year | 185.33 | 4 | 1995-96 | 19 |
| | | 2-3 year | 59.78 | | 1996-97 | 25 |
| | | 3 year & above | 39.25 | | 1997-98 | 14 |
| 5. | State Trading Corpn. of India Ltd., New Delhi. | 1-2 year | 433.21 | 64 | 1995-96 | 201 |
| | | 2-3 year | 219.43 | | 1996-97 | 43 |
| | | 3 year & above | 15400.35 | | 1997-98 | 82 |
| 6. | Minerals & Metals Trading Corpn. of India Ltd., New Delhi. | 1-2 year | 16100.00 | 109 | 1995-96 | 32 |
| | | 2-3 year | 3700.00 | | 1996-97 | 34 |
| | | 3 year & above | 9400.00 | | 1997-98 | 28 |

*The above information is only in respect of PSUs and does not cover Joint Ventures or Wholly Owned Subsidiaries of PSUs.

Development Fund of PSUs

2071. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has proposed to the Government for setting up of a separate "Public Enterprise Development Fund" in order to turn around sick and loss making Public Sector Enterprises all over the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken by the Government for setting up the aforesaid Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Handloom Industries in Bihar

2072. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar Handloom Development Corporation has sought assistance from the Union Government for the

implementation of the schemes for the development of Handloom industries like - carpentry, Bronze and glass items, hand dye, carpet and sari weaving and pottery;

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

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated for allocating amount for skilled and unskilled workers and artisans for the development of handlooms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) As per records available, no recent proposal has been submitted by Bihar State Handlooms and Handicrafts Corporation for development of handlooms. However, for development of Handlooms and Handicrafts, amounts of Rs.53.72 Lakhs and Rs.19.13 lakhs respectively have been released under plan schemes to the State of Bihar during 1997-98.

(c) to (e) The plan schemes formulated for development of handlooms in the country including Bihar State include: Workshop-cum-Housing; Project Package; Handlooms Development Centre; Quality Dyeing Unit; Group Insurance; Health Package; Thrift Fund etc. These schemes inter alia aim at

assisting handloom weavers for the development of handlooms. An amount of Rs.6924.37 lakhs has been released during 1997-98 for implementation of various plan schemes in the handloom sector. Under the scheme of Workshed-cum-Housing, funds for construction of 18658 workshed were released, under the Thrift Fund Scheme, 213191 weavers were covered. Under the scheme of Group Insurance and Health Package, 106432 and 67463 weavers were covered respectively. Under the scheme of Project Package, 769 projects were sanctioned and 260 HDCs and 78 QDUs were sanctioned under the scheme of Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing Units during 1997-98.

[English]

Production of Tobacco

2073. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present production/export target fixed for tobacco in Karnataka during 1998-99;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any steps to enhance the production/export of tobacco during the next year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Production Target of FCV tobacco in - Kamataka for 1998-99 is 40 Million Kgs. State-wise export targets are not fixed.

(b) It is too early to determine the FCV tobacco crop size for next year in Karnataka. Crop size of FCV tobacco for the next year would depend upon on the anticipated international demand and supply, carryover stocks, domestic demand and domestic and international prices.

(c) Some of the steps taken to enhance export of tobacco interalia include:

- (i) Re-orienting production and developmental strategies to the changing international needs i.e., encouraging production of low tar, low nicotine and light soil tobaccos and discouraging production in undesirable soils.
- (ii) Enhancing quality and productivity levels of Indian tobacco and reducing production cost so as to make it more price competitive in international markets.
- (iii) Monitoring and strict control of pesticide residues.
- (iv) Aligning grading at farmers level in line with International grading standards.
- (v) Allowing exports of tobacco to Russia through "Debt Repayment Route".

(vi) Sponsoring Delegations abroad and participation in International Trade Fairs.

(vii) Inviting Delegations, from Foreign Tobacco Monopolies to visit India to understand quality and cost competitiveness of Indian tobacco and arranging meetings with Indian Tobacco Exporters.

(viii) Undertaking market promotion for Indian tobacco through advertisements in international magazines and through distribution of product brochures.

[Translation]

International Trade Policy

2074. SHRI RAMSHAKAL Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated an international trade policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the countries to be involved; and

(d) the details of items to be exported and imported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major orientation of India's international trade policy is enunciated through Government's quinquennial Export-Import Policy documents. The current EXIM Policy for 1997-2002 has been designed with the following principal objectives:

(i) to accelerate the country's transition to a globally-oriented, vibrant economy, with a view to derive maximum benefits from expanding global market opportunities;

(ii) to stimulate sustained economic growth by providing access to essential raw materials, intermediates, components, consumer goods and capital goods required for augmenting production;

(iii) to enhance the technological strength and efficiency of Indian agriculture, industry and services thereby improving their competitive strength, while generating new employment opportunities, and encourage the attainment of internationally accepted standards of quality;

(iv) to provide consumers with good quality products at reasonable prices.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) not only assists Government in the formulation of the EXIM Policy, but also implements the Policy. After the economic and trade reforms initiated since 1991, the principal function of the Directorate is the promotion of exports and the facilitation of imports to promote export trade.

(c) and (d) The EXIM Policy is by and large commodity- and-scheme-oriented, rather than country-oriented. With the progress of trade reforms, there is gradual shortening of the Negative List of imports and exports. The details of freely importable and exportable, prohibited, restricted and canalized items are notified through the EXIM Policy, which undergoes annual modifications, inter alia, on the basis of consultations held with trade and industry, Export Promotion Councils and administrative Ministries and Departments. The latest modifications to the EXIM Policy have been brought out on 13th April, 1998.

Changes in the Export-Import Policy

2075. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been unprecedented spurt in the prices of potatoes, onion, pulses and edible oils during the recent months and the faulty import-export policy is primarily responsible for this;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring some changes in the Import-Export policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (c) There has been significant rise in prices of these products during the recent months. It may now, however, be correct to attribute this price rise to the Export Import Policy. Pulses and most of the edible oils have been freely importable while export of onions has been canalised through NAFED. These policies could not, therefore, have possibly caused the price rise. However, in order to meet the situation arising out of the price rise, the following changes have been made in the Export Import Policy : (1) Onions have been made freely importable with effect from 15th October, 1998 (2) Soyabean in split and cracked form have been made freely importable with effect from 15th October, 1998 (3) Potatoes have been restricted for exports since 27/10/1998 and (4) Onions have been restricted for export w.e.f. 12/10/1998 till 31st January, 1999.

Setting up of Industries

2076. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of medium and large industries set up, as on date, after liberalisation, State-wise;

(b) the number of industries set up in private and joint sector, separately;

(c) the number of employment opportunities created from these industries, State-wise;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to promote industrialisation in the Country; and

(e) the number of industries which have been closed down alongwith the reasons therefor during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) After liberalisation, most of the industries are delicensed and entrepreneurs are free to set up medium and large industries by filling an Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum. Investment Intentions generally take 4 to 5 years time to fructify. The information regarding setting up of Industries is not centrally maintained. However, the state-wise details of Industrial Investment Intentions are regularly published in the monthly publication of SIA titled SIA STATISTICS, and the Monthly News letter issued by the Indian Investment Centre, copies of which are made available to Parliament library.

(d) With a view to promoting industrialisation in the country, the Government undertakes policy initiatives to facilitate greater investment in the industrial sector, effecting procedural simplifications, further liberalisation in policy and procedure for foreign direct investment, etc.

(e) As per information maintained by Ministry of Labour, the number of Industries closed down in various states of the country during 1993-1997 is given below:-

| Year | No. of Units closed (Provisional) |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 1993 | 493 |
| 1994 | 228 |
| 1995 | 183 |
| 1996 | 204 |
| 1997 | 154 |

The reasons for closure include financial stringency, shortage of power, lack of demand for products, shortage of raw material, breakdown of machinery, etc.

[English]

Bank Rate

2077. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India propose to chalk out a mechanism through which the bank rate will automatically become a reference rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) As part of the monetary and credit policy for the first half of 1997-98, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had announced in April, 1997 that the Bank Rate

would serve as a reference rate as well as a signalling rate to reflect the stance of monetary policy. The interest rates on accommodation from RBI, which were hitherto not linked to the Bank Rate were linked to it. Since then, the Bank Rate was changed a number of times to reflect the stance of monetary policy depending upon the prevailing liquidity condition and also as a part of measures to contain the volatility in the foreign exchange market. As the interest sensitivity of business decisions improves, the Bank Rate would gain in importance and would become more effective reference rate.

**Termination of SC/ST Officials of
State Bank of Mysore**

2078. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of Mysore terminated the services of 28 officials who had taken employment in Bank on fake SCs/STs certificates against reserved vacancies as directed by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the criminal cases have been registered against them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (d) State Bank of Mysore has reported that in pursuance of Supreme Court directions, the cases have been forwarded to respective District Verification Committees for verification of their caste status. The bank has received caste validity certificates of three employees of which one has been accepted and the case stands closed. The other two certificates are under process of closure based on positive confirmation received from District Verification Committee. Out of the remaining 25 cases, two persons have obtained stay order on the proceedings and the matter is pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka. Suitable necessary action will be initiated by the bank on receipt of certificates in the remaining cases from the District Verification Committees.

[Translation]

Gratuity to BHEL Employees

2079. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) who retired during the period from April 1, 1995 to January 1, 1996 have not been given the benefit of increased gratuity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some public sector undertakings have since sanctioned increased gratuity for their employees retired after April 1, 1995;

(d) if so, the justification of discriminating against BHEL employees; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gratuity payment to BHEL employees is regulated by Government instructions issued from time to time. The employees, who retired during the period 1.4.95 to 1.1.1996, were paid gratuity as per payment of Gratuity Act 1972 with a ceiling of Rs.1 lakh.

(c) It has been brought to the notice of the Government that some Public Sector Undertakings have sanctioned increased gratuity for their Employees who retired after April 1, 1995.

(d) and (e) Since BHEL has acted as per the Government Orders in force and all employees who retired during this period have been covered by these Orders, there is no discrimination.

[English]

**Opening of New Route for Export to
Bangladesh**

2080. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the land customs station at Haldibari railway station is non-functional as there is no rail traffic on Haldibari-Chilahati route on account of absence of railway track for about half kilometre on Indian side and five kilometres on Bangladesh side;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to restore missing rail link; and

(c) the steps taken so far to get the missing rail link restored through Government of India as well as Bangladesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

LIC Mutual Fund

2081. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation propose to operate LIC Mutual Fund Scheme which will provide a regular stream of income to its investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such type of other schemes for the rural sector are under offering;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the schemes which are operative at present for the rural sector, specially for the labour class and the poor people of the villages, the LIC and the General Insurance Companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) LIC Mutual Fund has been launching from time to time regular income schemes providing various options including regular income options to the investors. Out of the 30 schemes so far launched by LIC Mutual Fund, 13 schemes under the brand name 'Dhanvarsha' have regular income options payable to the investors on monthly or yearly basis.

(c) to (e) There are no separate Mutual Fund Schemes exclusively for rural sector. However, LIC has 4 Social Security Schemes especially meant for rural poor. There are 24 identified occupational group schemes to cover the weaker sections of the society; Landless Agricultural Labourers Group Insurance; Group Insurance Scheme for Beneficiaries of IRDP; Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme etc.

Jog Falls

2082. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representations from the Government of Karnataka regarding improvements of roads and other tourist infrastructures at Jog Falls in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government is seeking financial help from International Monetary Fund and World Bank for the development of Jog Falls as a Tourist Place; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Ministry of Tourism in consultation with State Government of Karnataka has prioritised 14 projects in the State including expansion of additional tourist facilities at Jog Falls. Improvement of road is not included in this project.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has not approached the Union Ministry of Tourism for external financial assistance for development of Jog Falls.

Service Charges for Cancellation of Demand Drafts

2083. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has issued instructions to the nationalised banks for charging service charges for cancellation of demand drafts from the customers;

(b) if so, the justification thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw the service charges for cancellation of demand drafts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it discontinued the practice of issuing directives or guidelines to the banks regarding levying of service charges some years ago.

(c) and (d) It is for banks and not for the Government to decide on such matters.

Advance Payment

2084. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount provided as advance and the percentage of total lending to the priority sector during each of the last three years, year-wise and sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : The net bank credit, credit to priority sector and its sub-sectors of public sector banks during the last three years, as furnished by Reserve Bank of India, are given below:

(Amount Rs. in crore)

| | March 1996 | March 1997 | March 1998 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Net Bank Credit (NBC) | 184391 | 189684 | 218219 |
| 2. Priority Sector (PS) advances | 69609 | 79131 | 91319 |
| 3. % of PS advances to NBC (target 40%) | 37.75 | 41.72 | 41.85 |
| 4. Agricultural advances | 26351 | 31012 | 34304 |
| 5. % of Agricultural advances to NBC (target 18%) | 14.29 | 16.35 | 15.72 |
| 6. Advances to Small Scale Industry | 29482 | 31542 | 38109 |
| 7. % of SSI advances to NBC. | 15.99 | 16.63 | 17.46 |
| 8. Advances to Weaker Sections | 15579 | 16478 | 18134 |
| 9. % of advances to weaker sections to NBC (target 10%) | 8.45 | 8.69 | 8.31 |

[Translation]

Setting up of Branches of NABARD

2085. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of branches of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) proposed to be set up in the country, particularly in Bihar, during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the number of branches set up so far out of them, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the Government contemplate to set up some more branches of NABARD during the year 1998-99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) does not have any branch office concept. It has set up 25 Regional Offices, one Sub-Office and Srinagar Cell at Srinagar. State-wise details of Regional Offices of NABARD are furnished at Statement-I enclosed. In addition NABARD has posted District Development Managers (DDMs) in 256 districts in various States as given in Statement-II enclosed. During the year 1996-97, a total number of 18 DDMs were posted in various States. No DDM office was opened in the year 1997-98.

(c) and (d) NABARD has contemplated to set up 25 DDM offices during the year 1998-99 in different states. Details of DDM offices proposed to be opened during 1998-99 are given in Statement-III enclosed.

Statement-I*State-wise details of the Regional Offices of NABARD*

| Sl.No. | State/Union Territory | Location of Regional Offices |
|--------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad |
| 2. | Assam | Guwahati |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | Itanagar |
| 4. | Bihar | Patna |
| 5. | New Delhi | New Delhi |
| 6. | Goa | Panaji |
| 7. | Gujarat | Ahmdabad |
| 8. | Haryana/Punjab | Chandigarh |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | Shimla |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | Jammu |
| 11. | Karnataka | Bangalore |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|
| 12. | Kerala | Thiruvananthapuram |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | Bhopal |
| 14. | Maharashtra | Pune |
| 15. | Manipur | Imphal |
| 16. | Meghalaya | Shillong |
| 17. | Mizoram | Aizawl |
| 18. | Nagaland | Dimapur |
| 19. | Orissa | Bhubaneswar |
| 20. | Rajasthan | Jaipur |
| 21. | Sikim | Gangtok |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Chennai |
| 23. | Tripura | Agartala |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow |
| 25. | West Bengal | Calcutta |

Statement-II*State-wise break-up of DDM offices of NABARD*

| Sl.No. | State/UT | No. of district offices of NABARD |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 18 |
| 2. | Assam | 11 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | - |
| 4. | Bihar | 22 |
| 5. | Delhi | - |
| 6. | Goa | 2 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 9 |
| 8. | Haryana | 13 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 6 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 15 |
| 12. | Kerala | 13 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 22 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 19 |
| 15. | Manipur | - |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 2 |
| 17. | Mizoram | - |
| 18. | Nagaland | - |
| 19. | Orissa | 14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|-----|
| 20 | Punjab | 9 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 17 |
| 22 | Sikkim | - |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 17 |
| 24. | Tripura | 1 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 34 |
| 26. | West Bengal | 9 |
| 27. | Pondicherry | 2 |
| Total | | 256 |

Statement-III

Details of offices proposed to be opened by NABARD during 1998-99.

| Sl.No. | State | Location/District |
|--------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Prakasam |
| 2. | Bihar | Begusarai |
| 3. | | Bhagalpur |
| 4. | | Bokaro |
| 5. | | Darbhanga |
| 6. | | East Singhbhum |
| 7. | | East Champaran |
| 8. | | Gumla |
| 9. | | Munger |
| 10. | | Giridih |
| 11. | | Siwan |
| 12. | Madhaya Pradesh | Guna |
| 13. | | Khargone |
| 14. | | Shivpuri |
| 15. | Orissa | Nayagarh |
| 16. | | Kendrapada |
| 17. | | Sundergarh |
| 18. | | Navrangpur |
| 19. | Punjab | Amritsar |
| 20. | | Bhatinda |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | Shivganga |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | Baghat |
| 23. | | Ghaziabad |
| 24. | | Mathura |
| 25. | West Bengal | Bankura |

[English]

Setting up of Cigarette Industry

2086. DR. SANJAY SINH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from M/s Rothmans of U.K. for setting up cigarette industry in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the proposed location, capacity and investment in this industry; and

(c) the estimated additional employment likely to be generated as a result of setting up of this industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) M/s Rothmans of Pall Mall (International) Ltd., UK have submitted a proposal for setting up of a 100% Wholly Owned Subsidiary with an equity investment of upto US \$ 150 million in the company for undertaking the following activities:

- Purchase of tobacco for export,
- Integrated agronomic development of tobacco principally in the state of Andhra Pradesh,
- Introduction of international brands from the Rothmans for the Indian consumer,
- Transfer of manufacturing technology and knowhow to the designated manufacturer in India,
- Transfer of managerial expertise to its local employees,
- To provide consulting services to its parent companies/subsidiary of the parent company on the investment climate in India, and
- Sponsorship of sports events.

The company has given an undertaking to divest 26% of their shareholdings to Indian partner/Indian public within 5 year.

(c) No such details have been given by the applicant.

Foreign Companies in Indian Tobacco Business

2087. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign companies want to rush their applications for getting into the Indian tobacco business;

(b) if so, whether the Government have imposed certain conditions to allow entry of foreign tobacco companies into the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Tobacco Board has carefully stipulated conditions for their entry;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the impact of this on the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the new Industrial Policy, trading companies involved in exports are permitted foreign equity subject to dividend balancing by an equivalent amount of export earnings over 7 years with effect from the date of commercial production.

(d) and (e) Some of the conditions recommended by the Tobacco Board, inter alia, include commitment for enhancing tobacco exports; development of high value tobacco; development of tobacco in new areas, and exports of tobacco products and cigarettes.

(f) Entry of foreign companies is likely to lead to enhance competition, modernisation, quality upgradation, improvement in packaging, enhanced exports of value added products and development of high value tobaccos.

Inter-Ministerial Committees for FDI

2088. SHRI GIRAJALA VENKAT SWAMY NAIDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the role of Inter-Ministerial Committees in formulating policies with regard to industry and foreign equity;

(b) the manner in which such Inter-Ministerial Committees are set up;

(c) the number of recommendations received by the Government with regard to industrial investment-policies during the last three months; and

(d) the details of such recommendations with regard to Foreign Direct Investment?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board which is a high powered Inter-Ministerial Committee has been set up with the objective of promoting inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India - (i) by undertaking investment promotion activities; and (ii) through facilitating investment in the country by international companies, non-resident Indians (NRIs) and other foreign investors in projects which are considered to be of benefit to the Indian economy but do not qualify for automatic approval by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and/or are outside the parameters of the existing policy for clearance of investment proposals. The Board shall consider all investment proposals with or without technical collaboration and/or industrial licence.

The Board inter-alia ensures expeditious clearance of the foreign direct investment proposals; periodically reviews the

implementation of FDI projects; undertakes review on a continuous basis of the general and sectoral policy regimes relating to Foreign direct investment (FDI) in consultation with Administrative Ministries and other concerned agencies and evolves a set of transparent guidelines for facilitating foreign investment in various sectors.

Tobacco Export

2089. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a significant increase in tobacco exports is expected during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Tobacco Board has agreed to finance thousands of new tobacco units in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) It is not possible to project the expected exports of tobacco in the global market during the next five years as no reliable estimates of International demand and consumption are available. The exports of Indian tobacco would depend upon international demand and supply position, carryover stocks in international and domestic markets, domestic demand and international and domestic prices;

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Mismanagement in Mahe, Pondicherry

2090. SHRI S. ARUMUGHAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the textiles mill at Mahe under the control of N.T.C. is mismanaged and the mill is at loss; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take suitable action to prevent the malpractice and loss in Mahe Textile Mill in Pondicherry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) NTC has one mill at Mahe, namely Cannanore Spinning & Weaving Mill (CSWM) which is under the control of NTC (APKK&M) Ltd., Bangalore. The mill has been incurring losses continuously due to non-viability of its operations and continued shortage of working capital. On the basis of a unit wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around strategy for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them, keeping in view the BIFR norm of the net worth of these mills turning positive within the period prescribed by the BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

There have been some general complaints alleging mismanagement in Cannanore Spinning & Weaving Mills which have not been substantiated.

R.N. Committee on Coal Production

2091. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had fixed any deadline to implement the recommendations of the R.N. Committee set up to enquire into the matter of coal shortage and the over-reporting of coal production in B.C.C.L.,

(b) if so, the time by which the recommendations of the Committee were to be implemented and whether the recommendations had been implemented in time;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the action taken against various categories of officers with context of the recommendations of the Committee, as on June 30, 1998;

(e) whether the Committee had also made any adverse comments against the former Chairman and Managing Directors of B.C.C.L.; and

(f) if so, the details of the comments and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Coal had desired action on R.N. Mishra Committee Report to be completed by 15.6.94. In order to complete action, the concerned persons had to be issued chargesheets, departmental proceedings had to be initiated and finalised. The delay in finalisation of inquiry proceedings is due to procedural constraints.

(d) Action taken on various categories of officers with context of the recommendation of the Committee as on 30.6.98 is enclosed as Statement.

(e) and (f) The R.N. Mishra Committee had found that not only was the BCCL Management in the know of the goings on pertaining to stock shortages or was playing a collusive role but it was instigating over-reporting of production. Two of the four indicted CMDs who were still in service were served show cause notices on 20.5.94 and after considering their replies the Ministry of Coal decided to close the cases against them. They have now retired. The remaining two CMDs who had retired before Mishra Committee was set up could not be proceeded against because there is no provision in the conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules 1978 of CIL to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the retired employees. Initiating criminal proceedings against the retired CMDs, in absence of departmental action would not have been sustainable. Thus, a decision had been taken by the Ministry of Coal on 9.3.95 not to initiate action against the retired CMDs.

Statement*Status of action taken on R. N. Mishra Committee Report on BCCL*

| Details | Position on 30.06.98 |
|--|----------------------|
| No. of officers | 220 |
| No. of cases | 260 |
| CASES IN WHICH NO ACTION COULD BE TAKEN | |
| Expired | 2 |
| Retired | 12 |
| Dropped after issue of chargesheet | 28 |
| Sub-Total(A) | 42 |
| PUNISHMENT AWARDED AFTER ENQUIRY | |
| Removal from service | 5 |
| Demotion | 19 |
| Reduction to Lower stage | 11 |
| Withholding of promotion | 3 |
| Stoppage of increment | 13 |
| Warning | 8 |
| Caution | 13 |
| Censure | 11 |
| Forfeiture of Gratuity | 3 |
| Sub-Total (B) | 86 |
| Exonerated (C) | 122 |
| Total cases finalised A+B+C | 250 |
| CASES PENDING | |
| Enquiry completed & Pending for decision | 8 |
| Sub-judice | 2 |
| TOTAL PENDING | 10 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 260 |

Pilgrims to Vaishnodevi

2092. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pilgrims visited Vaishnodevi temple during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total amount received by the temple as offerings during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on the facilities provided to the pilgrims and on the maintenance of temple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) According to the information available from the State Government, total number of pilgrims who visited Vaishnodevi during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 was as follows:-

| Year | Tourist Arrivals |
|------|------------------|
| 1995 | 40,32,127 |
| 1996 | 43,35,532 |
| 1997 | 44,34,233 |

(b) and (c) The temple offerings are collected by the Shrine Board which provide facilities to the pilgrims and maintain the temple. The details of income and expenditure of the Shrine Board are not available with the Ministry of Tourism.

[Translation]

Licences to Sugar Mills during Ninth Plan

2093. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :
SHRI ADITYANATH :
SHIR CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the targetted number of licences to be issued to cooperative sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh during Ninth Five Year Plan, Year-wise;

(b) the number of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh which were issued licences during the Eighth Five Year Plan; Year-wise; and

(c) the number of licences proposed to be issued during the year 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No targets are fixed for issue of licences. Accordingly no targets have been fixed for issue of licences to co-operative sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh. Sugar industry has also been exempt from licensing vide Press Note Number 12 dated 31.8.98.

(b) A year-wise break up of letters of intent issued for UP during the Eighth Five Year Plan is as follows:

| Year | No. of Letters of Intent |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 2 |
| 1993-94 | 31 |
| 1994-95 | 7 |
| 1995-96 | 9 |
| 1996-97 | 56 |

(c) During 1998-99 (from April to August 1998) 4 Letters of Intent were issued to set up sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh.

Since September 1998, the entrepreneurs are free to set up sugar units by filling Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum.

[English]

Smuggling of Drugs

2094. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China se Bharat men nashile padarthon ki taskari" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated September 30, 1998;

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

(c) the names of the countries through which this smuggling is being done; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent this?

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

(b) and (c) There are no report on narcotic drugs sourced from China getting diverted to India via other countries. However, drug trafficking from Myanmar in small quantities for local consumption particularly in North Eastern States has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) A comprehensive bilateral agreement has been entered into by the Govt. of India with the Govt. of Myanmar for reducing demand and for preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. Constant vigil is maintained by all the enforcement agencies empowered under the N.D.P.S. Act. A periodical review of such enforcement activities is undertaken by the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau in meetings wherein representatives from all North Eastern States are included for exchange of information and intelligence. BSF and Coast Guards have been vested with powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs.

Cash Crops

2095. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to formulate any scheme to encourage the growing of Cash Crops in various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Some of the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to encourage production of cash crops inter-alia include production and distribution of quality planting material,

expansion of area, development of technology in post harvest processing and marketing, improving productivity through rejuvenation, replanting and new planting, adoption of integrated pest control practices, establishment of regional nurseries, establishment of model clonal gardens, establishment of demonstration plots of high yielding varieties, production and distribution of vegetatively propagated planting materials, establishment and maintenance of clone seed gardens, financial assistance for organising marketing and processing, production of high yielding varieties of seeds, distribution of minikits, improved irrigation and development of efficient water management system, production of breeder seeds, distribution of foundation and certified seeds, distribution of sprinkler sets, improved farm implements and plant protection equipments and establishment of nurseries

Plightness of Handloom Weavers

2096. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the plight of handloom weavers of Madurai in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation in the matter;

(c) whether the matter has been referred for queries to the Government of Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof and response of Tamil Nadu Government; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) Yes. Sir.

(d) The Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that due to general recession in industry, Handloom Sector has also been affected by accumulation of stocks. The State Government had, therefore, announced some relief measures for handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu, including Madurai which, inter-alia, include 10% additional rebate on the sale of handloom cloth by Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies and Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society Ltd. (COOPTEx) for a period of three months in addition to the 20% rebate, procurement of handloom cloth worth Rs.50.00 crores by COOPTEx, purchase of handloom cloth by Govt. Departments/Undertakings directly from COOPTEx and Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies, implementation of the Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers (Conditions of Employment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1981, extending the credit facilities to the weavers under NABARD refinance Scheme etc.

(e) The Government of Tamil Nadu had taken timely and adequate relief measures. Moreover, the Government of India has released Rs.12.94 crores to COOPTEx and Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies as Market Development Assistance during the current financial year till date.

Bacteria and Viruses in Imported Soyabean

2097. RAO INDERJIT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Experts warn against imported Soyabean" as reported in the 'Statesman' dated August 24, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the food exports has warned not to use soyabean imported from United State since it contains bacteria and viruses;

(c) if so, the facts and details in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to cancel such consignments and/or propose to send back, the infected Soyabean; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (e) The Government have decided to allow import of soyabean either in split or cracked form subject to the plant quarantine conditions. Consignments not meeting the plant quarantine conditions and other human, animal and plant safety norms would be appropriately dealt with by the authorities through measures including but not limited to, denial of entry at the port of disembarkment and/or reshipment.

Import of Onion Seeds

2098. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to import onion seeds for distribution to the farmers during the next season; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries from which onion seeds are to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) The Ministry of Agriculture have informed that no such proposal is under consideration.

(b) the question does not arise.

Non-resident Indian Forum

2099. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a non-resident Indian forum in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NRIs are not enthused despite several concessions offered to them; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the recent Global Indian Entrepreneurs Conference held at New Delhi on 12-13 November, 1998, it was decided to set up a suitable mechanism—a forum—in the Government for effective on going consultations with NRIs which would inter-alia involve the restructuring of the Indian Investment Centre so as to address the investment concerns of NRIs in a more effective and focussed manner. At present, we already have a separate cell in the SIA to deal with investment proposals of NRIs/OCBs.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Proposal envisaging NRI investment of Rs.743356.04 million have been approved from 1991 to September, 1998. There is actual inflow of NRI investment to the extent of Rs.73844.70 lakhs during the period. The country has also received investment of US \$ 4.16 billion from NRIs through Resurgent Indian Bond issued by the State Bank of India in 1998.

International Coffee Organisation

2100. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is facing an uphill task to get deal for the negotiations for a fresh agreement at the International Coffee Organisation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Advisory Council on Trade and Industry

2101. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to, state :

(a) whether during the month of September, 1998, the Prime Minister had addressed the first meeting of the Advisory Council on Trade and Industry;

(b) if so, whether any decision in regard to trade and industry has been taken in that first meeting;

(c) if so, whether any concrete action plan has been prepared and agreed;

(d) if so, whether the Advisory Council has submitted its recommendations to the Government; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision for implementing the recommendations is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following decisions were taken:-

Six Special Subject Groups in the nature of Task Forces were constituted to consider and recommend implementable Actions Plans in the following areas :

- (i) Food & Agro Industries Management Policy
- (ii) Infrastructure
- (iii) Capital Markets and Financial Sector Initiatives
- (iv) Knowledge-based Industries
- (v) Service Industries
- (vi) Administrative and Legal Simplifications.

(c) The Special Subject Groups will interact with the concerned Ministries/Departments, who will provide all necessary assistance and data to them. The interaction of the Groups with the concerned Ministries/Departments will be facilitated by the PMO, with officials from concerned Ministries/Departments and external experts to be co-opted as necessary. The Groups will finalise their Action Plans as per prescribe schedule, for the consideration of their reports in the subsequent deliberations of the Council.

(d) and (e) The Six Special Subject Groups have since submitted their reports. The next meeting of the Council on Trade and Industry will be held shortly.

[English]

World Bank Loan to Andhra Pradesh for Development

2102. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted any requests seeking World Bank Loan for the development of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the requests of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) There are a number of proposed projects for World Bank assistance to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Some of these are AP District poverty initiative project, AP power sector reform & restructuring project and Integrated rural water supply & environmental sanitation project. These projects are at various stages of discussion between the World Bank, State Government and Government of India to finalise the same. Besides, the AP economic restructuring project, for a possible assistance of US \$ 543.30 million consisting of US \$ 242 million from IDA and US \$ 301.30 million from IBRD has already been negotiated and is likely to be signed shortly.

*[Translation]***Banking Licence to Co-operative Bank of India**

2103. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay in issuing banking licence to Co-operative Bank of India despite its several years of registration; and

(b) the time by which the licence is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Co-operative Bank of India Limited (CBIL) was registered under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 with its original name as National Co-operative Bank of India, which was subsequently changed to the present name on the advice of RBI. Since the proposed bank does not fall under the purview of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (As applicable to Co-operative Societies), the grant of licence to the bank could be considered after amendment of the Banking Regulation Act.

*[English]***Goods Recovered by Customs Officials**

2104. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JHANJIHARPUR) :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.557 on 29/5/98 regarding *Goods Recovered by Customs Officials* and state :

(a) whether the information in regard to Part (d) of the reply has been collected by now;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be collected and laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The assurance to the said question No.557 for 29/5/98 has since been fulfilled on 4/12/98. It has been replied that no complaint of this nature has been received in the past 3 years. A copy of the reply is enclosed as Statement.

Statement*II Session, 1998 of the 12th Lok Sabha*

| Ministry of Finance | | Department of REVENUE | | Date of Fulfilment : 4/12/98. | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Q.No.Date & Name of the M.P.(S). | Subject | Promise Made | How Fulfilled | Reasons for delay | |
| U.S.Q. No. 557 dt. 29/5/98 by Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi. | GOODS RECOVERED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS Asking:- (a) whether the goods recovered are wrongly estimated by the Customs Officials such as less estimation of goods of relatives of customs officials and higher estimation of the goods of other persons; (b) the rules framed by the Govt. to prevent such malpractices and whether any such cases have come to the notice of the Govt., (c) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Govt. to prevent such malpractice; and (d) the number of complaints received in during the last three years collectorate-wise. | (d) The number of complaints received in this regard, if any, during the last three years collectorate-wise is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. | No such complaints received during the last three years. | It took time to collect information from field formation | |

*[Translation]***Afforestation Programme of S.E.C.L.**

2105. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether S.E.C.L. has started afforestation programme in coal areas of South Bihar;

(b) if so, the latest position in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The afforestation programme is done only in the operational areas of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) i.e. in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

*[English]***L.C. Fraud**

2106. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.5616 dated July 24, 1998 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the time by which it is likely to be placed on the Table of the House?

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

(b) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that in 1997, frauds by way of negotiation of bills under forged Letters of Credits (L/Cs) were reported in Centurion Bank Ltd. Mumbai and Chandigarh.; Times Bank Ltd., Mumbai and Vysya Bank Ltd., New Mumbai involving an aggregate amount of Rs.27.09 crores. The modus operandi of the culprits was to get the bills drawn under fake L/Cs discounted by the bank. These L/Cs were purportedly issued by public sector banks. Both the discounting bank and the bank whose name was used as opener in the forged L/Cs have lodged complaints with the local police. The banks have so far recovered an amount of Rs.13.6 crores.

Availability of I.T. Saral Forms in Moffisil Centres

2107. SHRI A GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Saral Forms are available in all moffisil centres for use of non-corporate assesseees to file their returns;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in making these forms available;

(c) whether the last date for filing the I.T. returns has been extended;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Saral Forms have been made available in all moffisil centres of Tamil Nadu; and

(f) if not, by when these forms are likely to be made available there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Saral Form was notified on the 14th September, 1998, and thereafter the same was made available to all the Chief Commissioners and Commissioners of Income Tax who further made them available to all the moffisil centres.

(c) and (d) The last date for filing return of income in the case of two different categories of non-corporate assesseees was extended on two occasions from the 30th June 1998 and 31st August, 1998 to 31st October, 1998, for assessment year 1998-99.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Coal in Jammu Region

2108. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large reserves of coal exist in Kala Kote and Jangal areas of Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether any attempt to explore these resources have been taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) The Geological Survey of India has estimated the coal reserve in Kala Kote and Jangal Gali Areas of J&K region as under:

| Sl.No. | Coalfield | Reserves up to 150 M depth (in Million Tones) |
|--------|-------------|---|
| 1. | Kala Kote | 2.53 (Proved) |
| 2. | Jangal Gali | 4.79 (Inferred) |

The coal seams in the Coalfields of J&K region are thin and erratic in behaviour. The coal seams pinch-and-swell, split-and-merge and deteriorate into carbonaceous shale. The Mining and Geological conditions are difficult including thin seams, paid changes in seam thickness, complex structure, steep gradient, poor roof and floor strata, gassiness etc.

Exploration has been conducted in the past by Geological Survey of India, Indian Bureau of Mines and Directorate of Geology and Mining, J&K by Geological Mapping, Trenching Drilling in important Coalfields like Kalakot-Kura, Metka and Mahogala. The results of the exploration have not been encouraging since the coal seams have erratic behaviour in thickness and have limited continuity in strike and dip-direction resulting in patchy development of coal seams which are not amenable to scientific mining by underground methods.

[Translation]

Amount mobilized by Public Financial Institutions

2109. SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- the amount mobilized by ICICI, IDBI, IFCI through various schemes from the public during the last three years;
- the amount invested by these institutions in share market;
- the present value of share capital invested by them;
- the amount of loan waived off by them during the above period; and
- the effective steps being taken to avoid the loss of public money and its safe refund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

P.M.R.Y.

*2110. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- whether the applications for loan under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana are delayed due to procedural wrangles;

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken by the Government for simplification of this procedure;

(c) whether some cases of harassment by bank officers in clearing the applications have come to the notice of the Government;

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

(e) the action taken against such officers, particularly in U.P.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) There are no procedural wrangles in dealing with the loan applications under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana. Some complaints are received on account of rejection of applications, by the Banks. Rejection of applications, however, is due to non-viability of the proposed activities and excess sponsoring of applications.

[English]

Delivery Orders of Coal to Displaced Persons by MCL

2111. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- whether Delivery Orders of Coal have been given to displaced person of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited as compensation;
- if so, the total number of displaced persons to whom Delivery Orders have been given during the last three years, indicating the number of Delivery orders;
- whether any enquiry has been conducted relating to the bungling of coal on the pretext of giving Delivery Orders to the displaced persons in the name of compensation; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) No, Sir.

- to (d) Do not arise in view of reply given to (a) above.

Demand and Supply of Notes and Coins

2112. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- the estimated demand of notes/coins of small denominations in the Country and the supply position thereof at present; and
- the time from when there would be an adequate supply of coins to overcome the shortage and get rid of the mutilated notes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The estimated demand and supply position of notes/coins during 1998-99 are as under:

| (in million pieces) | | |
|---------------------|--------|--------------------|
| | Demand | Anticipated supply |
| Notes | 14874 | 3300 |
| Coins | 9050 | 3500* |

*including 1000 millions from abroad.

(b) The modernisation of the Mints at Calcutta, Hyderabad and Mumbai is expected to be completed by March, 1999 and thereafter their capacity would go up. It is proposed to run the Noida Mint on two-shift basis to increase the production. It is expected that by the end of 1999-2000, there would be adequate availability of coins in the country which would replace the mutilated notes of smaller denominations.

Assistance for Water Supply and Sewerage by LIC and GIC

2113. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the assistance given by Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation and other financial institutions for water supply schemes and sewerage projects during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the break-up of amount sanctioned/released by LIC, GIC and other financial institutions during the said period, year-wise and state-wise;

(c) the details of the objectives for which the financial assistance has been provided by these financial institutions during the same period; and

(d) the number of people belonging to SC dominated areas have been benefitted under these schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The requisite details of the funds allocated by the All India Financial Institutions and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) are given in the enclosed Statement-I and Statement-II respectively. The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) and its four subsidiaries do not allocate any funds for water supply schemes and sewerage projects.

(c) and (d) Under the guidelines issued to the LIC they are required to invest not exceeding 25% of their investible funds in social sector projects including assistance to projects of water supply & sewerage. The statistics relating to number of people belonging to Scheduled Castes who have been benefitted under schemes is not separately maintained.

Statement-I

State-wise assistance sanctioned and disbursed by All India Financial Institutions

(Rs. in crores)

| Sl No. | State | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|--------|-------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | | Sanctioned | Disbursed | Sanctioned | Disbursed | Sanctioned | Disbursed |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3827.7 | 2272.5 | 2894.7 | 2370.6 | 5538.3 | 3686.4 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 4.3 | 2.5 | 9.4 | 0.9 | 33.8 | 38.1 |
| 3. | Assam | 640.3 | 121.4 | 103.5 | 242.4 | 82.1 | 88.1 |
| 4. | Bihar | 433.8 | 249.5 | 539.1 | 234.4 | 1096.7 | 758.9 |
| 5. | Goa | 236.4 | 116.4 | 264.2 | 105.8 | 426.4 | 180.8 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 9132.3 | 4582.8 | 8043.0 | 5723.0 | 12042.2 | 9516.5 |
| 7. | Haryana | 1408.6 | 855.3 | 1296.8 | 1013.8 | 1618.3 | 1193.7 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 855.0 | 256.2 | 247.9 | 335.5 | 340.3 | 337.2 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 39.1 | 30.4 | 22.0 | 17.3 | 23.8 | 13.1 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 5273.5 | 2375.0 | 4047.1 | 2418.8 | 3603.1 | 3012.4 |
| 11. | Kerala | 643.0 | 354.3 | 585.5 | 581.4 | 859.5 | 420.4 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 3016.5 | 1777.1 | 1534.4 | 1668.0 | 6352.4 | 1687.7 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13. | Maharashtra | 12159.3 | 7143.2 | 8033.8 | 7245.1 | 15850.5 | 10039.0 |
| 14. | Manipur | 2.3 | 4.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 2.1 | 2.0 | 8.6 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 6.6 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 5.4 | 6.1 | 10.5 | 9.4 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| 18. | Orissa | 511.2 | 255.0 | 1504.7 | 370.9 | 1355.1 | 553.1 |
| 19. | Punjab | 960.3 | 680.0 | 904.6 | 603.7 | 1251.4 | 927.9 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 2271.4 | 1718.5 | 2311.4 | 1402.2 | 2425.1 | 1173.9 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 3.9 | 10.0 | 8.5 | 2.6 | 14.0 | 3.6 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 6257.9 | 3280.7 | 4579.0 | 3154.7 | 6957.9 | 2793.7 |
| 23. | Tripura | 3.9 | 8.1 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.0 | 3.8 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 4317.6 | 2772.7 | 3449.9 | 2900.6 | 2791.3 | 2251.7 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 2607.6 | 1064.6 | 1939.9 | 1135.5 | 3303.9 | 2140.4 |
| 26. | National Capital Territory of Delhi. | 1446.5 | 1550.7 | 1720.3 | 782.1 | 1360.8 | 1144.6 |
| 27. | Union Territories | 894.9 | 382.9 | 610.6 | 434.2 | 531.0 | 506.7 |
| | (a) Andaman & Nicobar | 14.2 | 1.8 | 5.0 | 10.8 | 5.0 | 5.2 |
| | (b) Daman & Diu | 78.7 | 59.6 | 44.7 | 50.8 | 62.7 | 42.6 |
| | (c) Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 318.5 | 238.5 | 431.4 | 268.0 | 379.7 | 414.0 |
| | (d) Chandigarh | 60.0 | 20.9 | 63.8 | 44.7 | 14.8 | 14.5 |
| | (e) Lakshadweep | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | (f) Pondicherry | 423.5 | 62.1 | 65.7 | 60.5 | 68.8 | 30.4 |
| 28. | Multi-state/Non-specific areas | 2711.5 | 2920.5 | 3278.9 | 2785.0 | 3620.7 | 2854.4 |
| TOTAL | | 60561.7 | 35176.2 | 48566.4 | 35981.9 | 72013.3 | 45811.9 |

Statement-II

State-wise Allocation of funding during last three years by LIC Water Supply Schemes and Sewerage Projects

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl.No. | State | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|--------|-------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | | Allocation | Disbursement | Allocation | Disbursement | Allocation | Disbursement |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 4.22 | 3.84 | 4.64 | 4.64 | 3.00 | - |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.38 | - | 0.29 | - | - | - |
| 3. | Assam | 0.57 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4. | Bihar | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | Chandigarh | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6. | Delhi | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 7. | Goa | 5.24 | 5.24 | 6.29 | 6.29 | 6.23 | 6.23 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 27.83 | | - | - | 34.55 | - |
| 9. | Haryana | 1.45 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | - | - | 2.00 | - | 19.87 | - |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 6.65 | - | 6.00 | - | 13.00 | - |
| 12. | Karnataka | 7.43 | 4.00 | 7.00 | 8.27 | 8.76 | 10.76 |
| 13. | Kerala | 20.28 | 20.28 | 22.66 | 22.66 | 27.83 | 27.83 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 20.37 | 9.54 | 72.81 | 7.95 | 28.51 | 3.58 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 31.50 | 17.34 | 49.88 | 31.14 | 68.88 | 73.12 |
| 16. | Manipur | 1.68 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 3.68 | - | 2.00 | - | 4.59 | - |
| 18. | Mizoram | 2.86 | 2.86 | 0.81 | 0.67 | - | - |
| 19. | Nagaland | 2.76 | 2.76 | 1.48 | 1.48 | 5.38 | 0.39 |
| 20. | Orissa | 16.65 | - | 13.88 | - | 27.50 | - |
| 21. | Pondicherry | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 22. | Punjab | 26.85 | | 29.28 | - | 31.10 | - |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 7.53 | 7.53 | 8.43 | - | 9.27 | 17.70 |
| 24. | Sikkim | - | - | | | - | - |
| 25. | Tamilnadu | 48.94 | 48.94 | 54.81 | 54.81 | 68.52 | 83.52 |
| 26. | Tripura | 8.85 | | - | - | - | - |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | - | | - | - | - | - |
| 28. | West Bengal | 8.67 | - | 1.98 | - | 2.00 | - |
| TOTAL | | 255.39 | 122.33 | 292.24 | 145.91 | 358.99 | 231.13 |

Profit/Loss of Regional Banks

2114. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the profit and losses incurred by each Regional Rural Bank during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for losses and the steps taken by the Government to overcome the losses;

(c) the percentage of recovery of loans by Regional Rural Banks and Public Sector Banks, separately, during the above period;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to set up the National Rural Banks to overcome the losses of these banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) The details of profit earned and losses incurred by each Regional Rural Bank (RRB) during the year 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are at shown in the enclosed statement.

(b) The RRBs are incurring losses, inter-alia, due to narrow spread, high transaction costs, low productivity, poor recoveries, restriction on choice of clientele and area of operation, low business volumes relative to branch network and high establishment costs. A number of steps have been taken to bring an improvement in the performance of the RRBs and make them viable.

These include, inter-alia, the following:

(i) The share capital of all RRBs has been raised to Rs.1 crore each;

- (ii) As a part of efforts to revamp RRBs on a "Stand alone" basis, 151 RRBs have been provided additional equity support for cleansing up of balance sheets during the last four years (1994-98). A sum of Rs.773.57 crore has been provided for this purpose by the Central Government.
- (iii) Bank specific Development Action Plans (DAPs) have been prepared and RRBs have entered into Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs) with their sponsor banks;
- (iv) Income recognition and asset classification norms have been introduced with effect from 1995-96 while provisioning norms have been introduced from the year 1996-97;
- (v) RRBs have been permitted to relocate their loss-making branches to better business locations/centres, or convert them into satellite offices. Further, RRBs with Service Area obligation have also been permitted to open new branches outside their Service Area subject to certain conditions;
- (vi) RRBs have been provided access to profitable avenues for investment of their non-SLR funds on par with Commercial Banks;
- (vii) Earlier, the RRBs were permitted to finance non-target Group beneficiaries to the extent of 60% of their fresh lendings. With effect from 1st April, 1997, the RRBs are required to ensure that their advances to priority sector constitute 40% of their outstanding advances as in the case of Commercial Banks;
- (viii) Interest Rate Structure of RRBs has been completely deregulated with effect from 26th August, 1996;
- (ix) The Sponsor Banks have been entrusted with greater role to exercise full managerial and operational control over their sponsored RRBs.
- (c) The percentage of recovery of loan by RRBs during the period ending June, 1995, June, 1996 and June 1997 was 50.98%, 55.10% and 56.73% respectively. The recovery position of agricultural advances by public sector banks during the period ending June, 1994, June 1995 and June, 1996 (latest available) was 57.60%, 59.46% and 61.88% respectively.
- (d) and (e) After considering a number of alternative models for restructuring of RRBs including setting up of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI), it was decided to revamp the RRBs by cleansing of their balance sheets on a 'Stand alone' basis.

Statement

Profit Loss Position of RRBs for the Year 1996-98

(Rs. Lakh)

| Sl.No. | Name of the RRB | State | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| | | | Profit | Loss | Profit | Loss | Profit | Loss |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Haryana Ksh. Gr. Bank | Haryana | | -344.03 | | -1599.56 | 17.99 | |
| 2. | Gurgaon Gramin Bank | Haryana | 181.23 | | | -557.42 | 1230.01 | |
| 3. | Hisar-Sirsa Ksh. Gr. Bank | Harya -3Xna | 5.50 | | 64.25 | | 158.06 | |
| 4. | Ambala Kurueshetra Gr. Bank | Haryana | | -68.06 | | -12.37 | 85.69 | |
| 5. | Himachal Gramin Bank | Himachal Pradesh | 8.15 | | | -269.89 | 109.52 | |
| 6. | Parvatiya Gramin Bank | Himachal Pradesh | | -20.30 | | -106.39 | 46.64 | |
| 7. | Jammu Rural Bank | Jammu & Kashmir | 6.30 | | 25.27 | | 507.70 | |
| 8. | Ellaqui Dehati Bank | Jammu & Kashmir | | -748.84 | | -580.20 | | -722.86 |
| 9. | Kamraz Rural Bank | Jammu & Kashmir | | -309.79 | | -480.28 | | -299.40 |
| 10. | Shivalik Ksh. Gr. Bank | Punjab | 78.67 | | 59.52 | | 261.18 | |
| 11. | Kapurthala-Ferozpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Punjab | | -236.01 | | -481.56 | 51.24 | |
| 12. | Gurdaspur-Amritsar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Punjab | | -125.74 | | -293.07 | 76.75 | |
| 13. | Malwa Gramin Bank | Punjab | 94.89 | | 150.47 | | 283.14 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| 14. | Faridkot-Bhatinda Ksh. Gr. Bank | Punjab | 17.06 | | 119.88 | | 150.01 | |
| 15. | Jaipur Nagauranch Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | 53.49 | | | -296.97 | | -76.73 |
| 16. | Marwar Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | 5.50 | | 96.90 | | 139.20 | |
| 17. | Shikhawati Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -358.49 | | -1023.20 | 33.16 | |
| 18. | Marudhar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -354.29 | | -451.54 | | -393.96 |
| 19. | Alwar-Bharatpur Anch. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -341.48 | | -774.07 | | -26.07 |
| 20. | Arivali Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -269.30 | | -441.52 | | -234.46 |
| 21. | Hadoti Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -268.08 | | -1252.27 | | -187.58 |
| 22. | Mewar Anch. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -141.87 | | -124.56 | | -105.55 |
| 23. | Thar Anch. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -252.21 | | -98.08 | | -104.10 |
| 24. | Bundi-Chittorgarh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -244.65 | | -411.70 | 40.38 | |
| 25. | Bhilwara-Ajmer Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | 4.55 | | 8.27 | | 108.71 | |
| 26. | Durgapur-Banswara Ksh. Gr. Bk. | Rajasthan | | -160.12 | | -280.30 | | -82.15 |
| 27. | Sriganganagar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -169.37 | | -147.04 | | -38.18 |
| 28. | Bikaner Ksh. Gr. Bank | Rajasthan | | -93.22 | | -103.91 | | -36.55 |
| 29. | Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank | Arunachal Pradesh | | -8.65 | | -35.51 | 8.03 | |
| 30. | Praggyotish Gaonlia Bank | Assam | | -348.44 | | -2370.42 | 318.45 | |
| 31. | Lakshimi Gaonlia Bank | Assam | | -318.96 | | -1604.27 | 797.06 | |
| 32. | Cachar Gramin Bank | Assam | | -330.96 | | -284.07 | | -125.16 |
| 33. | Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank | Assam | | -175.89 | | -246.16 | | 198.69 |
| 34. | Subansiri Gaonlia Bank | Assam | | -254.25 | | -501.91 | 45.10 | |
| 35. | Manipur Rural Bank | Manipur | | -103.48 | | -333.16 | | -61.13 |
| 36. | Khasi Jaintia Rural Ka Bank | Meghalaya | 7.51 | | 89.26 | | 312.99 | |
| 37. | Mizoram Rural Bank | Mizoram | | -103.36 | | -103.36 | 64.50 | |
| 38. | Nagaland Rural Bank | Nagaland | | -10.35 | | -43.47 | 3.33 | |
| 39. | Tripura Gramin Bank | Tripura | | -1952.14 | | -3929.83 | | -1299.52 |
| 40. | Bhojpur Rohtas Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -166.05 | | -2315.94 | 466.92 | |
| 41. | Champaran Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -1008.53 | | -867.07 | | -862.82 |
| 42. | Magadh Gramin Bank | Bihar | | -377.11 | | -1594.07 | 122.25 | |
| 43. | Kosi Ksh. Gramin Bank | Bihar | | -755.71 | | -1023.63 | | -803.53 |
| 44. | Vaishali Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -1527.15 | | -1787.05 | | -982.50 |
| 45. | Monghyr Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -237.38 | | -1749.95 | 12.18 | |
| 46. | Santhal Parganas Gr. Bank | Bihar | 33.17 | | | -1335.30 | | -102.66 |
| 47. | Madhubani Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -465.42 | | -712.90 | | -627.01 |
| 48. | Nalanda Gramin Bank | Bihar | | -516.37 | | -638.89 | | -691.30 |
| 49. | Singhbhum Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -210.94 | | -574.99 | 19.80 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| 50. | Mithila Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -180.36 | | -943.18 | | -449.87 |
| 51. | Samastipur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -173.57 | | -297.54 | | -308.93 |
| 52. | Palamau Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -395.71 | | -687.03 | | -331.60 |
| 53. | Ranchi Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -348.19 | | -110.67 | | -250.69 |
| 54. | Gopalganj Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | 71.38 | | | -142.19 | 252.63 | |
| 55. | Saran Ksh. Gramin Bank | Bihar | | -382.48 | | -739.00 | | -385.96 |
| 56. | Siwan Ksh. Gramin Bank | Bihar | 55.17 | | | -112.15 | 102.70 | |
| 57. | Giridih Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -51.86 | | -109.58 | 48.43 | |
| 58. | Hazaribagh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | 17.28 | | 37.61 | | 56.25 | |
| 59. | Pataliputra Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -92.73 | | -77.04 | 13.47 | |
| 60. | Bhagalpur Banka Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -57.64 | | -190.68 | | -669 |
| 61. | Begusarai Ksh. Gr. Bank | Bihar | | -52.22 | | -157.01 | 141.99 | |
| 62. | Puri Gramin Bank | Orissa | | -628.69 | | -789.28 | | -933.33 |
| 63. | Bolangir Anch. Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -1470.70 | | -1607.56 | | -1105.71 |
| 64. | Cuttack Gramin Bank | Orissa | | -548.07 | | -2686.34 | | -735.65 |
| 65. | Koraput Panchabati Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -461.42 | | -309.90 | 325.49 | |
| 66. | Kalahandi Anch. Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -299.55 | | -652.60 | | -195.10 |
| 67. | Baitarani Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -374.07 | | -691.11 | | -431.66 |
| 68. | Balasore Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -176.17 | | -964.83 | | -793.59 |
| 69. | Rushikulya Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -345.48 | | -351.14 | 11.45 | |
| 70. | Dhenkanal Gr. Bank | Orissa | | -189.30 | | -165.12 | 14.02 | |
| 71. | Gaur Gramin Bank | West Bengal | | -1299.91 | | -1866.78 | | -958.15 |
| 72. | Mallabhum Gr. Bank | West Bengal | | -1105.04 | | -1594.30 | | -807.61 |
| 73. | Mayurakshi Gr. Bank | West Bengal | | -159.75 | | -723.89 | | -312.04 |
| 74. | Uttar Banga Ksh. Gr. Bank | West Bengal | | -559.19 | | -2103.66 | | -595.76 |
| 75. | Nandla Gramin Bank | West Bengal | | -563.91 | | -470.58 | | -137.95 |
| 76. | Sagar Gramin Bank | West Bengal | | -566.31 | | -1675.87 | 16.39 | |
| 77. | Bardhaman Gr. Bank | West Bengal | | -194.53 | 103.82 | | 107.07 | |
| 78. | Howrah Gramin Bank | West Bengal | 35.45 | | 132.46 | | 104.06 | |
| 79. | Murshidabad Gramin Bank | West Bengal | | -119.36 | 6.15 | | 10.93 | |
| 80. | Kshetriya Gr. Bk. Hoshangabad | Madhya Pradesh | | -365.57 | | -1137.82 | 13.56 | |
| 81. | Bilaspur-Raipur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -726.56 | | -462.00 | | -328.49 |
| 82. | Rewa-Sidhi Gramin Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -138.86 | | -151.00 | 27.68 | |
| 83. | Bundelkhand Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -274.16 | | -964.00 | | -117.98 |
| 84. | Sharda Gramin Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -352.74 | | -541.00 | | -64.30 |
| 85. | Surguja Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -1003.35 | | -185.04 | | -360.17 |
| 86. | Bastar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -366.74 | | -136.00 | | -341.06 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| 87. | Durg-Rajnandgaon Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -914.52 | | -607.00 | 101.46 | |
| 88. | Jhabua-Dhar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -384.90 | | -1360.00 | | -274.73 |
| 89. | Raigarh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -222.77 | | -215.00 | | -107.92 |
| 90. | Shivpuri-Guna Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -430.02 | | -337.00 | | -147.29 |
| 91. | Damoh-Panna-Sagar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -263.69 | | -532.00 | | -226.28 |
| 92. | Dewas-Shajapur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -124.82 | | -279.00 | | -73.12 |
| 93. | Nimar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -254.62 | | -219.00 | 30.98 | |
| 94. | Mandla-Balaghat Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -256.62 | | -276.00 | | -196.86 |
| 95. | Chhindwara-Seoni Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -251.95 | | -357.00 | | -245.08 |
| 96. | Rajgarh-Sehore Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -170.17 | | -148.00 | | -126.96 |
| 97. | Shahdol Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -258.52 | | -290.00 | | -201.54 |
| 98. | Rattlam-Mandsaur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -65.29 | 4.00 | | 5.90 | |
| 99. | Chambal Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -257.06 | | -165.00 | | -88.08 |
| 100. | Mahakaushal Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -193.96 | | -521.00 | | -236.64 |
| 101. | Indore-Ujjain Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -85.93 | | -171.00 | 3.78 | |
| 102. | Gwalior-Datia Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -85.94 | | -164.00 | | -75.87 |
| 103. | Vidisha-Bhopal Ksh. Gr. Bank | Madhya Pradesh | | -95.88 | | -155.00 | 0.96 | |
| 104. | Prathama Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -225.56 | | -432.60 | 1291.43 | |
| 105. | Gorakhpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 1037.61 | | 1380.16 | | 1451.55 | |
| 106. | Samyut Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 212.19 | | 255.36 | | 1879.01 | |
| 107. | Barabanki Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 121.76 | | 152.22 | | 375.09 | |
| 108. | Raebareli Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -114.74 | | -210.25 | 12.30 | |
| 109. | Farrukhabad Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 17.86 | | 38.15 | | 426.86 | |
| 110. | Bhagirath Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 371.98 | | 279.50 | | 1039.89 | |
| 111. | Ballia Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -122.13 | | -2258.24 | 171.02 | |
| 112. | Sultanpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -175.91 | | -211.41 | 77.52 | |
| 113. | Avadh Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 189.75 | | | -180.50 | 514.09 | |
| 114. | Kanpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -591.71 | | -1976.85 | 160.89 | |
| 115. | Sravasti Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -225.34 | | -985.86 | 548.41 | |
| 116. | Etawah Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -196.70 | | -657.75 | | -355.73 |
| 117. | Kisan Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -252.60 | | -398.51 | | -85.05 |
| 118. | Kshetriya Kisan Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -192.24 | | -578.72 | | -301.09 |
| 119. | Kashi Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -371.53 | | -1757.17 | 9.77 | |
| 120. | Basti Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 38.76 | | | -635.23 | 441.38 | |
| 121. | Allahabad Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -512.10 | | -1016.93 | | -770.34 |
| 122. | Pratapgarh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -253.89 | | -239.15 | | -137.46 |
| 123. | Faizabad Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -47.72 | | -239.81 | 208.41 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 124. | Fatehpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -263.44 | | -363.55 | | -163.29 |
| 125. | Bareilly Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -432.04 | | -384.13 | 2.11 | |
| 126. | Devipatan Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 11.35 | | | -280.92 | 292.35 | |
| 127. | Aligarh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 100.54 | | 187.01 | | 736.16 | |
| 128. | Tulsi Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -374.38 | | -912.26 | 193.76 | |
| 129. | Etah Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -75.05 | 11.58 | | 229.75 | |
| 130. | Gomti Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -132.99 | | -687.81 | 431.14 | |
| 131. | Chhatrasal Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -127.26 | | -166.83 | 113.68 | |
| 132. | Rani Lakshmibai Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -331.52 | | -465.08 | -295.45 | |
| 133. | Vidur Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -123.67 | | -26.61 | 88.35 | |
| 134. | Shahjahanpur Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -58.67 | 16.08 | | 146.16 | |
| 135. | Nainital-Almora Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -129.64 | 1.71 | | 76.26 | |
| 136. | Vindhyavasini Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -177.65 | | -649.88 | 76.68 | |
| 137. | Sarayu Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 28.03 | | 167.34 | | 347.52 | |
| 138. | Jamuna Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -141.33 | | -195.67 | 296.05 | |
| 139. | Muzaffarnagar Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 0.55 | | | -210.63 | 45.83 | |
| 140. | Pithoragarh Ksh. Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 41.33 | | 50.19 | | 113.58 | |
| 141. | Ganga-Yamuna Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -50.26 | | -157.16 | 16.80 | |
| 142. | Alaknanda Gr. Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -42.94 | | 109.29 | 78.21 | |
| 143. | Hindon Gramin Bank | Uttar Pradesh | | -63.12 | | -109.93 | 23.15 | |
| 144. | Kutch Gramin Bank | Gujarat | | -131.26 | 50.58 | | 123.91 | |
| 145. | Jamnagar Gramin Bank | Gujarat | | -143.68 | | -170.66 | 108.05 | |
| 146. | Banaskantha-Mehsana Gr. Bank | Gujarat | | -353.19 | | -166.90 | | -192.16 |
| 147. | Panchmahal Gr. Bank | Gujarat | | -114.80 | | -187.54 | 159.38 | |
| 148. | Surendranagar-Bhavnagar Gr. Bk. | Gujarat | | -99.72 | | -125.16 | 64.94 | |
| 149. | Valsad-Dangs Gr. Bank | Gujarat | 2.48 | | | -66.62 | 165.56 | |
| 150. | Surat-Bharuch Gr. Bank | Gujarat | 31.72 | | 22.27 | | 207.23 | |
| 151. | Sabarkantha-Gandhinagar Gr. Bk. | Gujarat | | -4.66 | 27.56 | | 81.84 | |
| 152. | Junagadh-Amreli Gr. Bank | Gujarat | | -107.18 | | -36.65 | 112.37 | |
| 153. | Marathwwada Gr. Bank | Maharashtra | | -346.93 | | -190.73 | | -153.44 |
| 154. | Aurangabad-Jalna Gr. Bank | Maharashtra | | -17.31 | | -264.54 | 104.62 | |
| 155. | Chandrapur-Gadchiroli Gr. Bk. | Maharashtra | | -198.03 | | -180.91 | | -189.13 |
| 156. | Akola Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | | -139.14 | | -145.86 | | -162.96 |
| 157. | Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Gr. Bank | Maharashtra | | -102.41 | | -117.14 | 1.33 | |
| 158. | Solapur Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | | -114.64 | | -219.57 | 38.34 | |
| 159. | Bhandara Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | | -184.52 | | -353.12 | | -179.54 |
| 160. | Yavatmal Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | 6.83 | | 7.58 | | 98.99 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 161. | Buldhana Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | | 66.68 | | -5.72 | 25.19 | |
| 162. | Thane Gramin Bank | Maharashtra | 33.91 | | 80.76 | | 123.69 | |
| 163. | Nagarjuna Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -91.74 | | -766.89 | | -84.63 |
| 164. | Rayalseema Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -75.90 | | -305.39 | 460.56 | |
| 165. | Sri Visakha Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -715.84 | | -1144.21 | 5.93 | |
| 166. | Sree Anantha Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | 36.77 | | 309.45 | | 741.74 | |
| 167. | Shri Venketeshwara Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -216.43 | | -18.62 | 202.26 | |
| 168. | Sri Saraswathi Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | 14.76 | | 40.76 | | 166.60 | |
| 169. | Sangameshwra Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -1301.25 | 157.72 | | 391.10 | |
| 170. | Manjira Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -373.59 | | -176.92 | 223.04 | |
| 171. | Pinakini Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -332.27 | | -851.83 | 229.77 | |
| 172. | Kakathiya Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -252.46 | | -167.85 | | -29.97 |
| 173. | Chattanya Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -24.94 | | -20.21 | 171.09 | |
| 174. | Shri Sathavahana Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -245.69 | | -168.42 | 161.12 | |
| 175. | Golconda Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | | -69.69 | | -54.96 | 78.43 | |
| 176. | Srirama Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | 40.76 | | 46.33 | | 109.83 | |
| 177. | Kanakadugra Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | 64.39 | | 121.48 | | 172.50 | |
| 178. | Godavari Gr. Bank | Andhra Pradesh | 23.75 | | 81.77 | | 142.58 | |
| 179. | Tungabhadra Gr. Bank | Karnataka | 275.19 | | 749.26 | | 1125.00 | |
| 180. | Malaprabha Gr. Bank | Karnataka | 341.40 | | 30.15 | | 922.18 | |
| 181. | Cauvery Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -60.14 | | -662.83 | 255.69 | |
| 182. | Krishna Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | 614.73 | 284.44 | | 386.08 | |
| 183. | Chitradurga Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -138.59 | | -147.08 | 223.45 | |
| 184. | Kalpatharu Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -188.72 | | -426.34 | 135.06 | |
| 185. | Kolar Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -115.50 | | -323.42 | 290.37 | |
| 186. | Bijapur Gr. Bank | Karnataka | 134.45 | | 314.46 | | 550.50 | |
| 187. | Chickmagalur-Kodagu Gr. Bk. | Karnataka | | -21.12 | 81.34 | | 236.48 | |
| 188. | Sahyadri Gr. Bank | Karnataka | 6.40 | | 44.59 | | 87.15 | |
| 189. | Netravati Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -28.21 | | -23.94 | 6.89 | |
| 190. | Varada Gr. Bank | Karnataka | 48.15 | | 148.99 | | 100.07 | |
| 191. | Visveshwaraya Gr. Bank | Karnataka | | -8.99 | | -15.86 | 20.11 | |
| 192. | South Malabar Gr. Bank | Kerala | 51.82 | | | -219.57 | 888.16 | |
| 193. | North Malabar Gr. Bank | Kerala | 218.92 | | 793.20 | | 1059.85 | |
| 194. | Pandyan Gr. Bank | Tamil Nadu | | -114.46 | | -548.31 | 216.07 | |
| 195. | Adhiyaman Gr. Bank | Tamil Nadu | | -15.93 | | -22.49 | 133.52 | |
| 196. | Vallalar Gr. Bank | Tamil Nadu | 65.04 | | 138.00 | | 225.38 | |
| | All India | | 4243.75 | -46537.31 | 6967.85 | -87936.73 | 30200.95 | -23075.71 |

*[Translation]***Foreign Banks**

2115. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the foreign banks allowed entry in India after liberalisation by the Government and the names of banks which have started functioning; and

(b) the total profit earned by these banks during each of the last three years and the amount these banks have been sending to their respective countries as foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The names of foreign banks allowed entry in India and have since started functioning after liberalisation, the total profit earned by these banks during the years ended on 31st March, 1996, March, 1997 and March, 1998 and the details of remittance of profits allowed in the years 1996, 1997 & 1998 are given in Statement-I, II and III.

Statement-I*Name of Banks allowed entry*

| Sl. No. | Name of the bank | Country | Date of opening of first branch in India |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | ING Bank | Netherland | 1.6.1994 |
| 2. | Chase Manhattan Bank | USA | 21.9.1994 |
| 3. | State Bank of Mauritius | Mauritius | 1.11.1994 |
| 4. | Development Bank of Singapore | Singapore | 15.3.1995 |
| 5. | Dresdner Bank A.G. | Germany | 21.8.1995 |
| 6. | Bank of Ceylon | Sri Lanka | 30.10.1995 |
| 7. | Commerzbank | Germany | 1.12.1995 |
| 8. | Siam Commercial Bank Pcl | Thailand | 14.12.1995 |
| 9. | Bank International Indonesia | Indonesia | 4.4.1996 |
| 10. | Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. | Bangladesh | 6.4.1996 |
| 11. | Chinatrust Commercial Bank | Thailand | 8.4.1996 |
| 12. | Cho Hung Bank Ltd. | South Korea | 6.5.1996 |
| 13. | Fuji Bank Ltd. | Japan | 20.5.1996 |
| 14. | Krung Thai Bank Pcl | Thailand | 6.1.1997 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--|-------------|--|
| 15. | Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation | Singapore | 31.1.1997 |
| 16. | Commercial Bank of Korea | South Korea | 12.3.1997 |
| 17. | Hanil Bank | South Korea | 2.4.1997 |
| 18. | Sumitomo Bank Ltd. | Japan | 20.6.1997 |
| 19. | Tornoto Dominion Bank | Canada | 25.10.1997 |
| 20. | Bank Muscat International SAOG | Muscat | 9.9.1998 |
| 21. | Morgan Guarantee Trust Company of New York | USA | License issued on 7.9.98 but not yet opened. |

Statement-II

Statement indicating the Profits/Loss of Foreign Banks which started operation after liberisation

(Rs. in crores)

| Name of the bank | Net profit for the year ended | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 31.3.1996 | 31.3.1997 | 31.3.1998 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ING Bank | -4.59 | 14.29 | 10.75 |
| Chase Manhattan Bank | -3.44 | 0.27 | 3.14 |
| State Bank of Mauritius | 4.34 | 3.32 | 8.70 |
| Development Bank of Singapore | 0.96 | 2.35 | 1.48 |
| Dresdner Bank A.C. | -9.57 | -1.56 | 4.43 |
| Bank of Ceylon | 0.34 | 1.71 | 3.07 |
| Commerzbank AC | -4.32 | 0.50 | -0.84 |
| Siam Commercial Bank Pcl | 0.09 | 4.08 | 6.13 |
| Bank International Indonesia | -1.50 | 3.82 | -9.06 |
| Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. | N.A. | 0.14 | 0.76 |
| Chinatrust Commercial Bank | n.a. | 0.11 | 0.002 |
| Cho Hung Bank Ltd. | N.A. | 1.18 | 4.12 |
| Fuji Bank Ltd. | N.A. | -5.16 | 4.59 |
| Krung Thai Bank Pcl | N.A. | 0.01 | 2.30 |
| Oversea Chinese Banking Corporation | N.A. | -2.13 | 0.38 |
| Commercial Bank of Korea | N.A. | 0.16 | 0.68 |
| Hanil Bank | N.A. | N.A. | 1.85 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Sumitomo Bank Ltd | N.A. | N.A. | 2.00 |
| Toronto Dominion Bank | N.A. | N.A. | 1.23 |
| Bank Muscat International SAOG | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |

(-) indicates losses reported for the year

N.A. = Not applicable.

Statement-III

*Details of Remittance of Profits allowed in the year
1996, 1997 and 1998*

| Name of the bank | Year | Profit remitted (Rs. in crores) | Date of remittance Date of approval (Rs. in crores) |
|-------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|---|
| Chase Manhattan Bank | 1997 | 0.09 | 15.7.1998 |
| | 1998 | 2.34 | 15.7.1998 |
| Development Bank of Singapore | 1996 | 0.36 | 25.3.1997 |
| State Bank of Mauritius | 1996 | 1.64 | 14.6.1997 |
| | 1997 | 1.74 | 23.3.1998 |
| Siam Commercial Bank | 1996 | 0.06 | 6.12.1997 |
| | 1997 | 2.85 | 12.1.1998 |
| Cho Hung Bank | 1997 | 0.81 | 17.2.1998 |
| Commerz Bank | 1996 | 0.11 | 18.7.1998 (H.O. Expenses) |

[English]

Sale of Assets of Sick Companies in Gujarat

2116. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision about the sale of assets of sick industrial companies as recommended by BIFR under sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details and the number of such companies in Gujarat which have been ordered by the Government to wind up and their assets may be sold, Company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. 2 JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on

30.11.1998 BIFR has ordered sale of assets of 48 companies under the provision of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). The sale proceeds are required to be sent to the High Courts for distribution in accordance with the provisions of Companies Act.

(c) Out of 55 Sick Industrial Companies from State of Gujarat which were recommended to be wound up till 30.11.1998, the BIFR had initially ordered sale of assets in respect of following five companies:

1. Shri Prithvi Cotton Works Ltd.
2. K.S. Diesels
3. Chemox Synthetics
4. Dulson Foundry Pvt. Ltd.
5. Ashutosh Texx-O-Pack Pvt. Ltd.

Subsequently, the order for sale of assets have been either withdrawn/case remanded/scheme sanctioned in respect of companies at Sl.No.1,2,3,4 & 5.

Debts Recovery Tribunal

2117. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of appeals filed to Appellate Authority of Debts Recovery Tribunal at Mumbai from Southern States particularly from Karnataka during the last three years;

(b) whether the Govt. propose to conduct the sitting of the above appellate authority in Bangalore every month to facilitate the banks and the borrowers of Karnataka and other Southern States; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) As reported by Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai, during the years '1996, 1997 and 1998 (till date), 98 cases have been filed in the Tribunal by Southern States out of which 50 cases relate to State of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Under the provisions of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, the Appellate Tribunal have powers to regulate its own procedure including the places at which it shall have its sittings. Therefore, Appellate Tribunal is competent to hold its sittings anywhere in the country including Bangalore.

Tea Industry

2118. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tea industry of the country suffers from dual taxation as on agricultural product and as a manufactured product also;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) As per the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, 60% of the income from tea is subjected to Agricultural Tax levied by the State Govt. and 40% of the income is subjected to Corporate Tax levied at the rate stipulated by the Central Govt.

(c) The Govt. had urged the State Governments of major tea producing States to reduce the Agricultural Income Tax and to introduce tax incentives for the benefit of the tea industry.

Use of Jute Bags by Cement Manufactures

2119. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Government of India to exempt the Cement Manufacturers from using jute bags compulsorily for packing cement to avoid seepage adulteration; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The decision of the Government will be notified shortly.

[Translation]

Loans to Sugar Mills

2120. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.2558 dated June 12, 1998 regarding the loans to sugar mills and to state :

(a) whether the information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) During 1994 and 1995, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has sanctioned assistance to 21 sugar co-operative mills in Maharashtra. Although letters of intent have been issued to these societies, the societies are yet to enter into loan agreement and executed other documents including Government guarantee for availing of the loan.

The performance of existing assisted co-operative sugar mills has been unsatisfactory and there are huge defaults to IDBI.

The Government of Maharashtra which has provided default guarantees, have not been honouring its commitments thereunder an IDBI had to file suits for recovery of dues in a few cases. The issues relating to financing of grass root sugar units were discussed at various forums and the consensus has been that disbursements to these units may be considered after concrete proposals for clearance of over dues to institutions was received from the Government of Maharashtra.

[English]

Import of Onion

2121. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
 DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
 SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL :
 SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :
 SHRI MOTILAL VORA :
 SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
 SHRI K.S. RAO :
 SHRI MADHAVRAO PATIL :
 SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
 SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :
 SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
 SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :
 SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
 SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI :
 SHRI A.C. JOS :
 SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :
 SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA :
 SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :
 SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :
 SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
 SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
 SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
 SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of Onion during the last three years and the demand supply thereof, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government have recently imported onion from various countries to meet the shortage of Onion in the country;

(c) if so the details of these countries and the quantum of Onion imported from these countries;

(d) whether a huge quantity of imported Onion got rotten at various parts of the countries;

- (e) is so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (f) the quantum of Onion exported during the current year, month-wise;
- (g) the agencies involved in the export/import of Onion;
- (h) the foreign exchange spent/earned through export/import of Onion during the current year, separately;
- (i) the quantum of Onion supplied to different States;
- (j) whether the Government have authorised State Governments for import of Onion; and
- (k) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ban the export of Onion in view of the shortage of the onion in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Production of onion

| Year | Lakhs (M.T.) |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 1996-97 | 44.3 (Estimated) |
| 1997-98 | 36.8 (Advance Estimate) |
| 1998-99 | 44.5 (Advance Estimate) |

Source : Horticulture Division, Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation.

In a normal production year, the supply is generally enough to meet the internal demand with a small exportable surplus as well

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During October-November, 1998, after making imports free, 5594 MTs of Onion have been imported as per figures available with the Customs authorities. NAFED has imported 687 MTs of Onions during October-November, 1998 from Dubai as well as from Kirghyzstan.

(d) About 69 MT of Onions was found unfit for human consumption by the Port Health Authority at Mumbai Port.

(e) The precise reason for this rotting is not known, and it could not be established whether these Onions were spoilt at the time of import itself or subsequently.

(f) According to NAFED, exports of Onions during April-October, 1998 are as follows:

| Month | Qty. MTs. | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Value | Rs. Crores |
| April | 69735 | 47.24 |
| May | 56427 | 33.45 |
| June | 40674 | 35.48 |
| July | 27981 | 30.28 |
| August | 15316 | 22.80 |
| September | 2539 | 4.05 |
| October | 537 | 1.18 |

(g) Onion is freely importable by anybody, Export is canalised through NAFED.

(h) The value of exports of onion made during April-October, 1998 is Rs.296.85 Crores. No immediate figures for the value of import of onions are available.

(Source : NAFED)

(i) Since onion is freely importable by anybody, no immediate figures of quantum of onion supplied to different States are available.

(j) & (k) Import of Onion having been made free, there is no need to specifically authorise the State Governments for import of Onions. Before Onion was made freely importable, licence for import of 3000 MT of Onion was granted to Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation. Export of Onions was restricted on 12.10.1998, which will continue till 31.1.1999.

Investment made by ITDC in U.P.

2122. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by ITDC on its establishments in U.P. 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 the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Requisite information is given below :

| Sl. No. | Name of establishment | Plan expenditure 95-96 to 97-98 | 1998-99 upto October 98 (Prov.) |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (Rs. in Lacs) | | | |
| 1. | Hotel Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi. | 11.87 | - |
| 2. | Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra | 28.95 | 0.20 |
| 3. | Taj Restaurant, Agra | 0.01 | - |
| 4. | Kosi Restaurant, Kosi | 1.39 | 0.15 |
| 5. | Transport Unit | 8.04 | - |
| | | 50.26 | 0.35 |

(b) ITDC did not earn profit. It incurred a net loss of Rs.670.02 lakhs during the aforesaid period, from the operation of its units in U.P.

(c) and (d) ITDC Annual Plan 1998-99 includes a total plan provision of Rs.90 lacs for renovation/upgradation of the following existing units in U.P.

| S.No. | Name of Unit | Outlay 1998-99 (Rs. in lacs) |
|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Hotel Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi | 35.00 |
| 2. | Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra | 30.00 |
| 3. | Kosi Restaurant, Kosi | 25.00 |
| Total | | 90.00 |

**Entry of Private Sector Bank in
Capital Market**

2123. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some private sector banks in the country have sought approval from the Government to enter into the capital market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have granted 'No Objection Certificate' to some private sector banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the owners of some private sector banks are under investigation for alleged FERA violations; and

(f) if so, the reasons of granting them permission to enter into capital market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Private Sector Banks do not require permission of the Government for entering the capital market.

(b) to (d) do not arise.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(f) Permission of the Government is not required by private sector banks for entering into the capital market.

Export of Textile Machinery

2124. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of textile machinery exported during the last three years, country-wise

(b) the total foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of textile machinery?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Amounts of foreign exchange earned during the last three years are as under:

| Year | Total Export Value (Approx.) | |
|---------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| | (US \$ in million) | (Rupees in crores) |
| 1995-96 | 62.04 | 216 |
| 1996-97 | 87.00 | 313 |
| 1997-98 | 85.39 | 325 |

(c) There is no restriction on export of textile machinery. The Government has been encouraging export of all engineering items including textile machinery through EXIM Policy. Import of raw material and components for textile machinery manufacture (for export) are allowed duty free. International exhibitions are held every four years in India as well as abroad which help in boosting textile machinery export.

Statement

Export of Textile Machinery

| Names of Major Countries | (value in Rs. lakhs) | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| AUSTRALIA | 398.78 | 125.69 | 90.45 |
| BANGLADESH | 4521.76 | 4909.55 | 5333.29 |
| EGYPT | 341.41 | 319.81 | 836.84 |
| GERMANY | 2212.30 | 1853.67 | 2643.92 |
| INDONESIA | 2800.30 | 2211.21 | 1566.50 |
| IRAN | 57.48 | 2674.25 | 874.49 |
| ITALY | 338.54 | 460.79 | 608.46 |
| KENYA | 360.22 | 943.19 | 483.08 |
| MALAYSIA | 106.67 | 55.30 | 69.63 |
| NEPAL | 317.29 | 124.02 | 149.44 |
| NETHERLANDS | 729.08 | 671.17 | 139.29 |
| NIGERIA | 747.66 | 972.14 | 1029.37 |
| OMAN | 172.46 | 39.29 | 221.26 |
| PHILIPPINES | 88.23 | 155.70 | 32.53 |
| RUSSIA | 169.16 | 67.47 | 115.44 |
| SRILANKA | 658.31 | 982.33 | 681.60 |
| SAUDI ARABIA | 153.67 | 102.17 | 178.39 |
| SINGAPORE | 290.78 | 307.85 | 121.36 |
| SWITZERLAND | 2972.27 | 6146.16 | 9844.86 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| SOUTH AFRICA | 75.75 | 105.88 | 222.71 |
| THAILAND | 455.91 | 632.92 | 333.13 |
| TURKEY | 226.98 | 1815.81 | 727.84 |
| TANZANIA | 696.62 | 341.49 | 727.58 |
| U.A.E. | 132.43 | 208.15 | 463.76 |
| U.K. | 340.66 | 299.98 | 911.97 |
| U.S.A. | 907.05 | 836.42 | 1425.07 |
| VIETNAM | 97.31 | 1087.09 | 413.48 |
| OTHERS | 1272.35 | 2872.57 | 2203.24 |
| TOTAL | 21641.43 | 31322.07 | 32448.98 |

[Translation]

Funds for Sick Industries

2125. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of financial assistance provided to the State Governments, particularly to Uttar Pradesh, for revival of sick industries during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the plan formulated to make sick industries economically viable; and

(c) the extent of success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Export of Jute

2126. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote export of Jute;

(b) the total value of jute items exported during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of the estimate of jute export during 1998-99;

(d) whether the Government have taken special initiatives to export eco-friendly jute bags and jute cloth material for packaging to European and other countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The Government has taken a number of steps for promoting export of jute goods. In this direction, Jute Manufactures Development Council, a statutory body of Govt. of India has commissioned market research and disseminated information on diversified jute goods by participating in important fairs and exhibitions abroad. JMDC also sponsors export delegations, organises buyer - seller meetings, liaises with importers and end users and provides funds for R & D to develop new range of diversified jute goods.

In addition External Market Assistance scheme provides incentives for export of specific category of jute yarn and jute items. Other steps for export promotion include implementations of UNDP assisted national jute programme, entrepreneurial development by NCJD and imposition of export obligation of jute mills for receiving B.Twill quota order on Govt. account.

(b) The total amount of jute goods exported during the last three years are as under:

| Year | Value (Rs.Crs) |
|---------|----------------|
| 1995-96 | 634.71 |
| 1996-97 | 702.23 |
| 1997-98 | 755.00 (prov) |

(c) Government has set up a target of 230 million US \$ (Rs.9500 million) for the export of jute goods during the current year 1998-99.

(d) and (e) India has developed Hydrocarbon Free Foodgrade Jute Bags and Cloth meeting international specifications under technical collaboration of Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA) and Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA). Production facility for manufacture of this item has been created with various jute mills to meet international demand for the product. India has taken the following initiatives for export of Eco-friendly food grade jute bags and cloth to various countries:

- (1) A composite Indian delegation sponsored by JMDC held meetings with the Cocoa Association of London and Nestle, Switzerland, in Nov. 97 to sensitize the industry about Indian capability of producing hydrocarbon free bags of international specifications. This was further followed up in the international workshop on the issue held in Feb'98.
- (2) EMA scheme has been extended to cover Hydrocarbon Free Bags to encourage Indian jute exporting industry for producing this item.
- (3) A high level delegation led by Minister of Textiles visited selected West African and European countries in August'98 to create awareness among the consumers for usage of this item in packaging of food grade material.

SFC Act, 1951

2127 SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the State Financial Corporation Act 1951 for bringing the administrative control under the SFC's directly under the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to recapitalise the SFC's;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide all SFC's with the status as that of IDBI, SIDBI, IFCI etc. or the Status of Bank;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to establish a Debt Recovery Tribunal in each State;

(e) whether the SFCs have been allowed to mobilise deposits from the general public to create its own fund; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. It is, however, envisaged to bring out amendments in the State Financial Corporation (SFC) Act, 1951 with a view to enlarging the shareholders base of SFCs, providing them with greater functional autonomy and operational flexibility with consequent ability to respond to the needs of the changing financial system;

(d) At present there are 9 (nine) DRTs and 1 (one) Appellate Tribunal. Setting up of tribunals is a continuous process. Keeping in view the need more DRTs would be set up as and when required.

(e) As per Section 8 of SFC Act. The SFCs are permitted to accept deposits from various agencies including general public which shall not exceed two times the paid up capital of the SFC. This limit, however, can be increased by the Central Government upto 10 (ten) times of paid up capital of SFCs.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Ban on Export of Vegetables

2128. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and the value of fruits and vegetables exported during each of the last three years, separately, country-wise;

(b) the foreign exchange earned by the country therefrom;

(c) whether the Government propose to impose a permanent ban on the export of these items; and

(d) if so, by when and the reasons there or?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) The quantity and value of fruits and vegetables exported during the last three years are as follows:-

| Year | Fresh Vegetables | | Fresh Fruits | |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | Quantity (MTs) | Value (Rs. crores) | Quantity (Mts) | Value (Rs. crores) |
| 1995-96 | 434401 | 301.19 | 109704 | 229.96 |
| 1996-97 | 498863 | 341.16 | 217753 | 241.17 |
| 1997-98* | NA | 319.45 | NA | 268.98 |

*Provisional

(Source:- DGCI&S, Calcutta/APEDA)

The country-wise details of exports are available in the Foreign Trade Statistics of India Monthly/Annual bulletins published by the DGCI&S, copies of which are supplied to the Parliament Library.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Dose not arise.

[English]

Hydro-Coatings Industry

2129. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Hydro Coatings (points for coil coating) factory before the end of 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this factory propose to cater the needs of Indian and other SAARC countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) M/s Hydro Coatings India Ltd. has been granted Foreign collaboration approval on August 21, 1996 for manufacture of synthetic speciality coatings in technical collaboration with M/s. Hydro Coatings, UK at Bellari Road, Sadahalli, Bangalore (Rural). The Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum was filed by the company on November 19, 1996. The expected date of commencement of production indicated by the company was June, 1997. As per the statement of the company, speciality coating is an import substitution item.

New Industrial Policy for Western Region

2130. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new industrial policy has been formulated for Western Region during last year;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy;

(c) whether other regions/areas have been identified which are backward and need special efforts for industrialisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and packages, if any, for their development?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government implements several measures for accelerated development of backward areas. These measures include:-

- (1) A Transport Subsidy Scheme in specific hilly, remote and inaccessible areas in North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep is in operation since July 1971, and is extended upto 31.3.2000. In the case of North Eastern region, the scheme has been extended upto 31.3.2007.
- (2) A Growth Centre Scheme for setting up 71 Growth Centres on the basis of a combined criteria of area, population and the extent of industrial backwardness is in operation.
- (3) Industrial Undertakings set up in identified industrially backward districts are entitled to tax holiday and other tax benefits.
- (4) A new Industrial Policy for the North Eastern Region has been announced by the Government for its development.

Ban by USA on Indian Companies

2131. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL :
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
 SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
 SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
 SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :
 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :
 SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S.A. has imposed ban on the commercial transactions of some Indian companies and has kept these in black list;

(b) if so, the names of companies and institutions on which import sanctions have been imposed;

(c) whether the Government propose to refer the matter to WTO;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to locate alternative/new markets?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) USA announced certain restrictive economic measures under its Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994 against India first on 13th May 1998 in the wake of the nuclear explosions by India. On 29th May 1998 the Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) under US Department of Commerce announced certain interim guidelines imposing restrictions on US exports of dual use goods and technology which were earlier subject to export licensing, following by a notification of specific measures on 18th June 1998. On 19th November 1998, the US notified in the Federal Register 40 Indian entities along with 200 subordinate entities, which will be covered by export restrictions. The list specifies the entities believed by USA to have been involved in the nuclear and missile related programmes and includes organisations in the field of atomic energy, space, defence, establishments involved in conventional military activities and a number of Indian public and private sector companies. The restrictions apply to exports from USA and not on exports from India. A list indicating the names of the Indian entities, as specified in the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration Press Release dated 13 November 1998, is attached at Annexure.

(c) and (d) The government has been closely monitoring the measures announced against India and continuously assessing their likely impact. Though any precise quantification of the impact of the measures may be difficult, so far the impact has been minimal. The fundamentals of the Indian economy are strong enough to withstand any pressure arising from the sanctions. As required, all steps shall be taken to ensure that India's interests are safeguarded including raising the issue in the WTO in an appropriate form.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Indian Government Entities involved in Nuclear or Missile Activities

Atomic Energy Commission (ARC), Mumbai (formerly Bombay) and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (aka Central Machine Tool Institute), Bangalore.

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), New Delhi and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra

Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore.

Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bangalore.

Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune.

Centre for Aeronautical Systems Studies and Analysis (CASSA), Bangalore.

Combat Vehicle Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), Chennai/Madras

Defence Bio-engineering and Electro-medical Laboratory (DEBEL), Bangalore.

Defence Electronics Applications Laboratory (DEAL), Dehra Dun.

Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DERL or DLRL), Hyderabad.

Defence Food Research Laboratory (DFRL), Mysore.

Defence Institute of Fire Research (DIFR), Delhi.

Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS), Delhi.

Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), New Delhi.

Defence Institute of Workstudy (DIWS), Mussoorie.

Defence Laboratory (DL), Jodhpur.

Defence Materials and Store Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur.

Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), Hyderabad.

Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior.

Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad.

The Missile Research and Development Complex, Imarat, Hyderabad.

Defence Research and Development Unit (DRDU), Calcutta.

Defence Research Laboratory (DRL), Tezpur.

Defence Science Centre (DSC), New Delhi.

Defence Terrain Research Laboratory (DTRL), New Delhi.

Electronics and Radar Development Establishment (ERDE or LRDE), Bangalore.

Explosive Research and Development Laboratory (ERDL), Pune.

Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Bangalore.

Institute of Armament Technology (AIT), Pune.

Institute for Systems Studies and Analyses (ISSA), Delhi.

Instruments Research and Development Establishment (IRDE), Dehra Dun.

National Test Range, Baliabad

Naval Chemical and Metallurgical Laboratory (NCML), Mumbai (formerly Bombay)

Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Cochin.

Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Vishakhapatnam.

Nuclear Science Centre (NSC), New Delhi.

Proof and Experimental Establishment, Chandipore.

Research and Development Establishment (Engineers) (R&DE (ENGRS)), Pune.

Scientific Analysis Group (DAG), New Delhi.

Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL), New Delhi.

Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh.

Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, Ahmednagar.

Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Mumbai (formerly Bombay) and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Advanced Fuel Fabrication Facility, Tarapur.

The Atomic Minerals Division (AMD), Hyderabad.

Beryllium Machining Facility, Mumbai/Bombay (also part of the Department of Space, Indian Space Research Organisation).

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Trombay, Mumbai (formerly Bombay)

Aspara Research Reactor, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Boron Enrichment Plant, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Central Workshops, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Centre for the Compositional Characterization of Materials, Hyderabad.

Ciras Reactor, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Dhruva Reactor, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Plutonium Reprocessing Plant (a.k.a. Trombya Reprocessing Plant), Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

PREFRE Reprocessing Plant, Tarapur.

Purinima Facility, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Uranium Conversion Plant, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Uranium Enrichment Plant, Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT), Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

The Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore.

Directorate of Purchase and Stores (DPS), Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Construction Services and Estate Management Group, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

General Services Organisation, Kalpakkam.

Technical Liaison Missions (TLM).

Heavy Water Board, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Production Facilities Baroda, Hazira, Kota, Manuguru, Nangal, Talcher, Thal-Vaishet in Maharashtra, Tuticorin.

Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam.

Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), Kalpakkam.

Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (FRFRP), Kalpakkam.

Kalpakkam Reprocessing Plant (KARP) (a.k.a. Kalpakkam Fuel Reprocessing Plant), Kalpakkam.

Kamini Research Reactor, Kalpakkam.

Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR), Kalpakkam.

Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai/Madras.

Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar.

Interuniversity Consortium of DAE Facilities, Calcutta, Indore, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Mehta Research Institute of Maths and Math Physics, Allahabad.

Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad.

Ceramic Fuels Fabrication Plant, Hyderabad.

New Zirconium Sponge Plant, Hyderabad.

Special Materials Plant, Hyderabad.

Uranium Fuel Assembly Plant, Hyderabad.

Zirconium Fabrication Plant, Hyderabad.

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta.

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

The Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC), Calcutta.

Department of Space, Bangalore and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Bangalore.

Ammonium Perchlorate Experimental Plant, Alwaye

Beryllium Machining Facility, Mumbai/Bombay (also part of the Department of Atomic Energy).

ISRO Inertial Systems Unit (IISU), Thiruvananthapuram.

Interim Test Range (ITR) (a.k.a. Meteorological Rocket Station), Balasore.

Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore, Valiamala.

Liquid Propulsion Test Facility, Mahendragiri.

Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmadabad.

Sriharikota Space Centre (SHAR), Andhra Pradesh.

Solid Propellant Space Booster Plant (SPROB).

Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station.

Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram.

Space Physics Laboratory (SPL), Thiruvananthapuram.

Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmadabad.

Indian Institute of Science (IIS):

Only the Departments of Aerospace Engineering, and Space Technology Cell at Bangalore Campus.

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).

Only the Departments of Physics, Aerospace Engineering, and Space Technology Cell at Mumbai (formerly Bombay) Campus.

Only the Departments of Aerospace Engineering, and Space Technology Cell at Chennai/Madras Campus.

National Aerospace Laboratory, Bangalore.

National Transonic Aerodynamic Facility, Bangalore

INDIAN PARASTATAL AND PRIVATE ENTITIES INVOLVED IN NUCLEAR OR MISSILE ACTIVITIES

AURO Engineering, Pondicherry.

Ammonia Plants Collocated with Heavy Water Plants : Baroda, Hazira, Talcher, Thal-Vaishet in Maharashtra, Tuticorin

Baroda Ammonia Plant, Gujarat Fertilizers.

Bharat Dynamics Ltd., Hyderabad, Bhanpur.

Bharat Earth Movers, Ltd. (BEML), Bangalore.

Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL), Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ghaziabad.

Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd. (BHEL), Trichy (Tiruchirapalli), Hyderabad, Hardwar, New Delhi, Ranipet.

Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL), Hyderabad.

Ferrodie Private Ltd. (FPL), Thane.

Fertilizer Corporation of India, Talcher Ammonia Plant, Talcher.

Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Ltd., Precision Equipment Division (PED) and Tool Room Division, Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Hazira Ammonia Plant, Kirshak Bharati Cooperative Ltd., Hazira.

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), Aerospace and Engine Divisions, Bangalore.

India Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL), Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Minerals Recovery Plant, Chavara.

Mineral Separation Plant, Chhatrapur in Orissa.

Orissa Sands Complex (OSCOM), Chhatrapur in the Gunjan District of Orissa.

Rare Earth Development Laboratory (a.k.a. Thorium Plant), Trombay (suburban city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay)).

Rare Materials Plant, Mysore.

Thorium Plant, Chhatrapur in Orissa.

Zirconium Oxide Plant, Manavalakuruchi.

Kirloskar Brothers Ltd. (KB), Pune.

Larsen & Toubro, Hazira Works, Hazira.

Machine Tool Aids & Reconditioning (MTAR), Hyderabad.

Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. (MIDHANI), Hyderabad.

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL), Mumbai (formerly Bombay).

Heavy Water Upgrade Plant, Thal-Vaishet in Maharashtra.

Kaiga Atomic Power Project (KAPP), Kaiga (under construction).

Kundankulam Atomic Power Project, Kundankulam (under construction).

Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS), Kakrapar.

Heavy Water Upgrade Plant.

Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS), Kalpakkam.

Narora Atomic Power Station (NAPS), Bullandshahr (Uttar Pradesh).

Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS), Rawatbhata.

Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, Rawatbhata (under construction).

Tarapur Atomic Power Project, Tarapur (under construction).

Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS), Tarapur.

Precision Controls, Chennai/Madras.

Project and Development India Ltd. (PDIL), Dhanbad.

Rama Krishna Engineering Works (REW), Chennai/Madras.

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers, Thal-Vaishet.

Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation, Tuticorin.

Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), Jaduguda.

Bhatin Uranium Mine, and Mill, Bhatin.

Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT).

Uranium Recovery Pilot Plant, Cochin.

Jaduguda Uranium Mine and Mill, Jaduguda.

Narwapahar Uranium Mine and Mill, Narwapahar.

Turamdih Uranium Mine.

Uranium Recovery Plants : Cochin, Mosabini (Aka Masabeni), Rakha, Surda (Aka Surdat).

Walchandnagar Industries Ltd. (WIL), Nadu Desarai and Mahad.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT ENTITIES INVOLVED IN CONVENTIONAL MILITARY ACTIVITIES

Department of Defense Production and Supplies and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Ordnance Factory Board and subordinate entities specifically listed in this Supplement.

Ambajhari Ordnance Factory.

Ambarnath Machine Tool Prototype Factory.

Ambarnath Ordnance Factory.

Aruvankzdu Cordite Factory.

Avadi Combine Engine Plant.

Bhusawal Ordnance Factory.

Chanda Ammunition Loading Plant.

Chandigar Ordnance Cable Factory.

Cossipore Gun and Shell Factory.

Avadi Heavy Vehicle Factory.

Avadi Ordnance Clothing Factory.

Canda Ordnance Factory.
 Chandigar Ordnance Parachute Factory.
 Dehra Dun Opto-Electronics Factory.
 Dehra Dun Ordnance Factory.
 Dehu Road Ordnance Factory.
 Dum Dum Ordnance Factory.
 Hazratpur Ordnance Equipment Factory.
 Ishape *p 4X Metal and Steel Factory.
 Ishape Rifle Factory.
 Itarsi Ordnance Factory.
 Jabalpur Gun Carriage Factory.
 Jabalpur Gray Iron Foundry.
 Kanpur Field Gun Factory.
 Kanpur Ordnance Equipment Factory.
 Kanpur Ordnance Parachute Factory.
 Kanpur Ordnance Factory.
 Kanpur Small Arms Factory.
 Katni Ordnance Factory.
 Khamaira Ordnance Factory.
 Kirkee Ammunition Factory.
 Kirkee High Explosives Factory.
 Muradnagar Ordnance Factory.
 Shahjahanpur Ordnance Clothing Factory.
 Tiruchchirappalli Ordnance Factory.
 Medak Grey Iron Foundry.
 Medak Ordnance Factory.
 Tiruchchirappalli Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project.
 Varangaon Ordnance Factory.
 Tittagarh Ammunition Plant.
 Ordnance Factories Staff College, Nagpur (Ambajhari).
 Ordnance Factories Training Institutes, Ishape, Kanpur, Jabalpur (Khamiar), Ambamath, Ambajhari.

[*Translation*]

Violation of Trade Agreements by Companies

2132. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Embassies have received complaints against the public and private companies of India for violation

of trade agreements during each of the last three years, company-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Export Target of Textiles

2133. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY :
 SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether quantum of exports of textiles are constantly falling since 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details of the exports made till date since 1995-96, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for fall in the exports;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether any agreement have been signed by the Government with Gulf, African and European countries and if so the details thereof; and

(f) if so, to what extent the textile exports are expected to increase?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The exports of textiles, including handicrafts, jute and colr, during 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (till October, 1998), and the growth over previous year, have been reported as follows:

| Year | Value (in million US \$) | Growth |
|---------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1995-96 | 10,685.05 | 7.1% |
| 1996-97 | 11,839.13 | 10.8% |
| 1997-98 | 12,389.91 | 4.6% |
| 1998-99 | 7037.10 | (-) 0.7% |

(Upto Oct.98)/(Provisional)

Source : Export Promotion Councils

There has been a decline in the current year upto October, 1998, in dollar terms.

(c) Demand recession in the West Europe and the South East Asian currency crisis have been the major reasons for slow growth in the last year and slight decline in the current year.

(d) Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of textile items, on a regular basis, such as encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc. Recently, the Government have announced specific measures for boosting cotton yarn exports which include delinking of cotton yarn exports from hank yarn obligation; greater operational flexibility to 100% EOUs producing cotton yarn by way of relaxation of count/domestic cotton use restrictions etc.

(e) and (f) The exports of certain textile and garment products to the European Union (E.U.) are regulated under the provisions of the MoU on market access for textile products signed with the E.U. on 31-12-94. The MoU and the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) envisage annual growth in the export quota levels. As per the ATC, all restrictions under the Agreement would be eliminated with effect from January 1, 2005.

There has not been any specific agreement on exports of textiles signed by India with the Gulf and African countries.

[Translation]

Indian Brand Equity Fund

2134. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for giving special import licences for Indian brand Equity Fund for popularising Indian brands in international markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a national Export Council for making Indian products competitive;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Amount Owed by CIL

2135. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued instructions to the State Governments regarding supply of coal on immediate payment basis i.e. "cash and carry system";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount at present owed by Coal India Limited, State-wise;

(d) the reaction of the States thereto;

(e) whether Coal India owes any amount against private companies;

(f) if so, the names of such companies; and

(g) the time by which outstanding dues are likely to be realised by Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued to all State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities and also to the concerned State Governments to strictly follow the payment terms as agreed between CIL and the Council of Power Utilities from 1.11.98. These provide for advance payment equivalent to 90% of the value of the coal plus 100% of royalty and transportation charges etc. and statutory levies, pending opening of IRLC to cover linked quantity of coal for 10 days. The balance 10% of the value of coal supply will be settled in a period of one month based on the results of joint sampling. The advance payment is required to be made at an interval of 10 days for 1/3rd of the monthly linked quantity.

(c) SEB's-wise and Power Utility-wise dues to CIL as on 31.10.98 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Except one State Government there has been no reaction from other State Governments. However, SEB's has cut down the off-take of coal.

(e) and (f) The dues of CIL from private companies are as under:

| Name of the Consumer | Amount (Rs. in crores) (Provisional) |
|---|---|
| Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation | 27.56 |
| Ahmedabad Electricity Company | 30.46 |
| Tata Hydro | 0.01 |
| Renusagar Power Corpn. | 0.11 |
| Tata Iron & Steel Company | 2.86 |
| Others | 26.69 |
| Total | 87.69 |

(g) The time by which the outstanding dues will be realized can not be correctly specified.

Statement*SEB's/PU's-wise Outstanding Dues as on 31.10.98*(Rs. in Crores)
(Data Provisional)

| SEB's/PU's | Disputed | Undisputed | Total |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| BSEB | 61.53 | 268.93 | 330.46 |
| UPSEB | 48.25 | 458.37 | 506.62 |
| PSEB | 202.76 | 64.75 | 267.51 |
| TNEB | 93.21 | 176.73 | 269.94 |
| HSEB | 23.54 | 102.68 | 126.22 |
| RSEB | 7.32 | 80.38 | 87.70 |
| MSEB | 437.62 | 248.26 | 685.88 |
| MPEB | 41.89 | 425.43 | 467.32 |
| GEB | 27.94 | 470.52 | 498.46 |
| WBSEB WBPDC | | | |
| DPL | 198.93 | 216.69 | 415.62 |
| APEB | 4.44 | 2.32 | 6.76 |
| ASEB | | 0.29 | 0.29 |
| KPCL | 6.41 | 39.44 | 45.85 |
| DVC | 96.84 | (-)12.21 | 84.63 |
| DVB | 19.05 | 11.99 | 31.04 |
| BTPS | 273.29 | 274.29 | 547.58 |
| NTPC | 89.58 | 106.81 | 196.39 |
| CESEC | 1.19 | 30.53 | 31.72 |
| AEC | 18.22 | 18.57 | 36.79 |
| BSES | 0.03 | 1.14 | 1.17 |
| OTHERS | 0.22 | 19.12 | 19.34 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1652.26 | 3005.03 | 4657.29 |

Plan to Eco-Tourism

2136. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up a comprehensive plan in coordination with other relevant departments to formulate eco-tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the departments which are coordinating; and

(c) the guidelines evolved with special reference to health care and animal behaviour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has formulated the Policy and Guidelines for Eco Tourism in India in 1998. The guidelines have been formulated after detailed consultations with the Travel Trade, Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board, State Governments and experts in Eco Tourism. The guidelines aim to preserve, retain and enrich our natural resources. It includes operational guidelines for the Government, developers and providers of eco tourism, the visitors, the host population and non governmental organisations.

*(Translation)***Loans by NABARD in Bihar for Roads and Bridges**

2137. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD provides financial assistance for construction of roads and bridges;

(b) if so, the provisions and terms and conditions adopted by NABARD regarding construction of roads and bridges;

(c) the amount provided for this purpose to Bihar during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government of Bihar have sought any financial assistance from NABARD for renovation of link roads for tourist centres in the States;

(e) If so, the details of the amount sought by the State Government and the number of the tourist centres for which these funds will be utilised; and

(f) the number of roads and bridges being constructed in Shekhpura, Lakhi Sarai, Begu Sarai and Jamui districts of Bihar with the assistance of NABARD?

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

(b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides financial assistance to State Governments under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for construction of roads and bridges. The loans are provided for a maximum period of 5 years including 2 years grace period at an interest rate of 12% per annum.

(c) and (d) NABARD has reported that the Government of Bihar has not availed any assistance for the purpose for the last three years. No such proposals have been received by NABARD from the State Government of Bihar. NABARD has further reported that no roads or bridges are being constructed in Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Begusarai and Jamui districts of Bihar with the assistance of NABARD.

Recovery of Loan from SSIs in Bihar

2138. SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 15 per cent Small Scale Industries (SSIs) in Bihar have been closed rendering their entrepreneurs jobless and it is not possible to make recovery of loan from them provided to them by Bihar State Finance Corporation (BSFC);

(b) if so, whether the loan given to these industries by the BSFC was refinanced by IDSI;

(c) whether the Government propose to waive off this loan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) there were 22,702 sick SSI units financed by Scheduled Commercial Banks in the State of Bihar with an outstanding amount of Rs.20.62 crores as on end March 1997.

(b) The term loan given to SSI units by Bihar State Financial Corporation (BSFC) were refinanced by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and subsequently by Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) upto the year 1991-92. As on March 31, 1998 the default by BSFC to SIDBI and IDBI aggregated to Rs.182.94 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Cultivation of Silk-Munga-Lasar

2139. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States and the area under cultivation of silk-Munga-lasar;

(b) whether there is any scheme for expansion of silk production during the next plan and if so, the types of silk indicating the locations where the expansion is to be undertaken;

(c) whether the areas under cultivation of tasar silk are not expanded in the country and it is only due to the domination of Mulberry areas on the Silk Board and they are making investment in that very areas;

(d) whether the development of silk has been interrupted due to shifting of Silk Board Office;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to consider the decision;

(f) the number of schemes undertaken by the Silk Board for the development of tasar, Munga and Eri during the last three years and the total amount spent thereon and the position of development of Tasar in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa and Munga and Eri in Assam;

(g) whether the development of Munga silk have stagnated and the said silk is produced only in India; and

(h) whether the development of Eri silk is also almost stagnant but the silk board is not paying any attention to it?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) There is mulberry cultivation in all the States of the country though the major producing States are Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The area under mulberry cultivation reported by States is 2.82 lakh ha. Tropical tasar is cultivated in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The major producers are Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Muga is cultivated in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and West Bengal. The major producer is Assam. Eri is cultivated in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal. The major producers are Assam and Manipur. The estimated areas under tropical tasar, Muga and Eri food plants including forest food plants are around 61000, 3100, 18000 ha. respectively.

(b) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Departments, the Central Silk Board (CSB) has implemented a number of schemes/projects/programmes for promoting development of all the four types of silk. These include schemes for extension of R&D, training, infrastructural & extension support to the sector through network of CSB's units & implementation of certain developmental/incentive/financial assistance schemes for encouraging adoption of modern sericultural practices for production of quality silk. These schemes are implemented for the expansion/production of all the four varieties of silk in potential areas of respective variety silk producing States.

(c) No, Sir. Except for about 7800 ha. under block plantations in tropical tasar, most of the food plants are in forest areas. Tasar silk production in the last three years has been 194, 235 and 312 tonnes respectively.

(d) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(f) The CSB has offered a number of schemes to the States as indicated below:

| Year | Number of Schemes offered | | |
|---------|---------------------------|-----|------|
| | Tasar | Eri | Muga |
| 1995-96 | 10 | 5 | 10 |
| 1996-97 | 10 | 5 | 10 |
| 1997-98 | 09 | 6 | 12 |

The total amount spent by the CSB on R&D, Seed Support and the developmental schemes is indicated below.

(Rs. in crores)

| Year | Tasar | Eri | Muga |
|---------|-------|------|------|
| 1995-96 | 4.05 | 0.57 | 5.03 |
| 1996-97 | 5.32 | 0.28 | 2.60 |
| 1997-98 | 5.79 | 0.27 | 2.81 |

The production of tasar in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa was respectively 144, 97 and 47 tonnes in 1997-98. The production of Muga and Eri in Assam was respectively 60 and 407 tonnes in 1997-98.

(g) The production of Muga silk has been fluctuating due to outdoor rearing, exposure to adverse climate and predators, need for adequate systematical plantation, inadequate supply of seed due to poor infrastructure facilities in the States for multiplication and lack of organised market support systems in the States. Muga silk is produced only in India.

(h) No, Sir. Eri silk production has steadily increased from 704 tonnes at the start of the 8th Plan to 814 tonnes in 1997-98.

Fall in Foreign Exchange Reserves

2140. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of foreign exchange reserves of the country;

(b) whether there is a sharp decline in the foreign exchange reserves of the country recently;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to check the decline in foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs), as on November 27, 1998 amounted to US \$ 26491 million.

(b) No, Sir. The foreign exchange reserves, in fact, have increased by US \$ 516 million over their level at end March 1998.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Disinvestment Commission

2141. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No 2523 dated June 12, 1998 and state :

(a) whether the recommendation of the Disinvestment Commission to set up the Disinvestment Fund and to delink disinvestment from the annual budgetary exercise has since been examined by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have accepted the recommendation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission are being examined by the Government.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Gold/Goods

2142. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :
SHRI N. DENNIS :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of smuggling of foreign/domestic, consumer goods, contrabands, such as gold, silver heroin, foreign exchange etc. and narcotic drugs are increasing throughout the country;

(b) if so, the cases detected and quantity of goods seized in each case during the last three years, till September, 1998;

(c) the number of persons arrested in each case and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent the smuggling of above goods especially narcotics through the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) The reports/intelligence available as well as available information on seizures effected do not indicate that the cases of smuggling of foreign/domestic consumer goods, such as gold, silver, heroin, foreign currency or narcotic drugs are increasing through out the country.

(b) and (c) The number of seizures effected, quantity/ value of goods seized and the number of persons arrested in each case during last three years, till September, 1998, are shown in the Statement-I, II. The persons arrested in the aforesaid categories of cases, except Heroin/Narcotic Drugs, besides being prosecuted under the Customs Act, 1962, in the appropriate Court of law, are also issued Show-Cause Notices under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, for

confiscation of the seized goods and imposition of appropriate penalty. The persons involved/arrested in relation to seizures of Heroin/Narcotic Drugs are prosecuted under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

(d) The field formations under the Department of Revenue are on high alert to detect and prevent activities of smuggling of contrabands goods including Narcotics. Stepped up efforts are being made for developing intelligence to identify the kingpins and major drug syndicates involved in drug trafficking and smuggling of Narcotic drugs. Regular coordination meetings for effective enforcement action, by various agencies entrusted to enforce the provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985, are also chaired by the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau. Instructions/Alerts are also issued to various enforcement agencies regarding the new Modus Operandi involved/detected in drug trafficking cases, from time to time.

Statement-I

Number of seizures effected, quantity/value of goods seized and number of persons arrested relating to smuggling of GOLD during the financial years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto September, 1998)

| Year | No. of seizure cases effected | Qty. of goods seized (in Kgs.) | Value of goods seized (Rs. in Lacs) | No. of persons arrested |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 1474 | 4165.862 | 5561.51 | 285 |
| 1996-97 | 1465 | 3846.831 | 4971.40 | 365 |
| 1997-98 | 1817 | 4942.986 | 5833.67 | 337 |
| 1998-99 | 567 | 1133.396 | 1390.70 | 59 |

Statement-II

Statement showing the number of seizures effected, quantity/value of goods seized and number of persons arrested relating to smuggling of SILVER during the financial years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto September, 1998)

| Year | No. of seizure cases effected | Qty. of goods seized (in Kgs.) | Value of goods seized (Rs. in Lacs) | No. of persons arrested |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 19 | 541.035 | 43.32 | 6 |
| 1996-97 | 29 | 812.097 | 64.42 | 9 |
| 1997-98 | 35 | 5760.096 | 355.34 | 4 |
| 1998-99 | 7 | 2210.971 | 180.11 | 3 |

Statement-III

Statement showing the number of seizures effected, value of goods seized and number of persons arrested relating to smuggling of FOREIGN CURRENCY during the financial years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto September, 1998)

| Year | No. of seizure cases effected | Value of goods seized (Rs. in Lacs) | No. of persons arrested |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 2036 | 4887.11 | 203 |
| 1996-97 | 1714 | 5249.61 | 248 |
| 1997-98 | 1271 | 4737.59 | 245 |
| 1998-99 | 850 | 1292.87 | 74 |

Statement-IV

Statement showing the number of seizures effected, quantity of goods seized and number of persons arrested relating to smuggling of HEROIN during the Calendar years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto September, 1998)

| Year | No. of seizure cases effected | Qty. of goods seized (in Kgs.) | No. of persons arrested |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995 | 3236 | 1678 | 4534 |
| 1996 | 3043 | 1257 | 3299 |
| 1997 | 2990 | 1332 | 3262 |
| 1998 | 1353 | 382 | 1510 |

Statement-V

Statement showing the number of seizures effected, quantity of goods seized and number of persons arrested relating to smuggling of NARCOTICS during the Calendar years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto September, 1998)

| Year | No. of seizure cases effected | Qty. of goods seized (in Kgs.) | No. of persons arrested |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1995 | 9495 | 147326 | 9837 |
| 1996 | 9808 | 74599 | 9760 |
| 1997 | 10825 | 89112 | 11008 |
| 1998 | 4215 | 47887 | 4553 |

[English]

Export of Processed Food

2143. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether food processing units like meat, processed food and vegetable exporters are facing difficulty in implementing two of the seven principles of the Hazard Analysis critical control point system;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take up the matter under the W.T.O's sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary pact; and

(c) the other measures proposed to help Indian Food Processing export units?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) The smaller units, on their own, are finding it difficult to implement Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) System, especially in regard to the following principles:

- (i) Verification
- (ii) Documentation

(b) The issue has been taken up at the meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (the Committee responsible for formulating the Standard on HACCP) and it has been projected by the Indian delegation that a standard needs to be developed on "HACCP like system in small businesses with reference to developing countries" which would contain basically all the principles of HACCP with modifications in respect of 'verification' and 'documentation'.

(c) Some of the measures proposed to help the Indian food processing industry to implement Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) System are as under:-

1. Awareness and training programmes to assist the Indian industry in implementing the systems.
2. Group projects are being taken up for implementing HACCP in smaller units.
3. Modules on HACCP are being developed in different sectors which would assist the smaller manufacturers to use them as guidelines for implementing HACCP systems.
4. Export units are being assisted in building up their testing facilities. For this purpose, test modules containing the parameters required to be tested, methods of tests, equipment required and source of equipment are being developed.
5. Consultants within the country are also being given the training so that they can be utilised by the industry for implementing HACCP.

ATM Centres of Canara Bank in Bangalore

2144. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places where Canara Bank's ATM Centres are functioning in Bangalore;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open ATM's in all area in Bangalore;

(c) whether cheque collection facility has been provided to the card-holders at ATM's in Bangalore; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to provide cheque collection facility from ATM's in Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) As reported by Canara Bank, ATM's are functioning in the following places in Bangalore:

1. Canara Bank Trinity circle branch.
2. Canara Bank Cunningham Road branch.
3. Canara Bank Jayanagar Shopping Complex branch.
4. Canara Bank Welfare Centre Extension Counter, Town-hall branch.
5. Canara Bank Malleshwaram branch.
6. Canara Bank Vijayanagar branch.
7. Canara Bank Seshadripuram branch.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No such facility is presently in existence.

[Translation]

Performance of PSUs

2145. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any comprehensive plan to remove the bottlenecks and the functioning of public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) to (c) The policy of the Government in regard to Public Sector Undertakings is enshrined in the National Agenda for Governance which inter-alia provides for comprehensive reforms in the public sector including restructuring, rehabilitation and disinvestment. The bottlenecks and the problems attached with PSUs may vary from unit to unit. Therefore, enterprise specific measures are taken for removing the bottlenecks and for improving the performance of the PSUs. These are continuous in process.

[English]

Trade with Pakistan

2146. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Pakistan discussed trade prospects and to improve trade between the two Countries during November, 1998;

(b) if so, to what extent the trade between the two countries will be further strengthened;

(c) whether any agreement between India and Pakistan was signed regarding economic and trade issues;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Pakistan has given MFN status to India; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the Commerce Secretary level discussions between India and Pakistan in November, 1998, the two delegations exchanged ideas on issues affecting bilateral trade. A series of steps aimed at enhancing the scope of cooperation were discussed. It was agreed that technical teams on Railways and Power from India and Pakistan would meet for detailed discussions in these areas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Pakistan has been following a discriminatory and restrictive import policy towards India. During the Commerce Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan in November, 1998 the Indian delegation inter-alia pointed out that while India has already accorded Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan since the 1970s, Pakistan is yet to grant similar status to India in accordance with its obligations under GATT/WTO. The Pakistan delegation responded that they would fulfil their obligation in "due course".

Burn Standard Company Ltd.

2147. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Revival Package of Burn Standard Company Ltd., prepared by M/s M.N. Dastur and Co., has been submitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government agreed with the report of M.N. Dastur and Co including the Lalkoti Durgapur Works of the Refractory Group of Burn Standard Co. Ltd.;

(d) whether the Government propose to modernise and renovate the Lalkoti, Durgapur and other Works of Burn Standard Company Ltd.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s M.N. Dastur (MND) recommended revival of 2 engineering units and 5 Refractory Units at a total cost to the Government of India of Rs.709.59 crore (fresh infusion of funds of Rs.261.06 crore and other reliefs totalling Rs.448.53 crore).

(c) to (e) BIFR, in its hearing held on 5.3.1997, said that the greenfield project proposed by M/s M.N. Dastur (MND) for revival of Durgapur Works need not be undertaken. BIFR had further directed in its hearing held on 17.10.1997 that viability of the loss making Refractory Units should be examined on stand-alone basis. After considering the projections of Operating Agency (OA) on viability of Lalkoti Works on stand-alone basis, this Department was not in a position to support its revival. BIFR has now circulated a Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for the company on 21.9.1998 for which Government is required to provide Rs.132.51 crores, including Rs.34 crore from National Renewal Fund (NRF).

Comments of World Bank

2148. SHRI MAGANTI VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has warned against the possibility of widening knowledge gap pushing developing nations further behind in the race for development;

(b) if so, whether this is likely to accelerate disparity between the rich and the poor countries; and

(c) if so, the steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The World Bank in its "World Development Report 1998/99 - Knowledge for Development" has analysed the risks and opportunities that the global information revolution is creating for developing countries and concluded that access to financial, technical and medical knowledge is crucial to improving the health and living standards of the poor.

It further says that low national incomes are not the only reason why poor countries are less prosperous than richer ones. Many developing countries lack the capability to acquire and adapt the economic, technical and social knowledge that has spurred many of the world's development success stories. Since creating this know-how is often costly, industrial coun-

tries have greater opportunities to use knowledge to obtain better health and rising prosperity for their populations.

(c) Government is paying due attention to expansion of primary, secondary, technical and higher education. Government is also opening up the economy to bring inflows of foreign direct investment, knowledge of advanced technology and know-how.

[Translation]

Stock of Khadi Gramodyog

2149. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the stock registers are not being maintained at the Khadi Gramodyog retail outlets of Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the criteria being adopted to ascertain the stock position in the absence of the stock register?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Stock registers are maintained in the godowns of Khadi Gramodyog retail outlets and in the main showrooms and branches.

The quantumwise/challanwise stock i.e. inward and outward registers are maintained in the sale outlets.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Onkar Goswami Committee

2150. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of Onkar Goswami Committee regarding Industrial sickness even after five years of presentation of its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations on which some action has been taken and the recommendations on which no action has been taken; and

(c) the time by which the recommendations of this report is likely to be implemented fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) In April, 1993 a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Onkar Goswami was constituted to review and examine the various aspect of industrial sickness and corporate restructuring. The Committee submitted its report in July 1993 wherein it made wide range of recommendations starting from a change in definition of sick-

ness to converting the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) into a fast track facilitator. The recommendations of Goswami Committee were taken into consideration while drafting a comprehensive new Legislation to deal with sick industrial companies. Consequently, Government introduced a new Bill namely the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill, 1997 in the Parliament on 16th May, 1997. However, the Bill lapsed due to dissolution of the 11th Lok Sabha in December, 1997. Action has been initiated to recast the above Bill.

World Bank Assistance for Infrastructural Projects

2151. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is likely to get financial assistance from World Bank for some Infrastructural Projects of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of agreement made by him with other countries during his foreign visits recently?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) The following Infrastructural Projects have been negotiated in April/May, 1998 with the World Bank for getting financial assistance:

(i) Powergrid Transmission System Project (US \$ 450 million).

(ii) Renewable Energy Development Project (US \$ 135 million).

(iii) Haryana State Highway Project (US \$ 275 million).

(iv) Gujarat State Highway Project (US \$ 381 million).

The approval of the Board of Directors of World Bank for the above loans is awaited.

Apart from these, some road projects are also under preparation in various States with World Bank assistance under the State Road Infrastructure Finance TA loan. Some of these road projects are also expected to get World Bank assistance on successful preparation of the project.

(c) No agreement has been signed with other countries during the foreign visits recently.

[English]

"External Commercial Borrowings"

2152. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have achieved the expected results with the modification of the External Commercial Borrowing Guidelines for 1998-99;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the further remedial measures the Government contemplate to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The total External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) approvals given under the normal ECB window and long term window (as on 7.12.98) are USD 3142 million and USD 418 million respectively. Also, approvals given by RBI under USD 5 million scheme (formerly USD 3 million scheme) as on 31.10.98 is USD 224 million.

After taking into account the changed external conditions and requirement of different sectors, ECB policies are reviewed periodically with the objective to provide Indian corporates greater access to international financial markets for meeting their funding needs which are consistent with prudent external debt management.

Foreign Trade

2153. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the import and export made during 1997 and 1998, till date;

(b) the present position of foreign trade of India and the steps being taken by the Government for maintaining balance between import and export; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen export and reduce the import of the country and also to strengthen the commercial ties with various bordering countries.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) As per the Directorate General Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) data, the values of import and export are as under:

| Year | Import | | Export | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| | (Rs. Crores) | (US \$ Mn.) | (Rs. Crs.) | (US \$ Mn) |
| 1997-98(P) | 151553.5 | 40778.8 | 126285.8 | 33979.9 |
| 1998-99(P) | 103088.5 | 24671.4 | 78866.5 | 18874.5 |

(Apr.-Oct)

P : (PROVISIONAL)

(b) and (c) The increase in trade deficit is primarily due to increased import of gold and silver. The key to reducing trade deficit lies in accelerated export growth. To this end, export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through changes in policies and procedures

for providing an export friendly environment, involvement of States in export promotion and consultation with trade and industry. A number of steps have been taken to promote exports which include lowering of interest rates on export credit, reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation and simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiative, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. A Cabinet Committee on Foreign Trade has also been set up to review the export performance. The Government is accord high priority to exports and all necessary steps are being taken to put exports on high growth trajectory. Commercial ties with bordering countries are being strengthened under the overall framework of SAARC Preferential Trade Arrangements (SAPTA).

Fall in Export of Cardamom

2154. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cardamom export from the country has registered a steep fall during the last two decades;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the remedial steps taken to boost the export of cardamom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main reasons for decline in export of Cardamom are as follows:

- (i) Uncompetitive prices of Indian cardamom in the international market vis-a-vis Guatemalan cardamom.
- (ii) Stiff price competition offered by Guatemalan cardamom on account of its large production, high productivity and large exportable surpluses on account of absence of domestic demand.
- (iii) Shift in consumer preference in the Middle-East markets towards the low priced Guatemalan cardamom.

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Govt. to boost export of cardamom include inter-alia:

- (i) exemption of cess on export of cardamom;
- (ii) reimbursement of air freight charges at the rate of Rs.20 per Kg. for export of small cardamom in consumer packs by air to Middle-East destinations;
- (iii) sponsoring trade delegations and participation in trade fairs abroad.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills of NTC

2155. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether crores of rupees of sugarcane producing farmers are outstanding against the sugar mills run by National Textiles Corporation like Sirohra Sugar Mill of Bihar, Padraona and Kathkuian Sugar Mills of U.P.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the time by which the arrears of the farmers are likely to be cleared by these sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) National Textile Corporation does not operate any mill in Bihar. In U.P., they own the Ganesh Sugar Mills Anand Nagar under Swadeshi Mining & Manufacturing Company Limited, a subsidiary of NTC (UP) Limited. There are no outstanding on account of sugar cane arrears in respect of this mill. However, British India Corporation Ltd., a public sector undertaking under this Ministry, is the largest share holder but not a majority share holder in Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., which has 4 sugar factories located at Padraona, Kathkuiyan, Gauri Bazar, all the three in U.P. and one at Marhowrah in Bihar. Cawnpore Sugar Works Limited is not a nationalised public sector undertaking. The role of the BIC is incidental by virtue of its being the single largest share holder. The Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., was declared sick and is under reference to BIFR. As on 24.11.98 these mills have cane dues amounting to Rs.25.47 crores. The Government does not provide funds to the company, as it is not a public sector undertaking.

Indo-German Agreement

2156. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Germany have signed any agreement to promote the bilateral investment and to give patronage to the investment made in their countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the terms and conditions of the agreement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPA) with Germany was concluded on 10.7.1995. The text of the Agreement includes, inter alia, protection of investments of either country in the other country, Most Favoured Nation Treatment and National Treatment for investments, settlement of investment disputes through international arbitra-

tion, compensation in case of expropriation/nationalisation and facility for repatriation of returns etc.

(c) The agreement has come into force with effect from 13-7-1998.

Textiles Export Quota

2157. SHRI KALLAPPA AWADE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any quota has been reserved for the export of textiles being manufactured by desectorised powerlooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any provision for the modernisation of powerlooms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) In the current Textiles Export Entitlement Policy (1997-1999), 10% of the annual quota level, except for woven synthetic fabrics, falling under category 3 & 3a for exports to the European Union, has been earmarked for the powerloom exporters.

(c) and (d) Government have decided to upgrade/modernise 21 Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) out of 44 PSCs during the Ninth Five year plan involving an estimated expenditure of Rs.16 crores (approximate) to make these service centres more beneficial to the industry.

Loan by LIC for Water and Sewerage Projects

2158. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the loan given by LIC and other financial institutions for water supply/sewerage projects is less than 50 per cent of the approved cost;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration to raise this limit;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether adequate loan is also provided by LIC and other financial institutions for the cost escalation of projects; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) LIC adopts a graded pattern of financing water supply and sewerage schemes depending on the cost of the schemes. The present pattern of financing is given below:

| Cost of the Scheme | LIC's share | |
|---|---|---|
| | Urban | Rural |
| Where the cost does not exceed Rs.1.00 crore. | 2/3 of the cost | 50% of the cost |
| Where the cost exceeds Rs.1.00 crores but does not exceed Rs.5.00 crores. | Rs.0.67 cr. plus 50% of the cost exceeding Rs.1.00 cr. | Rs.0.50 cr. plus 50% of the cost exceeding Rs.1.00 cr. |
| Where the cost exceeds Rs.5.00 crore but does not exceed Rs.10.00 crore. | Rs.2.67 cr. plus 40% of cost exceeding Rs.5.00 cr. | Rs.2.50 cr. plus 40% of cost exceeding Rs.5.00 cr. |
| Where the cost exceeds Rs.10 crores. | Rs.4.67 cr. plus 25% of the cost exceeding Rs.10.00 cr. | Rs.4.50 cr. plus 25% of the cost exceeding Rs.10.00 cr. |

On the basis of above pattern, for schemes costing upto Rs.5.00 crores, LIC grants loans to the extent of 67% to 50% depending on the cost of the schemes. For schemes costing more than Rs.5.00 crores, LIC loan component will be reduced on graded basis depending on the cost of the schemes. This pattern is adopted with a view to fund a large number of schemes.

In the case of rural water supply schemes, LIC grants loans upto a maximum of 50% of the cost as the balance cost is generally met out of State Government grants.

(d) and (e) For escalation in the original estimated cost of the schemes, LIC loan is considered to the extent of 25% of the difference between the original and revised estimated cost. Such assistance is extended only once for any on-going scheme subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) The State Government should undertake to provide/ arrange necessary funds for meeting the balance overrun in the cost.
- (2) The revised estimated cost is administratively approved by the State Government.

[English]

Recovery of Loan

2159. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reckless financing of projects has started weakening the financial institutions as many borrowers failed to return the loans taken from the Institutions like IDBI, ICICI and IFCI;

(b) if so, whether even a massive bail-out operations have not helped defaulted borrowers with institutions taking a big hit at the cost of the promoters who have benefited; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) No, Sir. Financial Institutions (FIs) have been financing projects which fulfil the eligibility criteria and meet the viability norms. Financing decisions are taken after due diligence on the promoter/company and after detailed appraisal with a view to ensuring that viability and other norms are satisfied. Wherever necessary proposals for assistance are referred to an adhoc committee of experts. While taking decisions on financing of projects the FIs follow lending policies laid down by their respective Boards of Directors and the prudential norms laid down by the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Shareholding Trust

2160. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Shareholding Trust as alternative to privatisation of Public Sector Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Disinvestment Commission has given any recommendation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) A number of proposals have been received by the Government including the proposal to set up a National Shareholding Trust as an alternative method of privatization of Public Sector Units.

(b) to (d) The Disinvestment Commission has suggested setting up of a National Shareholding Trust which has following features:

1. The entire shareholding of the Government in the identified PSU be transferred to a Trust.
2. The Trust to be called the National Shareholding Trust may be set up under the relevant Statute/Act.

3. The sale of shares may be arranged by the Trust after getting advice from the Disinvestment Commission on the quantity and modalities and after Government approval for the Sale price and thereafter the proceeds will be transferred to Government.
4. The management of the Trust would be entrusted to a group of 5 eminent persons including a representative from Ministry of Finance.

Hike in Tea Prices

2161. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons for the hike of tea prices in the country;
- (b) whether the Government have prepared any action plan to increase the production of tea in the country during the current Five Year Plan period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the quantity of tea exported as compared to target fixed during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Rise in the prices of tea has been on account of higher domestic and export demand for Indian Tea.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to achieve annual production target of 1000 mn kgs. by the end of current five year plan i.e. 2001-02. Activities planned to achieve this target inter-alia include measures such as replantation, extension planting, setting up of new plantations, assistance to small growers in extension activities, development of tea plantations in non-traditional areas and research and development etc.

(d) Export of tea vis-a-vis the targets during the past 3 years have been as under:-

| Export (Qty. in MN. KGS.) | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Year | Target | Achievement |
| 1995-96 | 170 | 167.47 |
| 1996-97 | 180 | 169.04 |
| 1997-98 | 180 | 211.76 |

Tourism Projects

2162. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of tourism projects submitted by the Governments of West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura to the Union Government during the last three years;
- (b) the number of projects out of these approved by the Union Government; and
- (c) the reasons for disapproving the remaining projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure based on specific project proposals received from the State Governments.

During the last three years, 26 projects were sanctioned for the State of West Bengal, 27 projects for the State of Kerala and 19 projects for the State of Tripura.

(c) 5 projects in respect of West Bengal could not be sanctioned during 1997-98, as the project proposals were incomplete.

Inspection of Private Sector and Good Rated Bank by RBI

2163. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether private sector banks are inspected every year by the Reserve Bank of India but the good rated banks are inspected at an interval of 1 to 10 years and the branches are visited on selective basis;

(b) if so, the number of private sector banks their branches and good rated private banks inspected by RBI during the last three years;

(c) if so, the outcome of the inspection of private banks and their branches and the action taken by the banks vis-a-vis the RBI during the above period;

(d) whether the private banks have implemented the follow-up action plan during the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that inspection of private sector banks is undertaken by the RBI generally once in 12 to 18 months.

(b) The number of private sector banks and the number of branches inspected by Reserve Bank of India during the last three years is given below:

| Year | No. of banks inspected | No. of branches inspected |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 19 | 551 |
| 1996-97 | 28 | 557 |
| 1997-98 | 36 | 676 |

(c) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) carried out the inspection under Section 35 of the Banking Regulation Act.

1949 at regular intervals to ensure regulatory compliance to the various instructions/directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India and also to ensure that their functioning is not detrimental to the interest of the present and future depositors. In respect of the new private sector banks quarterly visits are arranged by Reserve Bank of India to keep a watch on their proper functioning. During the course of inspection/visit by Reserve Bank of India compliance with its own norms/instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India is verified and deficiencies in the bank's internal control systems, management, vigilance, credit sanctions, monitoring, profitability, house keeping etc. are examined and communicated to the bank for corrective action. The same is also discussed with the bank's Chief Executive officer (CEO) during post inspection discussions on the findings of the inspection. Based on the findings of the inspection the banks take corrective p 7Xsteps.

Export/Import of Electronic Items

2164. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electronic items are allowed to import or export under the Exim Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the importers of these items have to fulfil the export obligations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the target fixed for export in this regard during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Under the Exim Policy, there is no restriction on the export of electronic items. The import of electronic items which are in the nature of consumer goods is by and large, restricted. The Policy with regard to individual electronic items is given in the latest edition of "ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items", a publication brought out by the Ministry of Commerce. Copies of the publication are available in the Parliament House Library.

(c) and (d) Export obligations arise only where the imports are permitted against a licence on duty free or concessional duty basis. There is no export obligation if the imports are made on payment of duty.

(e) The overall export target originally fixed for the year 1998-99 in respect of electronics hardware was US \$ 962 million.

[Translation]

Assistance from Canada

2165. DR. ASHOK PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Canada has shown interest to invest huge capital in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the terms and conditions in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) No, Sir. Government of Canada extends official development assistance to India in the form of grants.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Revitalisation of PSUs

2166. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADHAVBHAI JAVIA :
SHRI RAMSHAKAL :
SHRI A.C. JOS :
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations to take immediate steps to revamp the sick public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government allocate funds to sick public sector units for revitalisation purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such sick companies to whom the funds have been allocated for the purpose during the last three years in the country, particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) to (d) Government are aware of the need to revamp the sick PSUs and are taking enterprise specific measures to revitalise the enterprises. Some of the general measures taken by the Government to improve their performance however are professionalisation of PSU Boards, periodic review meeting by administrative Ministry, rationalisation of man power, organisational and capital restructuring etc. Government also allocate need based budgetary assistance to the PSUs on merits. Plan and non-plan assistance provided to the Public Enterprises, in general are Rs.55708 crores, Rs.56542 crores and Rs.72805 crores during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively. NTC (Gujarat) is the only Central PSU located in Gujarat requiring such revamping which has been in receipt of the funds at Rs.44.60 crores, Rs.42.77 crores and Rs.37.63 crores during these periods through NTC (HC).

Performance of Navratnas

2167. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have downgraded its earlier rating of performance of Navratnas;

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

(c) the criteria adopted for downgrading the rating of performance; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the performance of Navratnas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve performance of Navratnas include granting of autonomy and additional powers to the Board of these Companies. Professionalisation of the Boards by inducting Non-official Directors.

Small Car Projects

2168. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of small car projects operating in the country; and

(b) the policy of Government in this regard in view of the growing petroleum bill of the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) All the approvals given by the Government are for passenger cars and the firms have flexibility to manufacture the models and range according to the market conditions. There is no separate small car project. The 800cc car being produced by Maruti Udyog Limited and having two box chamber is popularly called 'small car'. Under this definition, passenger cars, viz. 'Maruti 800' and 'Maruti Zen' being manufactured by Maruti Udhog Limited, 'Fiat Uno' by M/s Ind Auto Limited 'Santro' by M/s Hyundai India Limited and 'Matiz' by M/s Daewoo India Limited, presently come under the small car category.

(b) In the present liberalised regime, investment decisions are left to the commercial perceptions of the investor.

[Translation]

Conversion of Rupee in Capital Account

2169. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian rupee has been made fully convertible in capital account; and

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Indian Rupee has not yet been made fully convertible in Capital Account transactions.

(b) does not arise.

[English]

Adulterated Salt

2170. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that adulterated salt is being supplied to various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of persons arrested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No such information has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Cloth

2171. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cloth made from khadi and handloom exported during the last three years;

(b) the names of countries to which it was exported;

(c) the details of profit as well as foreign exchange earned through it during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the exports of such cloth?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) The figures of exports of cotton handloom fabrics during the last three years are as follows:-

| Year | Quantity (Lakh Sq.Mtrs) | Value (Rs. crores) |
|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1995-96 | 59.62 | 254.82 |
| 1996-97 | 47.69 | 232.42 |
| 1997-98 | 42.90 (Prov.) | 219.69 (Prov.) |

Source : HEPC. Chennai.

The Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has reported that KVIC does not export khadi directly and the institutions financed by it have also not reported any exports for the last three years.

India's handloom products are exported to more than a hundred countries. However, Member States of the European Union and the USA are the major importers of India's handloom products.

(d) The Government have been taking a number of measures to boost exports of handloom products, such as sponsoring Buyer-seller Meets, participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines, product development and quality upgradation through appropriate training programmes, etc.

[English]

Pollution by Two and Three Wheelers

2172. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the type of two and three wheelers which emit mono oxide after combustion;

(b) whether they meet the pollution standard; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) All the two and three-wheelers essentially emit carbon monoxide as one of the products of combustion process, other products being hydro carbon and nitrous oxide.

(b) Presently there are pollution standards (Emission Norms) for new two and three-wheelers. It is mandatory for all new vehicles being sold to meet both the norms before they are registered by the Transport Authorities. "In-Use two and three wheelers" are required to comply with "In-Use Emission Norms" specified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules (CMVR). These are being checked on road by traffic officers as per present CMVR stipulations.

(c) If new two and three wheelers do not meet the "Emission Norms" they cannot be issued the CMVR Compliance Certificate and they cannot be registered by Transport Authority. In case of In-Use two and three-wheelers not meeting "In-use Emission Norms" they will not be allotted valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) sticker which is a requirement for vehicles plying on road under CMVR.

[Translation]

Insurance for Natural Calamities

2173. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether insurance cover is provided for reconstruction of the houses of those poor people whose houses are destroyed due to the natural calamities like fire, floods, cyclones and earthquakes etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to formulate any other schemes for the benefit of the poor people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) A Hut Insurance Scheme is available for poor families in Rural Areas covering very poor families whose annual income from all sources does not exceed Rs.4,800/-. The Scheme provides compensation of Rs.1,000/- for hut and Rs.500/- for belongings in the hut destroyed by fire only. The entire premium under the Scheme is borne by the Central Government and no premium is charged from the beneficiary. Apart from the above, a number of other covers are available, on payment of prescribed premium, with the four subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India, such as, comprehensive Insurance - for individual house holders covering their dwellings and contents for natural calamities like fire, floods, cyclones, earthquakes, etc. and Farmers Package Policy - covering, amount other things, dwellings/household goods against the risks of fire, floods, cyclones, etc.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Sound and Light Programme in Teenmurti

2174. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to restart the Sound and Light Programme show in Teenmurti House;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Sound and Light Show programme was discontinued in November, 1991 as the equipment which was earlier purchased in 1974 was found obsolete by M/s. Phillips India Limited.

(c) There is no proposal to restart the programme.

[English]

Export Defaulter Companies of Chennai

2175. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain export companies in Bombay and Chennai are not fulfilling their export obligations and are consistent defaulters;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to tackle any action against such defaulting companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Export obligation arises under different schemes in several ways. Most Companies obtain several licences annually under different schemes and default in export performance in respect of some of these licences. The data is therefore maintained licence-wise and not company-wise.

(c) and (d) Action against defaulters in Export Obligation is taken regularly under the provisions of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. Such action includes cancellation or suspension of the licence, imposition of fiscal penalty, and in extreme cases, suspensions/cancellation of Importers and Exporters Code Number.

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

2176. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production position in the cotton mills set up in the Country is satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the amount earmarked for Technological Upgradation of Cotton Mills was proposed to be spent on priority basis; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) The details of production of cotton yarn and cotton cloth by mills are given below:

| Year | Cotton Yarn Production (Mn. Kg) | Cotton cloth Production (Mn. Sq.Mtrs.) |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1995-96 | 1,894 | 1,159 |
| 1996-97 | 2,148 | 1,222 |
| 1997-98 | 2,213 | 1,238 |
| 1998-99 (Apr.-June) | 489.41 | 280.30 |

The position is considered satisfactory.

(d) and (e) The proposal to set up a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme is yet to be approved.

[English]

Credit Policy

2177. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to improve credit policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it is likely to help in economic revival?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) had forwarded to Reserve Bank of India a number of suggestions for inclusion in the statement of the Mid-Term Review of Monetary and Credit Policy for 1998-99 released on October 30, 1998.

(b) It was suggested by the FICCI that credit policy should be used as a demand stimulator with a view to reviving the economy by providing credit to the commercial as well as distribution sector. Other suggestions made were in the areas of streamlining credit delivery, group approach to lending, reduction in the lending rate, lowering of the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), credit to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), establishment of bench mark rate and introduction of hedging instruments, interest tax etc. Such suggestions are duly considered by RBI in the formulation of policies. The credit requirements of the real sector could be adequately met in view of comfortable liquidity in the banking system.

[Translation]

Cheating of Foreign Tourists

2178. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Agra mein Vishakat bhojan Karakar thagi ka dhanda joron par" published in the "Navbharat Times" dated November 15, 1998;

(b) the number of foreign and Indian tourists who have become victims of cheating so far;

(c) whether the Government have taken proper action to safeguard tourists from these cheats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (d) Information has been sought from Government of U.P. in this regard.

Amount of Central Loan

2179. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of Central loan pending as on April 1, 1997 and April 1, 1998, State-wise;

(b) the additional amount of loan provided by the Union Government during 1997-98 alongwith the proposed amount of loan to be provided during 1998-99, State-wise; and

(c) the total amount of loan alongwith interest to be paid

by the States during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) A statement giving the required information is enclosed.

Statement

Amount of Central Loan

(Rs. in Crore)

| States | Loan payable by State Govts. to Min. of Finance pending as on | | Loan provided by Min. of Finance to State Govts. during 1997-98 | Loan proposed** to be provided by Min. of Finance to State Govts. during 1998-99 | Repayment of loan alongwith interest payable by State Govts. to Min. of Finance during 1998-99 |
|----------------------|---|------------------|---|--|--|
| | 1.4.97 | 1.4.98 | | | |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 10340.77 | 11908.02 | 2037.64 | 1381.23 | 1913.11 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 229.94 | 265.63 | 45.31 | 58.00 | 44.12 |
| 3. Assam | 3644.50 | 3777.61 | 646.44 | 153.15 | 641.22 |
| 4. Bihar | 9487.22 | 10836.81 | 1789.45 | 1434.48 | 1774.07 |
| 5. Goa | 799.96 | 860.88 | 90.74 | 55.25 | 108.92 |
| 6. Gujarat | 9839.37 | 11517.43 | 2069.81 | 741.52 | 1917.81 |
| 7. Haryana | 3517.96 | 4093.22 | 800.34 | 403.08 | 762.99 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 1660.25 | 2322.51 | 709.38 | 105.79 | 365.34 |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 2849.50 | 3063.38 | 379.05 | 276.28 | 519.04 |
| 10. Kamataka | 6712.51 | 7578.73 | 1112.56 | 717.62 | 1247.43 |
| 11. Kerala | 4550.07 | 4929.11 | 563.75 | 571.96 | 840.67 |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 6390.73 | 7515.37 | 1421.35 | 1050.60 | 1234.20 |
| 13. Maharashtra | 15854.42 | 19039.95 | 3827.83 | 1210.65 | 3156.64 |
| 14. Manipur | 204.76 | 261.24 | 128.96 | 59.12 | 41.91 |
| 15. Meghalaya | 234.23 | 260.30 | 36.93 | 36.91 | 43.68 |
| 16. Mizoram | 149.69 | 174.92 | 99.25 | 31.60 | 28.88 |
| 17. Nagaland | 249.83 | 271.58 | 34.17 | 35.39 | 45.85 |
| 18. Orissa | 4666.23 | 5546.66 | 1148.48 | 846.06 | 898.44 |
| 19. Punjab | 10642.41 | 11577.00 | 1450.71 | 382.95 | 2017.95 |
| 20. Rajasthan | 6994.12 | 8108.28 | 1796.18 | 788.76 | 1296.89 |
| 21. Sikkim | 136.50 | 155.96 | 40.70 | 23.58 | 25.06 |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | 8403.85 | 9427.39 | 1364.08 | 953.78 | 1581.16 |
| 23. Tripura | 354.52 | 419.35 | 81.86 | 75.22 | 71.30 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | 21096.97 | 24246.84 | 3992.55 | 2447.38 | 3976.61 |
| 25. West Bengal | 13217.32 | 16400.18 | 3609.22 | 1314.37 | 2619.37 |
| | 142227.63 | 164556.35 | 29276.74 | 15154.73 | 27143.46 |

** Figures relates to Plan Loans only. In Non-plan, the loans against Small Savings are released to States on actual collection basis which cannot be forecast.

*[English]***Funds for Development of Tourism**

2180. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allocation of funds for development of tourism during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether due to resource crunch a large number of tourist spots could not either be developed properly or maintained to their desired level; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and proposal of the Government to mobilise adequate resources for promotion and development of tourism in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The budgetary resources of the Government are limited and within the same, each year, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State Govts. for a selected number of identified projects, which are prioritized in consultation with the State Governments. These projects are developed and maintained by the State Governments.

(c) The policy of the Government is to encourage private investment in tourism sector and accordingly a number of incentives such as Tax concessions, interest subsidy, concessional import duty, etc. are provided to the tourism industry. This sector has also been declared as priority sector for foreign investment and has been accorded the status of an Export House by the Union Government.

Statement

Details of Central Financial Assistance to State Governments during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 14.52 | 10.99 | 125.50 | 20.37 | 206.70 | 69.10 |
| 2. | Assam | 70.24 | 39.00 | 155.96 | 32.66 | 288.88 | 94.20 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 52.26 | 25.50 | 2.00 | 1.75 | 271.00 | 82.50 |
| 4. | Bihar | 115.84 | 53.53 | 72.53 | 18.22 | 233.07 | 76.38 |
| 5. | Goa | 221.55 | 121.32 | 101.46 | 50.98 | 144.62 | 42.08 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 7.98 | 7.28 | 82.21 | 35.12 | 111.84 | 41.90 |
| 7. | Haryana | 126.91 | 99.29 | 146.23 | 80.47 | 108.24 | 44.83 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 485.91 | 300.75 | 196.93 | 88.33 | 119.00 | 37.50 |
| 9. | J&K | 99.09 | 51.60 | 88.47 | 30.00 | 293.35 | 86.25 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 229.36 | 148.00 | 356.86 | 151.65 | 130.78 | 44.16 |
| 11. | Kerala | 209.94 | 86.95 | 235.59 | 126.50 | 282.00 | 106.50 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | - | - | - | - | 119.31 | 49.22 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 63.75 | 37.89 | 187.69 | 84.00 | 169.84 | 49.14 |
| 14. | Manipur | 75.81 | 36.28 | 51.90 | 22.00 | 186.11 | 56.35 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 4.08 | 2.04 | 88.81 | 32.50 | 85.70 | 28.05 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 100.86 | 68.94 | 107.18 | 40.44 | 142.45 | 43.50 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 51.58 | 39.76 | 100.62 | 70.00 | 116.90 | 40.58 |
| 18. | Orissa | 108.86 | 54.00 | 453.28 | 116.99 | 557.05 | 180.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 140.49 | 67.57 | 47.83 | 18.66 | 52.87 | 15.72 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 20. | Rajasthan | 230.75 | 109.95 | 103.89 | 39.50 | 107.33 | 52.27 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 29.61 | 17.21 | 93.09 | 18.55 | 65.20 | 24.55 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 250.11 | 127.44 | 190.20 | 102.10 | 59.74 | 22.86 |
| 23. | Tripura | 25.60 | 22.67 | 105.40 | 56.60 | 126.68 | 40.16 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 31.10 | 25.55 | 237.78 | 91.45 | 221.10 | 76.17 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 184.881 | 106.20 | 199.72 | 61.25 | 157.76 | 45.65 |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar | 45.00 | 20.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 17.20 | 10.86 | 3.00 | 1.50 | — | — |
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | - | - | 84.66 | 60.23 | 5.20 | 2.60 |
| 29. | Delhi | 28.23 | 17.77 | 6.28 | 5.28 | 229.43 | 79.22 |
| 30. | Daman | 48.21 | 23.39 | 15.00 | 6.00 | 60.17 | 17.25 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 24.65 | 24.65 | 123.81 | 51.00 | 5.00 | 2.50 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 28.12 | 13.30 | 4.00 | 2.00 | 35.64 | 12.83 |
| Grand Total | | 3122.49 | 1769.68 | 3769.88 | 1517.10 | 4752.96 | 1785.02 |

Dr. P.R. Nayak Committee for SSI

2181. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per recommendations of Dr. P.R. Nayak Committee, the credit flow to small scale industries which was 12% of the production was to be enhanced to 20% of the production;

(b) if so, the extent to which this recommendation has been implemented so far;

(c) the reasons for non-implementing the recommendation of Nayak Committee in toto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of the credit of small enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines on Nayak Committee recommendations to all scheduled commercial banks in 1993. RBI has also been regularly monitoring the implementation of these guidelines. With a view to ascertain the field level implementation of guidelines issued by RBI, a study was conducted by RBI in February March, 1997. As per the study, it found that it of 3754 cases of working capital loan sanctioned by the selected branches of the commercial banks, computation of working capital requirement was made as per the RBI guidelines based on Nayak Committee recommendations in 3124 cases (83.2%).

(d) As announced by Finance Minister in his Budget speech of June, 1998, RBI has issued following guidelines to all scheduled commercial banks with a view to further improve the credit flow to SSI sector.

- (i) banks should henceforth adopt the simplified procedure of sanctioning working capital limits on the basis of 20% of the projected annual turn over to all SSI units (new as well as existing) requiring aggregate fund based working capital limits upto Rs.4 crores.
- (ii) In order to take expeditious decisions on credit proposals of SSI units, bank should delegate enhanced powers to branch manager of the specialised SSI branches so that most of the credit proposals are decided at the branch level.
- (iii) Banks are advised to accord SSI unit with a good track record the benefit of lower spreads over the prime lending rates with a view to moderating the cost of credit to SSI units.
- (iv) To strengthen the mechanisms available to SSI units for discounting of bills, banks should ensure that their corporate borrowers finance their domestic credit purchase from SSI units at least to the extent of 25 per cent by way of bills drawn on and accepted by them.
- (v) To tackle the problem of large overdue outstanding of companies to SSI suppliers, banks are advised to ascertain periodically from their medium/large

industrial borrowers the extent of their dues to clear off the overdues, if any. Further in the case of companies with persistent overdues to SSI units, banks should not hesitate to take it as a negative factor while fixing the rate of interest on the borrowings of corporate borrowers.

MICA Paper Plant

2182. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the installation of MICA Paper Plant at Chandwara Hazaribagh;

(b) the total amount production of the plant;

(c) whether this Plant is suffering huge losses every year;

(d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years;

(e) whether the plant is on the verge of closure; and

(f) if so, reasons therefor and the factors responsible for this stage?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (f) There is no such mill on the records of the Ministry of Industry. Information such as amount spent on installation on plant and machinery, financial performance etc. of individual units is not centrally maintained.

Property of I.T./Excise/Customs Officials

2183. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government keep a vigil on the income tax and excise duty officers, who accumulate properties disproportionate to their known sources of income;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of cases of corruption and tax evasion registered against such employees during the last three years, year-wise, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Sir, all Group 'A' and Group 'B' Government Officers are required to submit an annual Immovable Property Return. No Government servant can, except with the previous knowledge of the prescribed authority, enter into any transaction in immovable property, and if any such transaction is with a person having official dealings with him, previous sanction of the prescribed authority required. In respect of transactions in movable property

which are above prescribed limits, Government servants are required to report the same to the prescribed authority within one month of the transaction.

(c) No case of tax evasion has been registered against the employees of income tax and Customs & Central Excise. CBI has, however, registered 188 cases of corruption as per break up given below:

| Year | No. of cases |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1995 | 42 |
| 1996 | 47 |
| 1997 | 59 |
| 1998 (upto 31.10.1998) | 40 |

Posting in BCCL

2184. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Officers posted in the Head Quarter of BCCL, Koyla Bhawan as on October 1 1998, department-wise break-up;

(b) the number of Officers posted for more than five years and more than ten years;

(c) whether there is any norm of rotation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether many officers handling age disputes of the workers are themselves working at the Head Quarters by lowering their age; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) As reported by the Coal India Limited, 485 officers have been posted in different offices at the Headquarter of Bharat Coking Coal Limited. Department-wise break-up is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Out of above 485 officers, 83 officers are posted in the Headquarter for more than 5 years and 180 officers for more than 10 years.

(c) and (d) Transfer/Rotation of the executives is done as per the following norms:-

- (1) At least 10% of the executives satisfying the criteria are transferred each year;
- (2) Executives in M-1 and above who have been working in the same company for more than 10 years, are transferred to other companies.
- (3) Executives holding identified sensitive posts shall be transferred/rotated as per the following norms:-

- (a) Executives in M-1, M-2 & M-3 grades will be transferred out of the company on completion of 5 years.
- (b) Executives from E-1 to E-5 will be rotated within the company on completion of three years.
- (e) Coal India Limited is not aware of any such case at present.
- (f) Does not arise in view of reply given to (c) above.

Statement*Number of Executives on Head Quarter Roll*

| Department | | No. of Executives |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | 2 |
| C.M.D. | - CMD Secretariat | 4 |
| C.M.D. | - Board Secretariat | 3 |
| C.M.D. | - Vigilance | 11 |
| C.M.D. | Int. Audit | 11 |
| Director (F) | - Fund Sec. | 4 |
| Director (F) | - Cost & Budget | 9 |
| Director (F) | - D(F) Secretariat | 7 |
| Director (F) | - Cent. A/c. | 7 |
| Director (F) | - Pay Office, Civil | 6 |
| Director (F) | - Pay Office, P&P | 11 |
| Director (F) | - Pay Office | 7 |
| Director (F) | - E.D.P. | 21 |
| Director (T) | - Sales Billing & Realisation | 13 |
| Director (T) | - E & M | 13 |
| Director (T) | - Coal Prep. | 2 |
| Director (T) | - D O T Secretariat | 4 |
| Director (T) | - Safety | 22 |
| Director (T) | - S & P T | 4 |
| Director (T) | - Survey | 3 |
| Director (T)(P&P) | - Wash/Cons. | 14 |
| Director (T)(P&P) | - Wash/Cons. | 1 |
| Director (T) | - Civil Engineering | 42 |
| Director (T) | - Telecomm. | 2 |
| Director (T) | - C.S. Store Ekra | 3 |
| Director (T) | - Jeal.C/Stores | 5 |
| Director (T) | - M.M. Division | 11 |
| Director (T) | - Finance | 1 |

| | 1 | 2 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Director (T) | - Sales | 19 |
| Director (T) | - Production | 9 |
| Director (T) | - Production | 7 |
| Director (T) | - Traffic | 4 |
| Director (T) | - L.E.D. | 8 |
| Director (T) | - P&P | 24 |
| Director (T) | - Geology | 8 |
| Director (T) | - Quality/Control | 19 |
| Director (T)(P&P) | - Golukdih Pay/Workshop | 16 |
| Director (T) | - Purchase | 5 |
| Director (P) | - K.N. Town Admin. | 7 |
| Director (P) | - K.N. Hospital | 11 |
| Director (P) | - C A T Godhur | 4 |
| Director (P) | - D(P) Secretariat | 5 |
| Director (P) | - CMO Secretariat | 5 |
| Director (P) | - Welfare | 8 |
| Director (P) | - Hindi | 1 |
| Director (P) | - Estate | 6 |
| Director (P) | - Personnel | 27 |
| Director (P) | - Security | 1 |
| Director (P) | - Gen. Admn. | 9 |
| Director (P) | - Training | 20 |
| Director (P) | - Press | 3 |
| Director (P) | - P R O | 1 |
| Director (P) | - Legal | 7 |
| Director (P) | - O&M | 5 |
| Director (P) | - | 5 |
| TOTAL NO. OF EXECUTIVES | | 485 |

Export of Rice

2185. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
 SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
 SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian non-basmati rice has lost its reputation in the international market and has been black listed in some countries:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether in view of this, Government have decided to make compulsory registration of all the rice exporters and mills; and

(d) if so, the other measures Government propose to maintain good reputation of the agro-export in the International market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Impact of Devaluation of Rouble on Debt Repayment

2186. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the impact of devaluation of the Rouble on the debt repayment liability of India with respect to the erstwhile Soviet Union; and

(b) the debt repayment so far made to Russia and other 15 countries which formed part of the erstwhile USSR?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) As the rupee debt stock to Russian Federation is indexed to the SDR, devaluation of rouble is not likely to affect the debt repayment liability.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Production of Coal

2187. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed and achievements made in coal production during the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has a plant to increase coal production during the Ninth Plan;

(c) if so, the target fixed therefor; and

(d) the amount of investment proposed to be made by Coal India for increasing production of coal during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) the annual target and achievement in coal production during the 8th Five Year Plan period is given below:

(In million tonnes)

| | 1992-93 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 238.20 | 245.00 | 253.60 | 274.50 | 288.65 |
| Achievement | 238.11 | 246.04 | 253.73 | 270.13 | 285.66 |

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The target of coal production by Coal India Limited (CIL) in the terminal year of 9th Five Year Plan, i.e. 2001-02, is presently proposed at 314 million tonnes.

(d) Total investment to be made by Coal India Limited (CIL) for production of coal during 9th Five Year Plan is proposed at Rs.13100 crores.

Revamping of Export Promotion Councils

2188. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to revamp various Export Promotion Councils in the field of textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the business conducted by the Export Promotion Councils during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Government interacts with Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) on a regular basis in order that EPCs are responsive and with a view to optimising their efforts, towards increasing exports of textiles and clothing. A Co-ordination Committee of all the Textile Export Promotion Councils, under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles) also co-ordinates the activities of the Councils.

(c) The Textiles Export Promotion Councils themselves do not make any exports. However, they are engaged in promoting exports in their respective product sectors through a variety of activities, including Buyer-Seller meets, sending of trade delegations, organising/participating in fairs/exhibitions etc.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Weavers

2189. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance in the term of loan/grant-in-aid to the weavers during the current financial year instead of stressing on formation of co-operatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that Commercial Banks and State Cooperative Banks have been allowed to lend to State Handloom Development Corporations for working capital requirements for production,

procurement and marketing of handloom goods by the weavers during the current financial year.

[English]

Winding up of N.T.C. Mills by BIFR

2190. SHRI RAM CHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National Textiles Corporation and private sector textile mills which have been given winding up orders by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction and the Appellate Tribunal during each of the last three years, till October 1998, State-wise; and

(b) the policy and the measures taken to revive the above closed N.T.C./S.T.C./Private sector mills and rehabilitation of the workers by providing them employment during the above period and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) So far as NTC is concerned, none of the NTC Mills have been ordered to wound up by the BIFR yet.

The number of private sector textiles mills which have been given winding up orders by the BIFR during the last three years, State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) A Turn Around Strategy for NTC Mills was approved by Government in 1995. The plan was to be implemented through generation of funds from the sale of surplus land/assets of NTC. Major portion of this land is located in Mumbai. The approval of State Government of Maharashtra for sale of land is still awaited. Moreover, in case of four subsidiaries of NTC viz. NTC (UP), NTC (Guj), NTC (WBAB&O) and NTC (MP), BIFR have not approved the plan on account of their net worth not becoming positive during the prescribe period. In view of the above, the strategy could not be implemented.

A revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norm of net worth of these mills turning positive within the stipulated period is under consideration. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

The other measures taken by the Government include establishment of a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

Statement

| S.No. | State/U.T. | No. of Mills |
|-------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Gujarat | 7 |
| 2. | Uttar Pradesh | 6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-----------------------|---|
| 3. | Madhya Pradesh | 2 |
| 4. | Rajasthan | 2 |
| 5. | Haryana | 1 |
| 6. | Tamil Nadu | 4 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 2 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 7 |
| 9. | Andhra Pradesh | 3 |
| 10. | Punjab | 1 |
| 11. | Dadara & Nagar Haveli | 1 |

Food Craft Institute

2191. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food Craft Institute is imparting education to students at Pathrajpur, Orissa where a building has been constructed for the purpose; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Food Craft Institute at Patharajpur, Orissa is not imparting education to students at present as the proposal for setting up the Institute has been formally cleared by the Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India only in November, 1998.

Border-Trade Mechanism by Nationalised Banks

2192. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks have been permitted to enter into agreements with its counterparts in Myanmar to operate a new border-trade mechanism;

(b) if so, whether several irregularities have been surfaced in the border-trade arrangement that prevails between the two countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof and remedial measures taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to follow up this experiment, if found successful with the existing trade mechanism along the Meghalaya-Bangladesh border posts; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the border trade arrangements, the two

banks namely United Bank of India and the State Bank of India have been identified as designated banks for handling export and import transaction.

(b) and (c) The RBI has reported that no irregularities have been reported to them in the border trade between the two countries as also in the banking arrangements mentioned above except that a few export transactions which were put through quite sometime back have remained unadjusted as import has not taken place there against. The customs authorities have taken up the matter with the concerned exporters.

(d) and (e) Such banking arrangements would depend on the border trade arrangements handled by the Ministry of Commerce.

[Translation]

Purchase of Opium by Narcotics Department

2193. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate on which opium is being purchased by the Narcotics Department from the poppy growers of Mandasaur district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether poppy growers are suffering heavy losses due to low procurement price;

(c) whether the Government have fixed levy of opium at the rate of 52 Kg per hectare area in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan while it is only 42 Kg per hectare in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to remove the disparity and redeem poppy growers from economic losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Sir, the rate at which opium is purchased by the Government from poppy growers is uniform through out the country. The price slabs in force are as under :-

| Yield per hectare (in Kgs) | Price payable (at 70° consistence) |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Upto 55 Kgs. of opium | Rs.575/- |
| More than 55 Kgs. and upto 60 Kgs. | Rs.720/- |
| More than 60 Kgs. and upto 75 Kgs. | Rs.970/- |
| More than 75 Kgs. and upto 100 Kgs. | Rs.1,065/- |
| More than 100 Kgs. | Rs.1,250/- |

(b) No, Sir. the opium price is revised periodically by the Government to ensure that the price paid to the cultivator is remunerative.

(c) and (d) There is not levy fixed for the Opium Cultivator as he is required to deliver his entire opium yield to the Government. However, a Minimum Qualifying Yield (MQY) of 52 Kgs. per hect in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and 42 Kgs. per hect in Uttar Pradesh, during the crop year 1998-99 has been fixed by the Government for grant of opium licence next year.

The said MQY is based on scientific analysis of yields based on agro-climatic variations in the three Poppy growing States. Therefore, there is no disparity as such.

[English]

Credit to S.S.Is by Scheduled/ Non-Scheduled Banks

2194. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total credit given by the scheduled banks to the small scale industries during the last year;

(b) the total credit given to the small scale industries by the non-scheduled banks during the same period; and

(c) the percentage of the credit given to small scale industries in comparison with the total credit given by the scheduled and non-scheduled banks during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the total amount of outstanding credit by scheduled commercial banks to small scale industries as on the last Friday of March 1998 stood at Rs.38109 crores (provisional) which constituted 17.5% of the total credit given by the scheduled commercial banks.

(b) There are only two non-scheduled commercial banks having 9 (nine) branches for which data is not readily available with RBI.

Coir Technology Parks

2195. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up coir Technology Park in some States, particularly in Orissa;

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

(c) the Action Plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) The Coir Board in its Annual Plan 1998-99 has indicated the need for development of Coir Technology Parks in coconut growing States of the country but no formal proposal to set up such Coir Technology Parks has been received from the Coir Board.

Rebate on Coir Product

2196. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has made any request/recommendation for rebate on Coir Products;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala had requested for continuance of the rebate scheme on sale of coir yarn and coir products, for 90 days during the year 1998-99 with a view to increasing consumption of coir yarn and coir products in the domestic market and to keep up the tempo in the coir industry.

(c) Government of India, issued orders on 4th September, 1998 to continue the rebate scheme during 1998-99.

Loans to Farmers by Nationalised Banks in Kerala

2197. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the branches of nationalised banks in Kerala, bank-wise and location-wise;

(b) the details of amount deposited in these banks during each of the last three years, bank-wise.

(c) the amount sanctioned to the farmers during the above period, bank-wise;

(d) whether the target fixed for extending loans to the farmers have been achieved by these banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Acceptance of Foreign Currency

2198. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Exchange Dealers Association of India has requested the Reserve Bank of India to ensure that banks do not accept foreign currency deposits denominated in the German Deuschemark after January 1, 1999 following the introduction of the Euro;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to prepare for the sweeping changes that will hit the global market after the European Union switches to the single currency the Euro?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Foreign Exchange Dealers Association of India has not requested Reserve Bank to ensure that banks do not accept FCNR deposits denominated in DMs after 1st January 1999 following the introduction of Euro. In fact, Reserve Bank has advised banks that they may continue to accept DM deposits upto 31st December 2001, since DM will continue to be in existence till that date.

(c) Reserve Bank had constituted a Working Group to examine issues related to introduction of Euro. The Group has submitted the Report which has been forwarded to all the banks authorised to deal in foreign exchange.

[Translation]

Promotion of Mini and Small Industries Under P R Y

2199. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to promote mini and small industries under prime Minister Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made by these industries during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have find out the irregularities being committed therein; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India launched Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana on 2nd October 1993 to assist educated unemployed youth in setting up of 7 lakh micro-enterprises in industry service and business sectors during the last four years of VIII Five Year Plan. The scheme is continuing during 1997-98 and 1998-99 with an annual target of 2.20 lakh youth to be assisted for each of these years. Salient features of the scheme have been shown in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The progress of the scheme for the last three years i.e. from 1995-96 to 1997-98 has been shown in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Surveys have revealed that there are cases of banks seeking collateral/third party guarantees, and of beneficiaries misutilising loans. Specific cases as and when noticed are referred to appropriate authorities for necessary corrective action.

Statement-I

Salient feature of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana

1. Eligibility:

- i) Age: Between 18 to 35 years.
- ii) Qualification : Matric (passed or failed) or ITI passed or have undergone Government sponsored technical course for a minimum duration of 6 months.
- iii) Residency: Permanent resident of the area for at least 3 years.
- iv) Family income: Upto Rs.24,000 per annum of parents and up to Rs.24,000 per annum of beneficiary and spouse separately.
- v) Defaulter: Should not be a defaulter to any nationalised bank, Co-operative bank, financial institution.

For North-Eastern Region.

- i) Age : Between 18-40 years.
- ii) Family income: Upto 40,000/- per annum of parents and upto Rs.40,000/- per annum of beneficiary and spouse separately.

2. Financial term

i) Project Cost

Upto Rs.1 lakh in case of individuals.

Projects upto Rs.5 lakh, if eligible persons join together, and subject to a maximum of Rs.1 lakh for each individual.

ii) Margin Money, Bank Loans and Rates of Interest

5 percent of project cost as margin money in cash by the beneficiary. Balance 95% as loan by bank at the prevailing rate of interest as applicable for priority sector lending.

iii) Collateral Guarantee on Bank Loans

The loans would not require any collateral guarantee. Only assets created under the scheme would be hypothecated to the bank.

iv) Subsidy

Subsidy by Govt. of India @ of 15% subject to a maximum of Rs.7,500/- for individuals.

For partnership: Subsidy would be calculated separately for each partner, @ of 15% of his share in the project cost, limited to Rs.7,500/- (per partner).

Statement-II

Progress under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 as reported by the Reserve Bank of India

| Sl. No. | Year | Target (nos.) | Sanctions by banks (Nos.) | Disbursement by bank (Nos.) |
|---------|---------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | 1995-96 | 2,20,000* | 2,88,604 | 2,26,759 |
| 2. | 1996-97 | 2,20,000 | 2,66,161 | 1,87,838 |
| 3. | 1997-98 | 2,20,000 | 2,64,696 | 1,59,641 |

*Inclusive of backlog the target was 2,60,000.

Disbursements for 1997-98 are continuing.

[English]

Separate Cell for Liquor and Tobacco

2200. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a separate Cell has been set up to invite and lure multinationals to enter the liquor and tobacco sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to take advantage of their marketing skills internationally to propagate these products in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons for giving importance to foreign investors in these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Patent to Pepper

2201. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ab Kali Mirch Hath se Ga" as reported in the 'Dainik Jagarn' dated August 24, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such patents are likely to decrease the export of Indian Spices substantially; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check patenting of such items and to plug the likely shortfall in exports of such items?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) A patent No.5536506 dated 16 July 1996 has reportedly been issued to M/s Sabinsa Corporation, U.S.A. by the United States, Patent Office regarding "use of piperine to increase the bioavailability of nutritional compounds".

(c) and (d) The export of spices from India during last 5 years has been as under:-

| Year | Quantity (Metric Ton) | Value (Rs. Lakhs) |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1994-95 | 155,088 | 62010.53 |
| 1995-96 | 203,398 | 80443.01 |
| 1996-97 | 225,295 | 123071.77 |
| 1997-98(P) | 228,821 | 1140830.56 |
| 1998-99 | 112,200 | 87501.25 |
| (April-October) | | |

Patents are granted by respective Governments under their patent laws. Whenever information is received about patent being taken on certain products which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether grant of patents can be challenged.

[English]

Kisan Credit Card

2202. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to issue Kisan Credit Card as part of composite and comprehensive revamp of Agricultural Credit policy;

(b) if so, the details of the changes proposed/effectuated to ensure timely and adequate credit support to farmers in irrigated as well as dry land area without any hustle; and

(c) the time schedule for implementation of New Credit Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has formu-

lated a model Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for issue of KCC to farmers to enable farmers to readily purchase agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash for their production needs. RBI and NABARD have issued necessary instructions to commercial banks, cooperative banks and regional rural banks for early introduction of the scheme in their area of operation. The major features of the scheme are as follows:

- * Eligible farmers to be provided with a Kisan Card and a pass book or card-cum-pass book;
- * Entire production credit needs for full year plus ancillary activities related to crop production to be considered while fixing limit;
- * Limit to be fixed on the basis of operational land holding, cropping pattern and scale of finance;
- * Each drawal to be repaid within 12 months;
- * Conversion/rescheduling of loans also permissible in case of damage to crops due to natural calamities;
- * Security margin, rate of interest as per RBI norms;
- * Operations may be through issuing branch or at the discretion of bank, through other designated branches.

[Translation]

V.R.S. OF BIC

2203. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to make the package for the staff of Kanpur Textiles Limited and Elgin Mill Limited,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report prepared by the Wool Research Association for rehabilitation of two B.I.C. woolen mills i.e. Dhariwal (Punjab) and Kanpur Woolen Mills is under consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Cawnpore Textiles Limited and Elgin Mills Company Limited were referred to the BIFR which had recommended winding up of these companies. The appeal filed by these companies against the winding up orders was dismissed by the AAIFR. The matter is at present sub-judice before the High Court at Allahabad. Government is proposing to offer enhanced compensation to the employees of these companies.

(c) and (d) The Wool Research Association (WRA) has submitted a report on the rehabilitation of BIC Woolen Mills. The matter regarding future strategy for these mills taking into consideration the WRA report is presently under consideration of the Government.

[English]

New Textile Policy

2204. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
 SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
 SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
 DR. ASIM BALA :
 SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
 SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK :
 RAO INDERJIT SINGH :
 SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :
 SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Export Group for formulation of a new textile policy has since been constituted;

(b) if so, its composition and the terms of reference; and

(c) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the said group?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) The Committee has been asked to submit its report within a period of six months.

Statement

1. **The composition of the Expert Committee constituted vide Resolution No.8/7/98-TPC dated 24.7.98 is as follows:-**

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Shri S.R. Sathyam, Retired Secretary, Ministry of Textiles | - Chairman |
| 2. Chairman, Industrial Development Bank of India, Mumbai | - Member |
| 3. Dr. T.V. Ratnam, Adviser, SITRA, Coimbatore. | - Member |
| 4. Shri A.N. Jariwala | - Member |
| 5. Shri Sanjay S. Lalbhai, M/s Arvind Mills Ltd., Ahmedabad | - Member |
| 6. Dr. Omkar Goswami, Editor, Business India, Mumbai | - Member |

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 7. Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Director General, NCAER, New Delhi | - Member |
| 8. Development Commissioner (Handlooms) | - Member |
| 9. Shri B.D. Jethra, Adviser, Planning Commission | - Member |
| 10. Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Director, National Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi | - Member |
| 11. Shri Ajay G. Piramal, Chairman, Morarjee Goculdas Spg. & Wvg. Co. Ltd., Mumbai | - Member |
| 12. Textile Commissioner, Mumbai | - Member Secy. |

II. Terms of Reference

- To review and evaluate the impact of the existing Textile Policy and identify the changes that are necessary, particularly in terms of the new imperatives of international competition.
- To evolve a new set of policy guidelines with a view to obtaining the best productivity form each sector and from each segment of the textile industry after taking a holistic view of the textile sector covering:- (i) All products (all fibers and value-added products resulting therefrom); (ii) All activities (spinning, weaving, processing, finishing and packaging); and (iii) All sectors (organised mills, powerlooms and handlooms).
- To suggest policy measures for the textile industry to focus on the changes resulting from overall trade policy reform and specifically the dismantling of the Multi-Fibre Agreement on Textiles and Clothings (MFA) and the associated non-tariff barriers. Such policy measures would, inter-alia, include measures for upgradation of (a) Products including facilitation for establishing branded products, (b) Technology, (c) Financial arrangements, (d) Market development including brand promotion and (e) Human resource development in the textile industry.
- To examine the competitiveness of the various segments of the textile industry with respect to their international counter-parts and to suggest policy prescriptions to improve the competitive edge of each segment and to suggest measures for strengthening the fundamentals of each of the economic spheres of the textile industry. This would include a study of the specific role to be assigned for different fibers.
- To suggest policy measures to aid the restructuring of the textile industry with a view to attaining international competitiveness by the year 2005.
- To examine the existing industrial policy including foreign direct investment policies, as well as fiscal and trade policies with reference to the textile industry and suggest

necessary changes for modernization and growth in the industry.

7. To review the existing system of control and regulation in the textile sector and suggest changes, wherever necessary, for promoting productivity and encouraging growth in all the sectors of the textile industry.
8. To evolve a comprehensive policy and strategy for developing human resources in all activities in the textile sector including production technologies, designs, marketing skills and information technology. This should also include an examination of the present scenario of the policy measures required in the area for the attainment of international competitiveness in the textile industry.
9. To review the measures taken so far for tackling sickness in the textile industry and to make suggestions for improving the economic viability of the textile industry as also to identify steps which would be necessary to prevent and tackle sickness in the industry, including the need for structural adjustments through re-deployment of labour and capital.
10. To examine the desirability of establishing dedicated financing arrangements to cater specifically to the needs of the textile industry.

Trade with Foreign Countries

2205. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the countries which have shown their interest to boost trade with India during the last six months, particularly after Pokhran Test;

(b) whether any trade agreements have been signed between India and these foreign countries during the above period;

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

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (d) a statement is enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A formal Trade Agreement between India & Scyhelles has been signed on 18/9/98 in an endeavour to boost bilateral trade between the two countries.

India and Russia have negotiated a "Joint Document on Development of Trade, Economic, Industrial, Financial, Scientific & Technological Cooperation".

Statement

| Sl. No. | Name of the Countries who have shown keen interest in expanding trade relations with India during the last six months. | Proposals received and Details |
|---------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Myanmar New Zealand Australia Malaysia Philippines Indonesia Thailand Vietnam and Singapore | These countries have generally been keen to expand trade relations with India. Specific proposals discussed include proposal for Bilateral and border trade with Myanmar, establishment of a Joint Working Group on Energy with Australia, finalisation of a Bilateral Quarantine Agreement with New Zealand and entering into a trade agreement with Malaysia. |
| 2. | Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of China (Taiwan), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea and Mongolia. | Trade exchanges with these countries have taken place through visits of trade delegations, meetings of JBC's etc. |
| 3. | Russia | The Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission met in Moscow on 26-28 Nov., 98 and inter-alia, discussed several issues relating to expansion of trade relations between the two countries. |
| 4. | Belarus | The Joint Commission meeting was held on 26-27 Oct., 98 at Minsk and wide ranging issues on enhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation were discussed. |
| 5. | Central Asia | Discussions in progress with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan for a meeting of the Inter-Governmental Commission in the next few weeks. This is expected to give a boost to trade relations with these Countries. |
| 6. | Zimbabwe, Kenya Seychelles | The Joint Trade Committees have been held at Harare and New Delhi respectively. A formal trade agreement between India and Seychelles has been |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|
| | | signed on 18.9.98 to boost the bilateral trade between the two countries. |
| 7 | Argentina | Meeting of The Indo-Argentine Joint Commission is proposed to be held in the first half of 1999. |
| | Cuba | (i) Discussions regarding joint venture Projects. Mining processing and marketing of Nickel were held. (ii) On Cuba's request, the Govt. of India has decided to export one lakh MT of non-basmati rice to Cuba in eight trenches of 12,500 MT each. |
| 8 | European Union | Bilateral exchanges as well as discussions held recently at New Delhi on 18-19 Nov., 98 with an EC delegation on a range of trade issues. |
| 9 | Belgium Cyprus France | Bilateral meetings were held for Trade and Investment which are identified and indicated in the agreed minutes. |
| 10. | West Asia and North Africa | Practically all countries in this region, have shown interest in expanding their trade relations with India. |
| 11. | South Asia | Trade talks with Pakistan held on 10th Nov., at New Delhi. Discussions with Sri Lankan delegation held on 16-17 Nov., 98 at New Delhi regarding the proposed bilateral free trade agreement. Talks held with Nepal on 17-20 Nov., 1998 at New Delhi regarding transit agreement. Third meeting of the IGG under SAPTA held in Kathmandu on 21-23 Nov., 98 to conclude the third round of SAPTA negotiations. |
| 12. | Poland | Working consultations on Trade & Economic issues held on 22-23 June 1998 at Warsaw. |
| | Bulgaria | Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission meeting held on 22-25 Sept., 98 at Sofia. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|-----------------|--|
| | Czech Republic | Indo-Czech Joint Committee meeting held in Prague on Oct. 5-6, 98. |
| | Slovak Republic | Indo-Slovak Joint Committee meeting held in Bratislava on Oct. 7-8, 98. |
| | Croatia | Indo-Croatian Joint Committee meeting held on Nov. 16-17, 98 at New Delhi. |

[Translation]

Mgro-Based Industry

2206. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADHAVBHAI JAVIA :
SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :
SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up agro-based, forest-based and mineral based industry with central assistance in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have formulated any programme to boost agro-based industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the programme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No specific central assistance is being provided by the Government for setting up of agro based, forest based and mineral based industry in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The measures taken by Government to encourage development of agro-based industries include exemption of certain agro-based products from excise duty, de-licensing of most of the agro-based industries like cotton textile, jute textile, sugar, edible oil and various food processing industries, inclusion of most of the food processing industries in the list of high priority industries eligible for automatic approval for foreign direct investment upto 51% foreign equity participation etc.

Millowances to Unemployed Graduates and Mbove/Diploma Holders

2207. DR. PRABHA THAKUR :
SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.5479 on July 24, 1998 and state :

- (a) whether the reply has not since been collected; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be collected.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The Assurance given in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5479 dt.24.7.98 was fulfilled in October, 1998. The information furnished therein is given below:-

Keeping in view the magnitude of the unemployment problem of the educated youth, a Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) was launched in 1983. For providing employment to more than 1 million educated urban unemployed youth by setting-up of 7 lakh micro enterprises, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) was launched on 2.10.93. The Scheme was further extended to cover the entire country from 1994-96 onwards. From the same year, SEEUY has been subsumed in PMRY.

The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productivity employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment. This will benefit the unemployed graduates, post-graduates and diploma holders.

The Central Government is not in favour of paying unemployment allowance to any category of unemployed on account of resource constraints.

- (b) Does not arise.

Development of Tourist Spots in Bihar

2208. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHAN-JHARPUR) : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bihar Government have sent a proposal to Union Government in regard to improve the tourist centres of historical and religious importance; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Development of tourist/pilgrim centre is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Ministry of Tourism has agreed to provide assistance for infrastructure development of Pilgrim/Tourist Centres to the State Governments. 12 projects for an amount of Rs.325 lakhs have been prioritised in consultation with the Government of Bihar for the year 1998-99. However, no proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar for the same so far.

OEFC assistance to Bihar and .P.

2209. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have sought financial assistance from O.E.C.F. for various irrigation projects;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have sent the requests of State Governments to O.E.C.F.;

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the required assistance from O.E.C.F. is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Govt. of M.P., through the Ministry of Water Resources, had sent the following six irrigation projects for OEFC loan assistance for the years 1996-97 and 1997-98.

There was no irrigation project from the State of Bihar;

- i. Rajghat Irrigation Project
- ii. Mahi Irrigation Project
- iii. Sindh Project
- iv. Mahan Irrigation Project
- v. Bariyarpur Left Bank Canal Major Irrigation Project
- vi. Bargi Diversion Project

(c) Out of the above six projects posed for OEFC assistance, the Rajghat Irrigation Project was selected for assistance.

(d) Since OEFC are cautious about Rehabilitation & Resettlement issues, only one project could be selected.

(e) A loan agreement of Yen 13222 million was signed with OEFC for Rajghat Irrigation Project on 25.2.1997 to be drawn down before 29.5.2006.

[English]

Schemes to Rejuvenate Tourism

2210. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kashmir has a vast potential for promotion of tourism;

(b) whether tourism in Kashmir had suffered a set back due to turbulence there in recent years;

(c) whether the Government have drawn up some special schemes to rejuvenate tourism in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government has set up a Committee on the development of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir. 17 projects have been prioritised for Central financial assistance amounting to Rs.525.00 lakhs during 1998-99.

Clerical Grade Examinations in Local Language

2211. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRB) have made it compulsory to answer one paper in local language in the clerical grade examinations;

(b) if so, whether this decision of the BSRB is likely to deprive the candidates who had studied in different States upto Matriculation consequent upon their changing residence from one State to another due to their parents being in transferable central services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Reports were received by the Government that certain Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) have made it compulsory to answer one paper in local language in the Clerks' Grade Examination. The matter was examined and the concerned BSRBs were advised to withdraw the stipulation and issue corrigendum where the advertisements were issued requiring answering of one paper in local language. As per available information, such a corrigendum has already been issued by the concerned BSRBs.

Amount of Banks Locked in Litigation

2212. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Bank of India has highest amount locked in litigations;

(b) if so, the amount locked as on 31st March, 1998 and the steps taken by the Government to recover the said amount; and

(c) the details of such amount of other nationalised banks locked in litigation as on 31 March, 1998 and the steps taken to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India receives information regarding suit filed account of Rs.1 crore and above. According to this information, the State Bank of India which is India's largest public sector bank has the highest amount locked in suit filed accounts of Rs.1 crore and above.

(b) An amount of Rs.2530.65 crores in 445 accounts of Rs.1 crore and above involved in the suit filed accounts. State Bank of India has filed suits for recovery of funds involved in these accounts.

(c) Bankwise details of suit filed accounts of Rs.1 crore and above of nationalised banks is furnished in the enclosed statement. In addition to filing suits to recover the amounts, Recovery Cells have also been set up at the Head Offices of the bank to monitor recovery performance is monitored by the Chief Executive of the bank concerned on a monthly basis and the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis.

Statement

Details of suit filed accounts—Nationalised Banks

| Sl. No. | Name of Bank | No. of A/Cs | Amount (in crores) |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. | ALLAHABAD BANK | 84 | 284.62 |
| 2. | ANDHRA BANK | 52 | 122.77 |
| 3. | BANK OF BARODA | 192 | 606.36 |
| 4. | BANK OF INDIA | 278 | 1113.28 |
| 5. | BANK OF MAHARASHTRA | 70 | 252.37 |
| 6. | CANARA BANK | 163 | 594.41 |
| 7. | CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA | 188 | 580.51 |
| 8. | CORPORATION BANK | 18 | 43.30 |
| 9. | DENA BANK | 38 | 95.70 |
| 10. | INDIAN BANK | 175 | 999.91 |
| 11. | INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK | 76 | 362.08 |
| 12. | ORIENTAL BANK OF COMM. | 27 | 89.09 |
| 13. | PUNJAB AND SIND BANK | 69 | 368.41 |
| 14. | PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK | 204 | 1117.84 |
| 15. | SYNDICATE BANK | 75 | 201.41 |
| 16. | UCO BANK | 120 | 461.63 |
| 17. | UNION BANK OF INDIA | 97 | 271.08 |
| 18. | UNITED BANK OF INDIA | 103 | 403.30 |
| 19. | VIJAYA BANK | 53 | 223.49 |
| TOTAL | | 2082 | 8191.56 |

[Translation]

Exchange Value of Rupee

2213. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI H.P. SINGH :
SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have taken notice of declining exchange value of rupees during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the extent to which the exchange value of the Indian Rupee had declined during the above period;
- (c) the reasons for devaluation of Indian rupee during the above period;
- (d) the impact of devaluation of Indian rupee on the international market;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the trend of declining exchange value of rupee and the extent to which the success has been achieved therein;
- (f) whether there is a possibility of solving the problem just by discontinuing the money expansion through the citizens and by making them card holders; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) The exchange rate of the rupee against the US dollar had depreciated by about 4.5 per cent during the last six months from the monthly average rate of Rs.40.47 per US dollar in May 1998 to Rs.42.38 in November, 1998.

(c) and (d) The exchange rate of the rupee in India is market determined and is influenced by the trends in the inflows and outflows of foreign exchange on both the current and capital accounts of balance of payments. The movements in the exchange of the rupee over the last six months or so help improve India's external competitiveness. This is expected to revive the growth of exports and strengthen our efforts at cost effective import substitution.

(e) to (g) The exchange rate developments are closely monitored both by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The RBI, as and when necessary, intervenes in the foreign exchange markets and deploys suitable monetary and other measures to counter speculative pressures on the rupee and to ensure orderly foreign exchange market conditions. These measures have helped to maintain reasonable stability in the external value of the rupee during periods of external pressures and to maintain the level of exchange rate consistent with the preservation and improvement of India's external competitiveness.

[English]

Export of Farm Goods

2214. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any comprehensive scheme to boost the export of farm goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of country's share of world trade is likely to be increased by implementation of the said scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Policy of exports of agricultural products forms an integral part of the Export Import Policy of the country. The Policy regarding exports of agricultural products is governed principally by the concerns of India's food security, maximising farm incomes and earning foreign exchange. Review of export performance of agricultural products is an on-going process and accordingly policy interventions are made, as and when considered necessary with a view to making agricultural exports increasingly viable.

Some of the steps taken/proposed to be taken to enhance exports of farm goods include:

1. Providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical knowhow of farmers through demonstrations, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old orchards, area expansion, supply of minikits for vegetables, improving productivity and training of farmers.
2. Provision of soft loans for setting up Xof grading/processing centres, auction platforms, ripening/curing chambers and quality testing equipment.
3. Providing financial assistance to exporters/growers/ Cooperative Societies for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of pre-cooling/cold storage facilities, integrated post-harvest handling systems (pack houses).
4. Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernization of processing units.
5. Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improving the acceptability of the product especially the mangoes in overseas markets.
6. Grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of floricultural items and selected fresh fruits and vegetables.
7. Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.
8. Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various international Airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables.
9. Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.
10. Providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, technology transfer, process upgradation and product development.

(c) It is difficult to estimate the likely percentage of country's share in the world trade of farm goods as this would depend on international demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, surpluses available for exports and production of farm goods meeting the quality standards of overseas buyers.

(d) The schemes are under implementation and would be continued during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.

[Translation]

Permanent Account Number

2215. SHRI RAJO SINGH :
SHRI VAIKO :
RAO INDERJIT SINGH :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have issued a notification making it mandatory for the people to quote Permanent Account Number (PAN) in certain deals w.e.f. November, 1998;

(b) if so, the deals for which PAN is made essential to be quoted;

(c) the number of applicants who have applied for allotment of Permanent Accounts Number during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the number of applications cleared so far, year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the reasons for not clearing the remaining applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Quoting of Permanent Account Number (PAN) or General Index Register Number (FIR No.) has been made compulsory in documents pertaining to following categories of transactions:-

- (i) Sale or purchase of any immovable property value at five lakh rupees or more.
- (ii) Sale or purchase of motor vehicles, other than two wheelers.
- (iii) Time deposits exceeding fifty thousand rupees in a Bank.
- (iv) Deposits exceeding fifty thousand rupees with Post Office Savings Bank.
- (v) Contracts relating to sale or purchase of securities exceeding the value of ten lakh rupees.
- (vi) Opening an account in a Bank.
- (vii) Applications for installation of telephone.
- (viii) Payments to hotels and restaurants exceeding twenty-five thousand rupees.

However, any person who has not been allotted PAN or does not have GIR No. and who makes payment in cash or otherwise than by a crossed cheque or crossed bank draft in respect of above categories of transactions is required to file only a simple declaration in the prescribed form to establish his identity.

(c) and (d) The required information is maintained computer centre-wise. A statement in this regard is enclosed.

(e) The delay in issuing Permanent Account Numbers to applicants is mainly due to incomplete information given in the application forms submitted by the income-tax payers. This necessitates the issue of deficiency letters. In all such cases, further processing can be done only after the deficiencies are removed by the tax payers. Moreover a large number of applications have been received in the recent months which are being processed expeditiously for allotment of PAN.

Statement

| Centre | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | | 1998-99 (upto 31.10.98) | |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | No. of PAN applications received | No. of PAN allotted | No. of PAN applications received | No. of PAN allotted | No. of PAN applications received | No. of PAN allotted | No. of PAN applications received | No. of PAN allotted |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Delhi | 161,323 | 99,581 | 351,087 | 204,328 | 147,403 | 244,110 | 254,050 | 179,412 |
| Mumbai | 714,760 | 356,509 | 181,498 | 323,995 | 113,970 | 223,641 | 307,570 | 37,208 |
| Chennai | 116,364 | 63,040 | 297,477 | 143,329 | 101,687 | 215,082 | 91,292 | 53,444 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Agra | | | | | 21,000 | 0 | 110,811 | 9,935 |
| Ahemabad | | | | | 2,760 | 2,760 | 606,954 | 23,472 |
| Allahabad | | | | | | | 80,605 | 8,959 |
| Amritsar | | | | | | | 208,914 | 46,559 |
| Bangalore | | | | | 65,975 | 15,975 | 469,252 | 63,091 |
| Baroda | | | | | | | 402,571 | 6,589 |
| Bhopal | | | | | | | 545,061 | 7,318 |
| Bhubneshwar | | | | | | | 151,570 | 6,580 |
| Calcutta | | | | | 10,309 | 10,309 | 1,688,753 | 3,529 |
| Kochin | | | | | | | 283,110 | 2,999 |
| Coimbatore | | | | | 20,215 | 0 | 78,067 | 9,358 |
| Hyderabad | | | | | 1,938 | 1,938 | 373,119 | 23,303 |
| Jabalpur | | | | | | | 229,718 | 593 |
| Jaipur | | | | | 2,614 | 2,614 | 600,179 | 24,633 |
| Jalandhar | | | | | 4,873 | 4,873 | 372,747 | 63,010 |
| Jodhpur | | | | | 25,775 | 0 | 348,448 | 28,109 |
| Kanpur | | | | | 1,284 | 1,284 | 122,705 | 11,202 |
| Kolhapur | | | | | 97,025 | 0 | 189,216 | 7,430 |
| Lacknow | | | | | 4,718 | 0 | 243,308 | 6,355 |
| Madurai | | | | | | | 107,958 | 13,324 |
| Meerut | | | | | 2,183 | 2,183 | 234,409 | 27,830 |
| Nagpur | | | | | | | 339,618 | 16,979 |
| Nasik | | | | | 12,345 | 0 | 274,573 | 20,026 |
| Patiala | | | | | 3,092 | 3,092 | 586,092 | 72,153 |
| Patna | | | | | 99,937 | 0 | 176,847 | 4,656 |
| Pune | | | | | 38,326 | 7,629 | 609,727 | 19,952 |
| Rajkot | | | | | 543 | 0 | 432,358 | 11,492 |
| Ranchi | | | | | | | 466,772 | 6,608 |
| Rohatak | | | | | 13,117 | 7,196 | 405,209 | 47,025 |
| Shillong | | | | | 64,121 | 0 | 262,392 | 51 |
| Surat | | | | | 8,415 | 0 | 340,585 | 13,295 |
| Trivandrum | | | | | 21,451 | 0 | 126,485 | 1,683 |
| Visakhapatnam | | | | | | | 287,396 | 5,256 |
| Total | 992,447 | 519,130 | 830,062 | 671,652 | 885,076 | 742,666 | 12,399,441 | 883,418 |
| Grand Total of No. of PAN applications received | | | | | | | | 15,107,026 |
| Grand Total of No. of PAN allotted | | | | | | | | 2,816,866 |

*[English]***Board of Nationalised Banks**

2216. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JHANJIHARPUR) :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.5438 dated July 24, 1998 regarding Board of Nationalised banks and state :-

- (a) whether the information to part (c) has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be laid on the table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Central Bureau of Investigation as on 31st May, 1998 they have not registered any case against any of the present Chairman and Managing Directors of nationalised banks.

Development of Holy Cities

2217. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.2 crores to every holy city in the country for its development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments have also been asked to bear Rs.1 crore for this purpose;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto;
- (e) whether the Government is going to develop temples also situated in these cities;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether some South Indian cities have been left out in this regard; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (f) The Ministry of Tourism has drawn up a scheme for the integrated development of identified tourist/pilgrim centres. According to the scheme, the State Governments have to prepare specific action plans for infrastructure development and beautification of specified tourist centres. The financial assistance by the Ministry

of Tourism will be limited to Rs.50 lakhs each during the current financial year and next year subject to matching contribution by the State Governments.

(g) and (h) No, Sir. All the State Governments have been requested to select two centres in their State for implementation of the scheme in the current and next year.

Disinvestment of PSUs

2218. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have identified the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for disinvestment under its administrative jurisdiction; and
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) and (b) Government have given 'in principle' approval for conversion of 23 PSUs under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Industry into joint ventures as part of long term strategy to make them strong and viable. The names of these 23 units are given in the enclosed statement.

Consultants/Merchant Bankers have been appointed in most of the cases and progress is reviewed at various levels. Some of these units were also referred to the Disinvestment Commission.

Statement

List of PSUs under the Department of Heavy Industry where Government have given 'in principle' approval for conversion into Joint Venture

1. Andrew Yule & Company Ltd. (AY&Co.)
2. Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd. (BHPV)
3. Bharat Leather Corporation Ltd. (BLC)
4. Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd. (BPCL)
5. Bridge & Roof Company (India) Ltd. (B&R)
6. Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)
7. Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., (EPI)
8. Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL)
9. H.M.T. Ltd.
10. H.M.T. (Bearings) Ltd.
11. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (HPC)
12. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd. (HPF)
13. Hindustan Salts Limited (HSL)
14. Instrumentation Ltd. (ILK)

15. Lagan Jute Machinery Company Ltd. (LAGAN)
16. Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd. (MNPM)
- *17. NEPA Ltd. (NEPA)
18. National Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.(NIDC)
19. Praga Tools Ltd. (PTL)
20. Scooters India Ltd. (SIL)
21. Sambhar Salts Ltd. (SSL)
22. Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd. (TSPL)
23. Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL)

*Referred to Disinvestment Commission.

[Translation]

Loans from Domestic Market

2219. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed an amount to be taken as loan from the domestic market during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the total amount fixed in this regard;

(c) the total amount of loan taken on this account during the last three years and the current year, till October, 1998; and

(d) the estimated amount of debt to be paid by the Government by the end of March, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Budget Estimates 1998-99 assume a gross domestic market borrowing of Rs.79,375 crore.

(c) The gross market borrowing in the last 3 years was as under:-

| | (Rs. crore) |
|---------|-------------|
| 1995-96 | 40509 |
| 1996-97 | 36152 |
| 1997-98 | 59637 |

During the current financial year, the gross market borrowing upto October, 1998 was Rs.67,421 crore.

(d) The market borrowing maturing during the year 1998-99 is Rs.31049 crore.

[English]

Diesel Car

2220. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI P. SANKARAN :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of car manufactures in the country who introduced diesel version of their cars and the

projects for bringing out the diesel version of cars in the pipelines;

(b) the policy of the Government in this regard;

(c) the annual sale of such cars;

(d) the number of cars exported during each of the last three years; and

(e) the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) The Automobile industry is delicensed. The firms have flexibility to manufacture passenger cars - either petrol or diesel version - according to the market condition. List of companies and the number of diesel passenger cars sold by them during 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99 (April-Oct.,98) is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The total number and value of cars and multi utility vehicles exported during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 & 1997-98 were as under:-

| | Qty.(Nos.) | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 1995-96 | 33,321 | 608.77 |
| 1996-97 | 39,645 | 849.41 |
| 1997-98 | 33,008 | 763.48 |

Statement

Sale of Diesel Passenger Cars by the various Car Manufacturers

| Sl. No. | Company Name | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 (Apr.-Oct. 98) |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| 1. | Maruti Udyog Ltd. | - | - | 1183 |
| 2. | Mahindra Ford India Ltd. | 2505 | 4865 | 1622 |
| 3. | Hindustan Motors Ltd. | 21734 | 19873 | 10218 |
| 4. | TELCO | 7315 | 4697 | 1530 |
| 5. | Mercedes Benz India Ltd. | 121 | 84 | 51 |
| 6. | General Motors India Ltd. | - | - | 247 |
| 7. | Premier Automobiles Ltd. | 7758 | 6772 | 2153 |

Industrial Package for Jammu and Kashmir

2221. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations for providing the industrial package for the speedy development of Jammu and Kashmir on the lines of industrial package given to the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to save the industry in the militancy affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the package of measures for industrialisation of the North East are as follows:

- i. Entire expenditure on Growth Centres, up to Rs.15 crores would be met through Central Assistance.
- ii. Funding pattern for Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDCs) changed to 4:1 between Government of India and SIDBI.
- iii. Transport subsidy scheme extended upto 31.3.2007 and amount to be disbursed through North East Development Financial Corporation.
- iv. Growth Centres & IIDCs to become tax-free zones for income tax and excise for 10 years and 15% subsidy on Plant & Machinery subject to a ceiling of Rs.30 lakhs.
- v. An interest subsidy of 3% on the working capital loans would be provided for a period of ten years after the commencement of production.
- vi. Comprehensive Insurance Scheme for new industrial units.

(c) State Government with the help of central forces extends protection to all vulnerable sections including industries.

[Translation]

National Co-operative Bank

2222. SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Urban Co-operative Banks functioning in the country and the financial position thereof;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to set up any National Co-operative Banks for the development of Urban Co-operative Banks at national level;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the other steps taken to strengthen the functioning of Urban Co-operative Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a total of 1811 Urban Co-operative Banks (including Salary Earners' Co-operative Banks and banks under liquidation) with about 5220 branches are functioning in the

country as on 31 March 1998. The financial position as on 31 March 1998 (provisional data from 1418 reporting banks) is as under:

| (Rs.crores) | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Owned funds | - 5659 |
| ii. Deposits | - 38472 |
| iii. Borrowing | - 839 |
| iv. Loans Outstanding | - 26455 |

(b) and (c) Government have no such proposal at present.

(d) Some of the steps taken by RBI to strengthen the functioning of Urban Co-operative Banks are as follows:

- Periodic statutory inspection of urban co-operative banks at biennial intervals to assess their financial health, solvency and their capacity to honour depositors' claim;
- Setting viability standards to ensure the financial health of the banks;
- Application of prudential norms to urban co-operative banks i.e. income recognition, asset classification and provisioning for non-performing assets;
- Introduction of exposure lending norms to ensure that no single borrower/group has monopoly access to bank credit;
- Monitoring the urban co-operative banks deployment of credit to priority sector/weaker sections;
- Extension of refinance facility by RBI under section 17 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 to Urban Co-operative Banks for financing production needs of tiny and cottage industries;
- Liaising with State Governments for revival of weak urban co-operative banks;
- Scheduled Urban Co-operative Banks have also been brought under the purview of Banking Ombudsmen Scheme for redressal of customers' grievances against deficiencies in banking service.

[English]

Withdrawal of SLR to PSU Bonds

2223. SHRI S.S. OWAIISI :
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has sent a proposal to the Government for withdrawing the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR status) to those PSU bonds which do not form part of market borrowing programme of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government on this proposal;

(c) whether RBI has also demanded to amend section 5 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1934 to give it more powers to determine securities which do not form part of SLR; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have made such a proposal.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Treatment in AIIMS by Employees of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.

2224. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officers and employees of Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd. have been permitted to get treatment in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi;

(b) if so, the extent to which these rules are complied with;

(c) whether many officers are getting full reimbursement after getting treatment in other costly hospitals instead of AIIMS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complicated specialised and super specialised cases for both executives and non-executives are referred to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi for further investigation and treatment. The claims/bills of the institute are reimbursed as per the Rules.

(c) to (e) Only some complicated specialised and selective super specialised cases of executives and non-executives are referred to Private Hospitals empanelled by CIL/MCL for investigation and treatment as per the nature of the case. The reimbursed claims are accepted as per the rules and package charges approved by the company.

Promotion of Handicrafts in U.P.

2225. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for promotion of handicrafts during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of proposals out of them pending or under consideration, as on date;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any schemes for promotion of Handicrafts in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount spent on the promotion of handicrafts in U.P. during the last three years and the current year, till date?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Some proposal have been received from the Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation Ltd. and Uttar Pradesh Trade Promotion Authority for promotion of handicrafts in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The number of proposal received during the last three years and number proposals pending out of them is as under :

| 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| No. of proposalw | Pending | No. of porposals | Pending | No. of proposals | Pending |
| 12 | Nil | 17 | Nil | 12 | 2 |

(c) and (d) The scheme prepared for promotion of handicrafts in the country including in the State of Uttar Pradesh include : training; design development; setting up of crafts development centres; opening of new emporia and renovation/expansion of new existing emporia; exhibition and publicity etc.

(e) A sum of Rs. 12.35 crores has been sanctioned for promotion of handicrafts in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year till November, 1998.

[Translation]

Filling up Reserved Posts of OBCs in Nationalised Banks

2226. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines to nationalised banks to fill up the post reserved for Other Backward Classes (OBCs);

(b) if so, the number of persons of OBCs recruited in these banks upto April 30, 1998; and

(c) the time by which the backlog of reserved posts for Other Backward Classes is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The reservation for Other Backward Classes in direct recruitment have been introduced in the public sector banks from 8th September, 1993. As per

latest available information 5331 persons belonging to Other Backward Classes were recruited in different cadres in the public sector banks including 19 nationalised banks till 31.12.1997. Public Sector Banks have been instructed to maintain revised rosters for recruitment which includes, inter alia, specified roster points to be filled by Other Backward Classes for all vacancies filled up after 8th September, 1993.

[English]

Imported Onion

2227. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 150 tonnes of onion imported from Dubai remained lying at the airports due to delay in the customs clearance; and

(b) if so, the reasons of delay in customs clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Import of onion through Air Cargo Complex, Delhi has been reported. The imports were made in smaller lots between 10 to 30 tonnes in 26 consignments, weighing 575 metric tonnes. All the imports were cleared on Kachha Bill of Entry by the Import Freight Officer subject to submission of regular Bill of Entry later on. There has been no delay in these clearances.

Clearance of Land to Salt Commissioner

2228. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from Government of Tamil Nadu for the issuance of administrative clearance to the Salt Commissioner for surrendering the lands "adjoining Ennore" earmarked for Petro-Chem Park; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BHAKT) : (a) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited, a Government of Tamil Nadu Enterprise for the issuance of administrative clearance to the Salt Commissioner for surrendering approximately 1434 Hectares of salt land at Ennore near Chennai for development of Petro Chemical Industrial Park.

(b) Such proposals are considered by the Government as per General Financial Rules.

[Translation]

Equity in Foreign Investment

2229. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of Private Limited Companies which have 51 percent or more foreign equity in the country, company-wise; and

(b) the number and name of companies which have applied for the said foreign equity, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BHAKT) : (a) and (b) During the period from August, 1991 to September, 1998 a total of 3732 approvals for foreign collaboration have been granted with 51 percent or more foreign equity. Country-wise and company-wise details are published on a monthly basis in the SIA Newsletter brought out by this Department, which is widely circulated, including the Parliament Library.

[English]

S. Mohan Committee on Revision of Pay

2230 SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received S. Mohan Committee Report on revision of pay scales of Public Sector executives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to implement the recommendation of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) to (c) Justic S. Mohan Committee which was constituted by the Government to examine the present structure of pay, allowances, perquisites and benefits for executives and non-unionised supervisory staff of the Central Public Sector Enterprises has submitted its Report to the Government on 31-10-1998. The Government are examining the recommendations.

Railway Siding and Despatch Posts in BCCL

2231. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway sidings and despatch posts in BCCL;

(b) the number of railway sidings and despatch posts out of it where there is facility of weigh-bridge;

(c) the quantity of coal, coke, wash coke dilling and other quantity of coal despatched after weighing and without weighing on weigh-bridges through railways during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any complaint of shortage in the coal which was despatched after weighing on the railway weigh-bridge have been received during the above period;

(e) if so, the quantity of shortage separately in each case;
and

(f) The amount of loss incurred due to shortage of coal which was despatched without weighing or after weighing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) In BCCL the total number of railways sidings including sidings at washeries is 73 and total despatch posts are 82.

(b) Weigh-bridge facility is available at all the railway sidings and despatch posts from where wagons are loaded.

(c) Year-wise details of despatch of coal, coke and middlings for the last three years are as under :

Figs. in '000 tonnes

| Year | Total despatch | Weighed quantity | Un-weighted quantity |
|---------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1995-96 | 22,152 | 17,982 | 4,171 |
| 1996-97 | 22,664 | 19,670 | 2,894 |
| 1997-98 | 22,331 | 20,652 | 1,679 |

(d) and (e) Complaints have been received from consumers but in case despatch aid made and RRs issued on the basis of weighing on electronic weigh-bridge, such claims are not entertained.

(f) The claim/deductions of the consumers a/c shortage during the last three years from unweighed wagons is as under :

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 1995-96 | Rs. 18.07 crores |
| 1996-97 | Rs. 9.30 crores |
| 1997-98 | Rs. 9.08 crores |

Assistance by IDBI

2227. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) from the entrepreneurs of various States for financial assistance during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications out of those sanctioned/rejected during the said period;

(c) the details of financial assistance provided during the said period year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the irregularities committed in sanctioning financial assistance to entrepreneurs;

(e) if so, the details there of; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) As reported by the IDBI, state-wise number of applications received, sanctioned and rejected by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) during 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (April-September) are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) State-wise financial assistance sanctioned and disbursed under the direct finance scheme by the IDBI during 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 (April-September) is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Dose not arise.

Statement-I

Applications received by IDBI from various states during the last three years—State-wise

| Sl.No. | State | 1995-96 | | | 1996-97 | | | 1997-98 | | | 1998-99 (April-Sept.) | | |
|--------|-------------------|---------|-------|------|---------|-------|------|---------|-------|------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| | | Recd. | Sanc. | Rej. | Recd. | Sanc. | Rej. | Recd. | Sanc. | Rej. | Recd. | Sanc. | Rej. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 181 | 123 | 4 | 127 | 97 | 4 | 164 | 129 | 1 | 61 | 3 | - |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3. | Assam | 19 | 15 | 1 | 7 | 6 | - | 5 | 6 | - | 3 | - | - |
| 4. | Bihar | 21 | 15 | - | 20 | 14 | 1 | 14 | 8 | - | 7 | 3 | - |
| 5. | Goa | 9 | 5 | 1 | 12 | 9 | - | 6 | 4 | - | 7 | 2 | - |
| 6. | Gujarat | 168 | 107 | 6 | 140 | 104 | 6 | 172 | 135 | 3 | 73 | 20 | - |
| 7. | Haryana | 66 | 37 | 2 | 45 | 28 | 1 | 57 | 38 | - | 25 | 1 | - |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 23 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 9 | - | 20 | 12 | - | 10 | 1 | - |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 5 | 4 | - | 4 | 4 | - | 0 | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 10. | Karnataka | 122 | 78 | - | 56 | 34 | - | 94 | 63 | 1 | 32 | 5 | - |
| 11. | Kerala | 43 | 21 | 10 | 15 | 12 | - | 16 | 13 | - | 24 | 5 | - |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 100 | 58 | 2 | 52 | 37 | 3 | 80 | 63 | 2 | 28 | 6 | - |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 323 | 224 | 17 | 231 | 165 | 8 | 306 | 240 | 10 | 15 | 24 | - |
| 14. | Orissa | 18 | 10 | - | 10 | 8 | - | 21 | 16 | 1 | 6 | - | - |
| 15. | Punjab | 50 | 34 | 1 | 33 | 18 | 2 | 58 | 42 | 1 | 23 | 3 | - |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 142 | 90 | 6 | 57 | 41 | 3 | 89 | 58 | 8 | 46 | 5 | - |
| 17. | Sikkim | 0 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 206 | 152 | 3 | 127 | 86 | 9 | 180 | 122 | 3 | 72 | 11 | - |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh | 137 | 91 | 1 | 81 | 46 | 6 | 102 | 67 | 5 | 45 | 7 | - |
| 20. | West Bengal | 89 | 64 | 1 | 66 | 49 | 1 | 95 | 72 | - | 33 | 4 | - |
| Union Territories | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Chandigarh | 7 | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | - | 2 | - | - |
| | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 20 | 11 | 1 | 18 | 16 | - | 17 | 15 | - | 8 | 3 | - |
| | Delhi | 48 | 32 | - | 30 | 16 | 1 | 46 | 24 | 2 | 12 | 5 | - |
| | Diu & Daman | 6 | 5 | - | 5 | 5 | - | 8 | 6 | - | 3 | - | - |
| | Pondicherry | 8 | 4 | - | 4 | 4 | - | 3 | 2 | - | 5 | - | - |
| | Andaman/Nicobar | 0 | - | - | 0 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - |

Statement-II*State-wise Assistance Sanctioned and Disbursed by IDBI*

(Rs. Crore)

| Sl.No. | State | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | | 1998-99 (April-Sept.) | |
|--------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| | | Sanc. | Disb. | Sanc. | Disb. | Sanc. | Disb. | Sanc. | Disb. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1292.34 | 764.95 | 1002.76 | 845.74 | 3014.81 | 1763.79 | 1199.02 | 585.26 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1.60 | 0.34 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 0.00 | - | - |
| 3. | Assam | 70.44 | 43.80 | 15.35 | 24.21 | 14.56 | 14.71 | 25.70 | 1.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 77.17 | 70.36 | 98.41 | 47.52 | 370.55 | 329.29 | 640.90 | 19.01 |
| 5. | Goa | 65.00 | 12.18 | 64.19 | 7.90 | 65.85 | 27.06 | 118.89 | 42.87 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 2811.12 | 1635.48 | 2847.43 | 1879.55 | 2920.77 | 3155.07 | 857.12 | 1196.85 |
| 7. | Haryana | 308.55 | 174.94 | 377.17 | 227.66 | 487.46 | 356.50 | 162.49 | 122.28 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 295.68 | 110.52 | 35.89 | 170.32 | 241.05 | 193.98 | 32.90 | 38.88 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 12.65 | 3.23 | 10.72 | 8.11 | 3.78 | 1.09 | — | — |
| 10. | Karnataka | 1363.69 | 570.11 | 1003.61 | 593.72 | 1357.92 | 1048.91 | 1068.35 | 653.14 |
| 11. | Kerala | 97.51 | 66.71 | 37.99 | 73.69 | 98.10 | 57.21 | 91.96 | 71.85 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 815.78 | 500.76 | 329.76 | 551.18 | 2447.81 | 697.29 | 242.50 | 196.91 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2787.03 | 1743.40 | 1992.77 | 1755.81 | 4350.26 | 2632.61 | 3204.75 | 1286.00 |
| 14. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 | — | — |
| 15. | Orissa | 96.07 | 117.15 | 1072.03 | 168.23 | 295.43 | 126.25 | 15.60 | 135.25 |
| 16. | Punjab | 323.79 | 181.54 | 227.07 | 177.21 | 266.21 | 283.25 | 360.17 | 268.96 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 504.85 | 419.18 | 931.04 | 622.74 | 760.06 | 518.67 | 499.24 | 271.66 |
| 18. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | 0.00 | — | — |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 1321.21 | 1164.14 | 1242.46 | 842.51 | 2957.30 | 928.92 | 1712.13 | 574.77 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 1315.11 | 744.95 | 899.85 | 1166.95 | 686.72 | 676.11 | 1395.12 | 348.88 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 387.58 | 278.71 | 504.81 | 291.87 | 950.24 | 796.97 | 503.16 | 195.90 |
| Union Territories | | | | | | | | | |
| | Chandigarh | 10.00 | 1.30 | 21.35 | 20.49 | 2.90 | 9.10 | 47.70 | — |
| | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 102.99 | 88.78 | 78.97 | 62.97 | 136.73 | 93.74 | 50.50 | 57.94 |
| | Delhi | 598.93 | 518.73 | 628.43 | 261.01 | 308.70 | 376.71 | 657.00 | 232.03 |
| | Diu & Daman | 18.95 | 28.28 | 27.30 | 14.69 | 42.75 | 35.73 | 19.03 | 15.82 |
| | Pondicherry | 39.65 | 48.89 | 20.40 | 22.77 | 12.50 | 11.93 | 6.00 | 5.78 |
| | Andaman/Nicobar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | — | — |

[Translation]

**India's Investment in Joint
Venture Abroad**

2233. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to increase the limit of investment by India in joint ventures and wholly owned undertakings abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The investment limit by Indian companies in joint ventures and wholly owned subsidiaries abroad has been increased from US \$ 4.0 million to US \$ 15.0 million, under the fast track route. The limit for Indian Rupee investment in Nepal and Bhutan has also been increased to Rs.60.0 crores under the fast track route.

(c) The decision in respect of the above has already been implemented vide notifications No.4/1/93-EP(OI) dated 2.11.98 and 28.8.98.

[English]

Ban on Export of Pulses

2234. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed ban on the export of pulses; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. No ban has been imposed by the Government on export of pulses. Pulses continue to be exportable in consumer packs of upto 5 Kgs.

**Setting up of National Powerloom
Development Corporation**

2235. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representatives of powerloom industry have requested the Union Government for setting up of National Powerloom Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this Corporation is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The representatives of powerloom industry including Indian Powerloom Federation, inter-alia, had demanded setting up of a National Powerloom Development Corporation on the lines of NHDC (National Handloom Development Corporation) with a corpus of Rs.5000 crores for market intervention in regard to supply of yarn and disposal of fabrics after value addition. A final decision has not been taken in this regard.

Decline in Industrial Growth

2236. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI ARJUN SETHI :

PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether industrial growth continues to decline during the first half of current year despite various measures taken by the Government;

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

(c) the reasons for decline;

(d) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to kick start the industrial growth;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the fiscal deficit is likely to be restricted by this strategy?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) The sector-wise industrial growth for the last three years is as follows:

(Base : 1993-94 = 100)

| Sectors | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1997-98 (Apr-Sep.) | 1998-99 (Apr-Sep.) |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| All Industries | 12.7 | 5.6 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 3.6 |
| Mining & Quarrying | 9.5 | -1.9 | 5.9 | 5.0 | -0.4 |
| Manufacturing | 13.8 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.0 | 3.4 |
| Electricity | 8.1 | 4.0 | 6.6 | 7.2 | 3.8 |

USE-BASED CLASSIFICATION

| Sectors | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1997-98 (Apr-Sep.) | 1998-99 (Apr-Sep.) |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Basic Goods | 10.7 | 3.0 | 6.5 | 7.0 | 2.6 |
| Capital Goods | 4.1 | 9.3 | 5.2 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
| Intermediates | 19.1 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 7.9 | 5.7 |
| Consumer Goods | 12.4 | 5.2 | 5.7 | 2.5 | 0.8 |
| Durables | 25.8 | 4.6 | 7.8 | 6.3 | 0.4 |
| Non-Durables | 9.3 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 1.5 | 1.0 |

(c) The slow down in industrial growth can be attributed to both the domestic and external factors. The domestic factors include weak demand on account of inadequate investment in infrastructure sector, like power, ports and transport, and slow down in general investment mainly due to capital market conditions and partly due to corporate restructuring in some industries in order to become internationally competitive. On the external side, the export growth has been negative which has been aggravated by fall in world exports.

The demand has been slackening for basic goods like steel, cement, commercial vehicles, capital goods as well as consumer durables. This has resulted in cut back of production by the industries and build-up on inventories.

Export growth decline to (-)5.08% during April-October 1998, following significant deceleration from the peak level of 21.4% in 1995-96 to 4% in 1996-97 and 2.6% in 1997-98. As exports constitute significant proportion of total manufacturing output in the country, the decline in exports has adversely impacted industrial production.

(d) to (f) In order to give a boost to industry, Government has announced further Post Budget measures, which include:

(i) Special package announced for revival of growth in exports.

(ii) The Government has recently allowed buy back of shares and inter-corporate loans to boost investment and revive the capital market.

(iii) To give an immediate boost to industrial activity, the busy season credit policy announced by RBI has avoided raising interest rates.

(iv) Counter guarantees given by Government to three major fast track power projects are expected to lead to financial closure and thus created demand for basic and other goods.

(v) Four Task Forces have been constituted for Steel, Capital Goods, Commercial Vehicles and Cement to recommend policy interventions to address the problems faced by these sectors. The Task Forces

have submitted their recommendations to the Ministry of Finance. The Government has already notified exemption of seven inputs used in steel manufacturing from the special customs duty. The policy announcements relating to other sectors are expected shortly.

It is expected that the growth in industrial production would pick up as a result of various measures taken by the Government. This in turn would positively impact on revenue collection and help contain the fiscal deficit.

FDI in Insurance Sector

2237. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHAL :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to privatise and allow Foreign Direct Investment in Insurance sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith equity participation;
- (c) the modalities adopted for joint venture and private participation in the said sector;
- (d) whether the Government have consulted the trade unions in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) In the budget speech it has been announced that the insurance sector will be opened to competition from private Indian companies and the Insurance Regulatory Authority will be converted into a statutory authority. The Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998 to carry out the above measures would be introduced in the current session of the Parliament. The Bill shall contain all the details.

(d) and (e) The reforms in Insurance Sector were widely debated at various forums from time to time including trade unions after the report of the committee on reforms in Insur-

ance Sector headed by Shri R.N. Malhotra, Ex.Governor, RBI was submitted to the Government in 1994.

Trade with Foreign Countries

2238. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the India's trade (Import & Export) with foreign countries has declined during each of the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) the steps contemplated to improve the trade with these countries; and
- (d) the main items which were exported and imported to each country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) As per the data provided by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S) the growth rate of imports and exports of India for the last three years are given below:

| Year | Exports (Growth Rates) | | Imports (Growth Rates) | |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| | (Rs. in Crs.) | (US \$ Mn.) | (Rs. in Crs.) | (US \$ Mn.) |
| 1997-98(P) | 6.3 | 1.5 | 9.1 | 4.2 |
| 1996-97 | 11.7 | 5.3 | 13.2 | 6.7 |
| 1995-96 | 28.6 | 20.8 | 36.4 | 28.0 |

(P) Provisional.

The country-wise details of exports and imports are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Many steps have been taken in the direction of improving bilateral and commercial relations. Bilateral Government contacts between various economic Ministries and organisations have grown substantially over the last few years. There has also been an increase in the number of trade delegations exchanged with these countries. There is also an endeavour to adopt specific measures to strengthen the cooperation and raised bilateral trade and economic relations to a new level.

(d) The main items of exports are agriculture and allied products, tea, coffee, marine products, ores and minerals, leather and manufactures, gems & jewellery, chemicals and related products, engineering goods, electronic goods, textiles including handicrafts. The main items of imports are fertilizers, pearls and precious stones, machinery, edible oils, petroleum crude and products, iron and steel, gold and silver, electronic goods, organic and inorganic chemicals, non-ferrous metals, metalliferous ores & metal scrap, project goods, coal, coke and briquettes. The destination-wise details are available in the DGCI&S publications entitled "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" which are available in the Parliament Library.

Statement

IMPORTS BY REGIONS AND COUNTRIES : APRIL-MARCH, 1995-98

US \$ Million

| Countries/Regions | April-March | | | Percentage growth | | | Percentage weight | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1995-95 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1995-95 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1995-95 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| I. WEST EUROPE | 11395.41 | 11915.57 | 12980.60 | 33.59 | 4.56 | 8.94 | 31.07 | 30.45 | 31.83 |
| (a) ECM Countries | 9773.58 | 9913.29 | 9754.29 | 37.40 | 1.43 | -1.60 | 26.65 | 25.33 | 23.92 |
| 1. Belgium | 1702.00 | 2251.69 | 2441.67 | 41.17 | 32.30 | 8.44 | 4.64 | 5.75 | 5.99 |
| 2. Denmark | 270.09 | 185.65 | 86.75 | 46.20 | -31.26 | -53.27 | 0.74 | 0.47 | 0.21 |
| 3. France | 840.81 | 768.10 | 786.62 | 36.64 | -8.65 | 2.41 | 2.29 | 1.96 | 1.93 |
| 4. FRG | 3144.90 | 2831.08 | 2500.92 | 43.79 | -9.98 | -11.66 | 8.57 | 7.23 | 6.13 |
| 5. Greece | 48.99 | 16.42 | 27.13 | 131.40 | -66.48 | 65.21 | 0.13 | 0.04 | 0.07 |
| 6. Ireland | 25.44 | 20.28 | -35.48 | 28.43 | -20.30 | 74.95 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.09 |
| 7. Italy | 1064.38 | 987.38 | 919.45 | 43.63 | -7.23 | -6.88 | 2.90 | 2.52 | 2.25 |
| 8. Luxembourg | 1.39 | 5.08 | 5.18 | 96.43 | 264.05 | 1.98 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| 9. Netherlands | 570.27 | 493.98 | 432.65 | 47.80 | -13.38 | -12.41 | 1.55 | 1.26 | 1.06 |
| 10. Portugal | 5.29 | 8.36 | 15.48 | -54.32 | 57.97 | 85.27 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.04 |
| 11. Spain | 182.13 | 210.60 | 162.97 | 0.37 | 15.63 | -22.62 | 0.50 | 0.54 | 0.40 |
| 12. United Kingdom | 1917.89 | 2134.68 | 2339.98 | 23.01 | 11.30 | 9.62 | 5.23 | 5.46 | 5.74 |
| (b) EFTA Countries | 1568.88 | 1890.20 | 3145.13 | 17.50 | 20.48 | 66.39 | 4.28 | 4.83 | 7.71 |
| 1. Finland | 170.79 | 199.78 | 175.42 | 57.96 | 16.98 | -12.20 | 0.47 | 0.51 | 0.43 |
| 2. Sweden | 244.14 | 371.58 | 270.71 | -18.23 | 52.20 | -27.15 | 0.67 | 0.95 | 0.66 |
| 3. Switzerland | 999.02 | 1127.32 | 2563.65 | 21.20 | 12.84 | 127.41 | 2.72 | 2.88 | 6.29 |
| (c) Rest of Europe | 52.95 | 112.08 | 81.17 | -35.23 | 111.66 | -27.58 | 0.14 | 0.29 | 0.20 |
| II. ASIA AND OCEANIA | 16767.64 | 18637.86 | 19017.89 | 22.62 | 11.15 | 2.04 | 45.72 | 47.83 | 46.64 |
| (a) Escap | 9293.59 | 9782.38 | 10544.51 | 23.94 | 5.04 | 8.01 | 25.34 | 24.95 | 25.86 |
| 1. Bangladesh | 85.87 | 62.23 | 51.14 | 124.97 | -27.53 | -17.82 | 0.23 | 0.16 | 0.13 |
| 2. Nepal | 49.15 | 64.07 | 94.59 | 34.33 | 30.35 | 47.64 | 0.13 | 0.16 | 0.23 |
| 3. Sri Lanka | 41.35 | 45.16 | 32.69 | 34.58 | 9.21 | -27.82 | 0.11 | 0.12 | 0.08 |
| 4. Australia | 1022.01 | 1317.20 | 1496.35 | 11.68 | 28.88 | 13.60 | 2.79 | 3.37 | 3.67 |
| 5. China P.R. | 812.04 | 756.91 | 1158.19 | 6.73 | -6.79 | 53.01 | 2.21 | 1.93 | 2.84 |
| 6. Hongkong | 388.07 | 319.12 | 293.39 | 35.21 | -17.77 | -8.07 | 1.06 | 0.82 | 0.72 |
| 7. Indonesia | 461.17 | 598.68 | 729.77 | - | 29.81 | 21.90 | 1.26 | 1.53 | 1.79 |
| 8. Japan | 2467.75 | 2187.45 | 2128.84 | 20.97 | -11.36 | -2.68 | 6.73 | 5.59 | 5.22 |
| 9. Korea Republic | 824.90 | 883.59 | 898.43 | 31.17 | 7.12 | 1.45 | 2.25 | 2.26 | 2.20 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 10. Malaysia | | 902.80 | 1041.36 | 1185.30 | 84.21 | 15.35 | 13.82 | 2.46 | 2.66 | 2.91 |
| 11. Singapore | | 1113.57 | 1063.31 | 1187.92 | 23.77 | -4.51 | 11.72 | 3.04 | 2.72 | 2.91 |
| 12. Thailand | | 169.71 | 197.19 | 230.37 | -1.11 | 16.20 | 16.83 | 0.46 | 0.50 | 0.56 |
| (b) Others | | 7474.05 | 8875.48 | 8473.38 | 21.01 | 18.75 | -4.53 | 20.38 | 22.68 | 20.78 |
| 1. Saudi Arabia | | 2024.87 | 2769.65 | 2528.29 | 29.03 | 36.78 | -8.71 | 5.52 | 7.08 | 6.20 |
| 2. United Arab Emirates | | 1606.74 | 1736.06 | 1746.24 | 4.80 | 8.05 | 0.59 | 4.38 | 4.44 | 4.28 |
| 3. Israel | | 242.61 | 268.67 | 325.77 | -6.08 | 10.74 | 21.25 | 0.66 | 0.69 | 0.80 |
| III. AFRICA | | 2002.80 | 2880.91 | 2963.01 | 31.21 | 43.84 | 2.85 | 5.46 | 7.36 | 7.27 |
| 1. Egypt | | 72.64 | 65.17 | 196.42 | -68.18 | -10.28 | 201.40 | 0.20 | 0.17 | 0.48 |
| 2. Nigeria | | 769.80 | 1525.68 | 1116.92 | 81.63 | 98.19 | -26.79 | 2.10 | 3.90 | 2.74 |
| 3. South Africa | | 243.88 | 321.05 | 482.72 | 57.65 | 31.64 | 50.36 | 0.66 | 0.82 | 1.18 |
| IV. AMERICA | | 4835.16 | 4592.86 | 4650.65 | 22.37 | -5.01 | 1.26 | 13.18 | 11.74 | 11.40 |
| (a) North America | | 4242.74 | 3999.26 | 4061.77 | 33.79 | -5.74 | 1.56 | 11.57 | 10.22 | 9.96 |
| 1. Canada | | 381.24 | 313.36 | 426.68 | 43.62 | -17.80 | 36.16 | 1.04 | 0.80 | 1.05 |
| 2. U.S.A. | | 3861.50 | 3685.90 | 3635.07 | 32.89 | -4.55 | -1.38 | 10.53 | 9.42 | 8.91 |
| (b) South America | | 515.92 | 522.10 | 479.17 | -29.13 | 1.20 | -8.22 | 1.41 | 1.33 | 1.28 |
| 1. Brazil | | 261.09 | 152.61 | 198.22 | -52.39 | -41.55 | 29.88 | 0.71 | 0.39 | 0.49 |
| (c) Other Central & Caribb | | 76.50 | 71.50 | 109.70 | 46.38 | -6.53 | 53.43 | 0.21 | 0.18 | 0.27 |
| V. EAST EUROPE | | 1673.93 | 1102.66 | 1100.04 | 72.99 | -34.13 | -0.24 | 4.56 | 2.32 | 2.70 |
| (i) C.I.S. | | 1215.15 | 768.02 | 880.53 | 66.46 | -36.80 | 14.65 | 3.31 | 1.96 | 2.16 |
| (a) Russia | | 856.32 | 628.43 | 679.53 | 69.77 | -26.61 | 8.13 | 2.33 | 1.61 | 1.67 |
| (b) Rest of CIS Countries | | 358.83 | 139.59 | 201.00 | 59.07 | -61.10 | 43.99 | 0.98 | 0.36 | 0.49 |
| (ii) Other East European Countries | | 458.78 | 334.63 | 219.51 | 93.04 | -27.06 | -34.40 | 1.25 | 0.86 | 0.54 |
| (a) Former RPA Countries | | 213.60 | 214.15 | 142.38 | 76.02 | 0.26 | -33.52 | 0.58 | 0.55 | 0.35 |
| (b) Rest of the Countries | | 237.12 | 111.81 | 71.65 | 103.87 | -52.85 | -35.92 | 0.65 | 0.29 | 0.18 |
| Grand Total | | 36677.93 | 39132.47 | 40778.78 | 28.00 | 6.69 | 4.21 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Source : DGCI&S Calcutta

EXPORTS BY REGIONS AND COUNTRIES : APRIL-MARCH, 1995-98

US \$ Million

| Countries/Regions | April-March | | | Percentage growth | | | Percentage weight | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| I. WEST EUROPE | 9258.19 | 9265.13 | 9569.59 | 19.2 | 0.1 | 3.29 | 29.12 | 27.68 | 28.16 |
| (a) ECM Countries | 8418.37 | 8354.89 | 8554.80 | 19.7 | -0.8 | 2.39 | 26.48 | 24.96 | 25.18 |
| 1. Belgium | 1120.53 | 1092.69 | 1191.03 | 13.4 | -2.5 | 9.00 | 3.52 | 3.26 | 3.51 |
| 2. Denmark | 145.91 | 150.94 | 152.57 | 12.8 | 3.4 | 1.08 | 0.46 | 0.45 | 0.45 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3. France | | 747.03 | 716.17 | 740.10 | 28.3 | -4.1 | 3.34 | 2.35 | 2.14 | 2.18 |
| 4. FRG | | 1977.56 | 1893.06 | 1854.43 | 13.2 | -4.3 | -2.04 | 6.22 | 5.66 | 5.46 |
| 5. Greece | | 98.71 | 93.58 | 88.94 | 34.3 | -5.2 | -4.96 | 0.31 | 0.28 | 0.26 |
| 6. Ireland | | 49.31 | 59.38 | 65.68 | 41.3 | 20.4 | 10.60 | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.19 |
| 7. Italy | | 1014.09 | 933.70 | 1098.35 | 18.2 | -7.9 | 17.63 | 3.19 | 2.79 | 3.23 |
| 8. Luxembourg | | 2.60 | 3.22 | 3.11 | -35.6 | 23.8 | -3.3 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| 9. Netherlands | | 769.09 | 852.37 | 781.30 | 31.4 | 10.8 | -8.34 | 2.42 | 2.55 | 2.30 |
| 10. Portugal | | 91.68 | 87.88 | 110.25 | 34.6 | -4.1 | 25.46 | 0.29 | 0.26 | 0.32 |
| 11. Spain | | 390.95 | 425.00 | 430.05 | 45.2 | 8.7 | 1.19 | 1.23 | 1.27 | 1.27 |
| 12. United Kingdom | | 2010.91 | 2046.91 | 2038.99 | 19.0 | 1.8 | -0.39 | 6.32 | 6.12 | 6.00 |
| (b) EFTA Countries | | 637.77 | 679.34 | 737.06 | 5.9 | 6.5 | 8.50 | 2.01 | 2.03 | 2.17 |
| 1. Finland | | 53.56 | 54.49 | 56.12 | 20.7 | 1.7 | 2.99 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.17 |
| 2. Sweden | | 146.39 | 151.51 | 162.53 | -0.4 | 3.5 | 7.27 | 0.46 | 0.45 | 0.48 |
| 3. Switzerland | | 281.57 | 299.88 | 373.77 | 13.8 | 6.5 | 24.64 | 0.89 | 0.90 | 1.10 |
| (c) Rest of Europe | | 202.05 | 230.90 | 277.73 | 51.0 | 14.3 | 20.28 | 0.64 | 0.69 | 0.82 |
| II. ASIA AND OCEANIA | | 12856.03 | 13614.63 | 13195.87 | 23.3 | 5.9 | -3.08 | 40.43 | 40.68 | 38.83 |
| (a) Escap | | 9892.32 | 10276.68 | 9524.35 | 26.1 | 3.9 | -7.32 | 31.11 | 30.70 | 28.03 |
| 1. Bangladesh | | 1049.14 | 868.96 | 764.00 | 62.7 | -17.2 | 12.08 | 3.30 | 2.60 | 2.25 |
| 2. Nepal | | 160.06 | 165.72 | 159.87 | 33.3 | 3.5 | -3.53 | 0.50 | 0.60 | 0.47 |
| 3. Sri Lanka | | 401.76 | 477.41 | 476.68 | 9.6 | 18.8 | -0.15 | 1.26 | 1.43 | 1.40 |
| 4. Australia | | 375.69 | 385.36 | 425.59 | 8.4 | 2.6 | 10.44 | 1.18 | 1.15 | 1.25 |
| 5. China P.R. | | 332.73 | 614.80 | 680.99 | 30.9 | 84.8 | 10.77 | 1.05 | 1.84 | 2.00 |
| 6. Hongkong | | 1821.53 | 1862.60 | 1919.30 | 20.0 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 5.73 | 5.57 | 5.65 |
| 7. Indonesia | | 662.46 | 591.84 | 435.38 | 14.4 | -1.1 | -26.44 | 2.08 | 1.77 | 1.28 |
| 8. Japan | | 2215.77 | 2005.88 | 1858.54 | 9.3 | -9.5 | -7.35 | 6.97 | 5.99 | 5.47 |
| 9. Korea Republic | | 448.29 | 518.48 | 411.68 | 34.8 | 15.7 | -20.60 | 1.41 | 1.55 | 1.21 |
| 10. Malaysia | | 393.19 | 531.14 | 481.24 | 37.2 | 35.1 | -9.39 | 1.24 | 1.59 | 1.42 |
| 11. Singapore | | 901.70 | 977.47 | 738.90 | 17.1 | 8.4 | -24.41 | 2.84 | 2.92 | 2.17 |
| 12. Thailand | | 472.96 | 447.08 | 337.59 | 16.3 | -5.5 | -24.49 | 1.49 | 1.34 | 0.99 |
| (b) Others | | 2963.70 | 3337.95 | 3671.52 | 14.7 | 12.6 | 9.99 | 9.32 | 9.97 | 10.80 |
| 1. Saudi Arabia | | 482.33 | 577.18 | 675.27 | 10.7 | 19.7 | 17.00 | 1.52 | 1.72 | 1.99 |
| 2. United Arab Emirates | | 1428.39 | 1476.01 | 1595.44 | 12.8 | 3.3 | 8.09 | 4.49 | 4.41 | 4.70 |
| 3. Israel | | 216.61 | 211.41 | 328.95 | 14.2 | -2.4 | 55.60 | 0.68 | 0.63 | 0.97 |
| III. AFRICA | | 1684.77 | 1602.33 | 1876.54 | 68.9 | -4.9 | 17.11 | 5.30 | 4.79 | 5.52 |
| 1. Egypt | | 164.26 | 157.46 | 254.93 | 37.1 | -4.1 | 61.91 | 0.52 | 0.47 | 0.75 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2. Nigeria | | 150.90 | 146.45 | 213.70 | 38.3 | -3.0 | 45.93 | 0.47 | 0.44 | 0.63 |
| 3. South Africa | | 329.54 | 316.19 | 383.91 | 110.5 | -4.1 | 21.42 | 1.04 | 0.94 | 1.13 |
| IV. AMERICA | | 6194.91 | 7390.43 | 7761.58 | 9.7 | 19.3 | 5.02 | 19.48 | 22.08 | 22.84 |
| (a) North America | | 5826.38 | 6908.41 | 7046.97 | 10.2 | 18.6 | 2.01 | 18.32 | 20.64 | 20.74 |
| 1. Canada | | 305.46 | 352.99 | 416.76 | 14.5 | 15.6 | 18.07 | 0.96 | 1.05 | 1.23 |
| 2. U.S.A. | | 5520.80 | 6555.42 | 6630.11 | 10.0 | 18.7 | 1.14 | 17.36 | 19.59 | 19.51 |
| (b) South America | | 248.61 | 335.92 | 509.15 | 14.3 | 35.1 | 51.57 | 0.78 | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| 1. Brazil | | 86.16 | 132.49 | 139.91 | 4.1 | 53.8 | 5.60 | 0.27 | 0.40 | 0.41 |
| (c) Other Central & Caribbean | | 119.93 | 146.10 | 205.46 | -16.5 | 21.8 | 40.63 | 0.38 | 0.44 | 0.60 |
| V. EAST EUROPE | | 1340.66 | 1099.52 | 1202.94 | 26.8 | -18.0 | 9.41 | 4.22 | 3.29 | 3.54 |
| (i) C.I.S. | | 1136.42 | 901.01 | 995.96 | 27.8 | -20.7 | 10.54 | 3.57 | 2.69 | 2.93 |
| (a) Russia | | 1045.07 | 811.16 | 889.42 | 29.5 | -22.4 | 9.65 | 3.29 | 2.42 | 2.62 |
| (b) Rest of CIS Countries | | 91.35 | 89.85 | 106.53 | 188.2 | -1.6 | 18.57 | 0.29 | 0.27 | 0.31 |
| (ii) Other East European Countries | | 204.24 | 198.51 | 206.99 | 21.8 | -2.8 | 4.27 | 0.64 | 0.59 | 0.61 |
| (a) Former RPA Countries | | 62.38 | 57.72 | 44.43 | -0.1 | -7.5 | -23.03 | 0.20 | 0.17 | 0.13 |
| (b) Rest of the Countries | | 133.49 | 129.51 | 149.79 | 26.7 | -3.0 | 15.66 | 0.42 | 0.39 | 0.44 |
| Grand Total | | 31797.19 | 33469.76 | 33979.94 | 20.8 | 5.3 | 1.52 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Source : DGCI&S Calcutta

Use of Bank Loans

2239. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item "Banks want Hotel Leela to disclose end-use of the funds" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times; dated September 29, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the bank officials periodically visit premises of their borrowers to see that the money lended is used for the purposes for which the same was loaned;

(e) if so, whether any responsibility of any bank official has been fixed in the matter; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to recover the loan amount and to ensure that the borrowers use the money for which the same is lended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR

M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Illegal Trade between India and Nepal

2240. RAO INDERJIT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Secretary level talks between India and Nepal on checking the unauthorised trade across the open border held recently;

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

(c) whether the Indo-Nepalese Transit Treaty have been further renewed;

(d) if so, the details of joint efforts made by India and Nepal to check the illegal trade between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (d) Commerce Secretary level talks between India and Nepal were held in New Delhi from 17th to 20th November, 1998. The focus of discussions was on renewal of Indo-Nepal Treaty of Transit which was to expire on 5th December, 1998. It has been agreed to renew the existing Treaty of Transit with mutually agreed modifications. Pending the formal renewal of Treaty of Transit, it has been agreed

that the validity of the exiting Treaty shall be extended by one month i.e. upto 5th January, 1999 or till date of its formal renewal whichever is earlier.

The need for checking the unauthorised trade across the Indo-Nepal border was also underlined during the discussions and the two Governments agreed to cooperate with each other to control it.

[Translation]

Conditions of Mines in Lal Matia

2241. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production of coal in Lal Matia and Chima coal mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the proper attention has been paid by the management towards the deteriorating health of the workers engaged there due to supply of contaminated drinking water in the mines as well as in the colony;

(c) if so, the reason therefor;

(d) whether the former manager of these mines had a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner of Godda and decided to construct a tube well to supply drinking water to moliya village in Godda block;

(e) if so, the progress of the work;

(f) whether the management propose to extend the assistance to provide pure drinking water to people of Moliya;

(g) whether the consumer advisory committee is functioning there;

(h) if so, whether Committee has been reconstituted; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Production of coal during the last three years in Latmatia mine is as given below:-

(In million tonnes)

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 1995-96 | 8.52 |
| 1996-97 | 10.03 |
| 1997-98 | 9.21 |

There is no colliery by name of "Chima" in any of the coal companies of Coal India Limited.

(b) and (c) Coal India Limited has reported that colliery workers staying at Lalmatia temporary project complex and Urjanagar colony are being supplied water from direct borewells and there is no contamination of water. Reservoirs are cleaned from time to time and water treatment done. Samples of water are regularly sent to Mines Board of Health, Asansol for ascertaining the quality.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given to (d) above.

(f) The management has received number of applications which had been forwarded by MLAs and in some cases by the District Authority. Due to fund constraints, the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) is not in a position to take up such schemes.

(g) to (i) Yes, Sir, a Regional Coal Consumer Council in ECL is functioning in order to redress consumers grievances. The following persons have been nominated by the Ministry of Coal as public interest nominees in the Regional Coal Consumers Council functioning in ECL.

1. Mr. Virendra Kumar Yadav,
Vill & P.O: Akashi,
Bariapur, Distt. Mungher, Bihar.
2. Mr. Manas Ranjan Mallick,
Aparibindha, Bhadrak-756100.

[English]

Impunity/Protection Enjoyed by MP

2242. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.2577 dated June 12, 1998 and state :

(a) whether the implications of the judgement have since been examined;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to bring legislation or constitution amendment to provide that impunity or protection enjoyed by Members of Parliament under Article 105(2) shall not extend to cases involving corruption; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : (a) to (d) After examining various aspects of the judgement delivered on 17th April, 1998 by the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, the Central Bureau of Investigation filed a Review Petition on 12th November, 1998 after obtaining approval of the Government.

Development of Land belonging to Salt Commissioner

2243. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are large areas of land belonging to the Salt Commissioner in North East, North, North Central and surrounding areas of Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have decided to release and/or develop some of the areas land of;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of such developers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (e) Land admeasuring approximately 5375 acres owned by Salt Department at Malvani, Dahisar, Goregaon in the western suburban of Mumbai, Kanjur, Bhandup, Mulund, Chembur, Ghatkopar, Trombay in the north eastern suburban of Mumbai and Wadala, Matunga in Mumbai city limits have been ordered for transfer to the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment with a view to developing it for socio-economically useful purposes.

Import of Coffee by Indonesia

2244. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coffee Board had requested the Union Government for not importing Robasta Coffee from Indonesia; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHIR RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Indian Overseas Bank

2245. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Overseas Bank has started 'Any Branch Banking' service in Delhi recently under which the account holders can operate their accounts from any branch of the Overseas Bank located in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether other public sector banks also propose to start such service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Any Branch Banking Service is available in 20 branches of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) in Delhi.

(b) Under the system, those customers desirous of availing the facility are, on their re uest, issued a card.

The following types of services are extended under the system.

1. Savings Bank and individual Current Deposit holders are eligible to avail this facility for self transactions.
2. Cash withdrawal, cash deposit, balance enquiry and details of last 5 transactions are the services presently offered.
3. The ceiling for cash transaction is Rs.25,000/-.
4. The messages transmitted through Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) lines are encrypted ensuring security.
5. The card issued to the customer can also be used at ATM centre (presently at Greater Kailash II).

(c) and (d) It is for the respective banks to take a decision on whether they would like to start such services.

[English]

Inv. stment by France

2246. SHRI MAGANTI VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether France has agreed to invest in India on a large scale;

(b) if so, the sectors on which agreement with France has been reached;

(c) whether any French delegation visited India and signed the number of agreements for investment in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Investment from France have risen substantially in the last tow years, starting from Rs.193.3 crores in 1991 they reached over 1671.7 cores in 1996. During the period 1991-1997 total investment approvals worth Rs.3073.25 crores were accorded to the French firms which accounted for more than 2% of the total FDI approvals.

The sectors attracting French investment in India are Chemicals, power, oil refining, electrical, Fuels, Telecommunications, industrial machinery, Metallurgical industries, transport, and glass.

(c) and (d) French Minister of State for Foreign trade Mr. Jacques Dondeux led a delegation to participate in the 9th Session of the Indo-French Joint Committee held in New Delhi on 23-24 November, 1998.

Two Protocols were signed:

- (I) A Financial Protocol was signed on 23.11.98. The Financial Protocol Provides French aid to the tune

of FF 68.8 million (Rs.48.16 crores) in the areas of water supply, mining etc.

- (II) A Protocol of Intent was signed on November 24, 1998. The Protocol aims to encourage the growth of investments and joint ventures in industrial and technological sectors between Indian and French firms with special emphasis on small and medium enterprises.

[*Transiation*]

Import of Agro and Non-Agro Products

2247. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of agro and non-agro products imported in the country during the last one year alongwith the names thereof; and

(b) the prices of the imported products are comparatively less/more than the present market prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) The total imports of farm and non-farm goods during 1997-98 were valued at Rs.6645.48 crores and Rs.151553.52 crores respectively (Source DGCI&S, Calcutta). The farm goods imported include wheat, cereal preparations, pulses, milk and cream, cashewnuts, fruits and nuts, spices, sugar, oilseeds, vegetable oils, natural rubber, raw jute and cotton raw and waste. Non-farm goods imported include synthetic rubber, pulp and paper waste, silk, synthetic and regenerated fibers, textile yarn and fabric, raw hides and skins, leather, fertilizer, unmanufactured, sulphur and unroasted iron pyrites, ores and metal scrap, coal coke and briquettes, petroleum crude and products, essential oils and cosmetic preparations, organic and inorganic chemicals, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, manufactured fertilizers, artificial resins and plastic materials, chemical materials and products, newsprint, paper board and manufactures, cement, gold and silver, precious and semi precious stones, iron and steel, non ferrous metals, manufacturers of metals, machinery, machine tools, electrical machinery, electronic goods, computer software and transport equipment.

(b) It is not possible to accurately compare the prices prevailing in the international markets and in the domestic markets on account of the different varieties and specifications of items traded, variations in grading and packaging.

[*English*]

Sino-India Trade

2248. DR RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 14.2 percent growth was registered in Sino-India trade during the first half of the current year;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to increase this growth further;

(c) if so, whether any target has been fixed in this regard; and

(d) if so, to what extent the Sino-India trade is likely to be improved further?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEDGE) : (a) No, Sir. The total volume of Indo-China bilateral trade has grown from R.2,85,828.19 lakhs in January-June, 1997 to Rs.3,74338.65 lakhs during January-June, 1998, according to statistics available from DGCI&S, Calcutta, showing an increase of 2.75% in the first half of 1998.

(b) to (d) Efforts are constantly being made to increase the level of bilateral trade for reaching the targets set in this regard through measures like holding meetings at the Government and business levels through high level delegations, increased participation in each other country's trade fairs and exhibitions to increase awareness of each other's capabilities, identification of items, technologies and sectors having scope for furthering exports, and by facilitating increased interaction between the business communities of the two countries. During the visit of the Chinese President Jiang Zemin to India in 1996, India and China agreed to fix a target of US \$ 10 billion of trade volume to be achieved by the year 2000.

[*Translation*]

Drawbacks of Banking Service Recruitment Boards

2249. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in "Jansatta" dated September 11, 1998 captioned "Safed Haathi Ban Gaye Hain Banking Seva Bharti Board";

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the drawbacks of Banking Service Recruitment Boards; and

(d) the changes proposed to be made in rules in future to make the recruitment procedure simple and impartial?

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

(b) The income by way of fee charged by the Banking Service Recruitment Boards from the candidates appearing for various examinations is not sufficient to offset the expenditure incurred on conducting examinations and hence there is a deficit in the income and expenditure. Further, in the case of candidate belonging to SC/ST no examination fee is charged.

The deficit incurred by all the banks during 1997-98 was Rs.13.16 crore. The intake of candidates by the banks has been reduced over a period of time.

BSRB Chandigarh has allotted 182,460 and 615 candidates during 1996, 1997 and 1998 respectively to various banks.

An eminent person of good standing and integrity is appointed as Chairman by the co-ordinating bank with the approval of the Government of India.

The annual budget of the Boards is subjected to the same financial and other audits as the Co-ordinating bank has in respect of its own finances and administration.

(c) and (d) The review of the working of the BSRBs and recruitment procedure is a continuous process and in the light of day to day experience, necessary changes are made to make the recruitment procedure simple, transparent and impartial.

[English]

Regional Office of NHB at Chennai

2250. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Housing Bank (NHB) is considering to open its regional office at Chennai, Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, by when this proposed regional office at Chennai will be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) National Housing Bank (NHB) have reported that as of date there is no proposal to open its Regional Office at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

(b) Does not arise.

Closing Down of Taj Mahal due to Pollution

2251. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per media reports Taj Mahal has been badly affected by pollution;

(b) if so, whether there is any move to close down Taj to visitors; and

(c) if so, the amount of loss likely to be suffered annually by the Department of Tourism thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) Though Media reports mention that the monument is affected by pollution, no actual damage has been observed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of Indian Delegation Abroad

2252. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry sponsored or sent any delegation abroad during the tenure of the present Lok Sabha (i.e. 10.3.98 till date) consisting of any Member of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the names of the members delegation and countries they visited with the expenditure met on them by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Delegation of Members of Parliament was sent to Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand during 20-29 September, 1998. The delegation was led by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Tourism and consisted of the following Members of Parliament:

1. Capt. Jagatvir Singh Drona, MP(LS)
2. Shri Ram Narain Meena, MP(LS)
3. Shri Rupchand Pal, MP(LS)
4. Shri Mohan Singh, MP (LS)
5. Shri Kanchi Paneerselvam, MP(LS)
6. Shri Surender Prasad Yadav (Jhanjharpur), MP(LS)
7. Smt. Chandresh Kumari, MP(RS)
8. Shri Nilotpal Basu, MP(RS)
9. Shri K.M. Saifulla, MP(RS)

The total expenditure incurred on the visit of this Delegation was Rs.8,44,689/-. Bills relating to expenditure borne by Indian Missions abroad are yet to be received.

[Translation]

Economic Sanctions

2253. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas where USA had imposed economic sanctions after India's nuclear tests;

(b) whether United States of America have taken decision to withdraw some economic sanctions against India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the withdrawal of some economic sanctions is result of Indo-America talks or some other reasons are behind this; and

(e) the opinion of India in regard to remaining economic sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Following the Nuclear test explosions by India in the month of May, 1998, the U.S. Government announced sanctions on India which include the following:

- 1) termination of assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, except for humanitarian assistance or food or other agricultural commodities;
- 2) termination of sales of defence articles, defence services, or design and construction services under the Arms Export Control Act, and termination or licenses for the export of any item on the United States Munitions list;
- 3) termination of all foreign military financing under the Arms Export Control Act;
- 4) denial by US Government of any credit, credit guarantees, or other financial assistance by any department, agency or instrumentality of the U.S. Government;
- 5) the US opposition to extension of any loan or financial or technical assistance by any international financial institution;
- 6) prohibiting US Banks from making any loan or providing any credit to the GOI, except for purposes of purchasing food or other agricultural commodities;
- 7) prohibiting the EXIM Bank from giving approval to guarantee, insure or extend credit, or participate in the extension of credit and support of US exports to India; and
- 8) prohibiting the exports to India of specific goods and technologies subject to export licenses by the Commerce Department.

(b) and (c) The US President was recently provided authority by the US Congress to waive for a period of one year some restrictive measures imposed on India. In partial exercise of this authority, the US Government has decided to waive measures relating to:

- i) Restrictions on assistance through the EXIM Bank, Overseas Private Investment Cooperation (OPIC) and the Trade Development Authority.
- ii) Restrictions on US Banks and
- iii) Resumption of International Military Education and Training (IMET) programme to facilitate limited education and training cooperation between the uniformed forces of the US and India.

These waivers are in addition to removal of restrictions on finance and credit guarantees for agricultural commodities, medicines and fertilisers, which were exempted earlier in July 1998.

(d) India has been engaged in an intensive dialogue on a range of issues relating to disarmament and non-proliferation with the United States. These discussions have led to a narrowing of gaps of perceptions. It appears it is in recognition of this that the United States has lifted some of the measures.

(e) India has always maintained that unilateral and restrictive economic measures are unjustified and counter productive and therefore should be fully lifted.

[English]

F.E.M.A.

2254. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some drawback have been pointed out in F.E.M.A. (New Act replacing FERA) by the experts with particular reference to its clause 49,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to rectify the deficiencies in the Act?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and the Money Changers Association of India have represented to the Government regarding Clause 49(3) of Foreign Exchange Management Bill, 1998. Both these Associations have suggested that the Government may provide that all offences under FERA, 1973 which may be inconsistent with the new Act, should be compounded under the new Act within a period of six months by either adjudicating authorities or by the RBI. Similarly, APEX Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Punjab, have represented that all cases of foreign exchange contravention pending under FERA, 1973 should be dealt with according to the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Bill, 1998.

(c) The Foreign Exchange Management Bill, 1998, is presently under examination of Standing Committee on Finance. On receipt of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance, Government will take a view in the matter.

Purchase of Drilling Machine

2255. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited procured a Drilling Machine from Germany.

(b) if so, the cost of the Drilling Machine and the expenses incurred for training of the ECL personnel;

(c) whether the parts of the Machine were allowed by ECL authority to expose to sun and rains and lose its mechanical efficiency during the complete year of 1997;

(d) whether the Mines Safety Department considered that its shape is too large and heavy to carry it to the Mines Locations;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government against the management of ECL for procurement of this valued machine at the cost of foreign exchange, who failed to assemble the parts and put it into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) Coal India Limited has procured a large DIA boring machine from Germany for emergent rescue of miners trapped below in any underground mine in any subsidiary of Coal India Limited. The machine has been stationed at mine rescue station, Sitampur. The total cost of the machine is Rs.14.97 crores. Coal India Limited did not incur any expenses for the training of its personnel. However, an expenditure of Rs.3.5 lakh was incurred by Coal India Limited on their forward and return journey to Germany.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise in view of reply of part (d).

Temporary Workers in MCL

2256. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some workers in the Basundhara Area of MCL in Sundargarh district of Orissa are working on casual basis since long;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) As reported by Coal India Limited, no worker is working on casual basis in the Basundhara area of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) in Sundargarh District of Orissa.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above.

Scholarships to Trainees of ITDC

2257. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI C.D. GAMIT :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether ITDC has got its own Institute for imparting training by giving scholarships;

(b) if so, since when and the number of these apprentices have been absorbed on the post of House-keeper, Cook, and Receptionists etc;

(c) whether ITDC is not giving preferences to their own trained staff but filling up the vacancies taking from outside;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to absorb their own trained staff first on whom ITDC has incurred a lot of money for giving them training; and

(f) if not, the details of the difficulties are being experienced in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. ITDC neither runs an open training institute nor imparts training by giving scholarships. However, ITDC has an in-house Manpower Training Centre for imparting training to its employees. Under the provisions of Apprentices Act 1961, various hotels of ITDC provide training for various trades as per training quota fixed by the Ministry of Labour. The Apprenticeship Act does not provide for absorption of apprentices.

(c) and (d) ITDC Recruitment Rules do not provide for giving preferential treatment to the apprentices. Selection of candidates for filling up vacant posts under different categories is made on merit basis following the recruitment procedure. The apprentices are also considered alongwith others, if they fulfil the criteria.

(e) and (f) The quota for apprenticeship training being fixed by the Government far exceeds the requirement/vacancies of individual hotels. Hence, neither it is possible nor the recruitment rules provide for absorption of apprentices.

Compensation from French Firm

2258. SHRI MAHBOOK ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited entered into an agreement with a French organisation for introduction of low powered support long wall face at the Samla Seam of Khottadiah Colliery;

(b) whether the powered support system miserably failed most of the machinery supplied by the French firm were badly damaged and were out of utilisation due to crumbling of the roof and seizing of fire;

(c) whether the CIL asked for a compensation from the French Firm on account of their failure to fulfill the terms and conditions;

(d) if so, the amount asked for compensation;

(e) whether the French Company had paid the compensation; and

(f) if not the present position thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Coal India Limited (CIL) entered into an agreement in 1989 with Charbonnages de France International (CdFI), a French organisation, for designing, management, procurement of imported and indigenous equipment and produce guaranteed quantity of coal from Kottadiah underground mine by deployment of multislicing technology. In 1991, an amended agreement was signed between CIL and CdFI, France for extraction of coal at Kottadiah with single lift caving system.

(b) In April, 1997, because of massive dynamic loading, the Powered Support Longwall face equipment got damaged and has not been utilised since then.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) CIL made a demand to M/s CdFI, France in December, 1997 claiming French Francs 47.52 million for damaged/unrecoverable equipment.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In response to a legal notice served by CIL appointed solicitor in February, 1998, CdFI denied their responsibility towards failure of the longwall face equipment and declined to pay the claimed amount. The matter is now under consideration of CIL management to refer to International Chamber of Commerce as per stipulation of the contract.

Collection of TAX

2259. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Government earnings through various sources like Income Tax, Excise Duty, Customs Duty, Small Savings during each of the last three years State-wise;

(b) the amount of tax collected from each source during the above period; and

(c) the amount given back to each State during the above period separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The collections from Income Tax, Excise Duty and Customs Duty are not maintained State-wise. Collections from Small Savings are not earnings but the borrowings of the Government from investors, which are repaid together with interest to the investors after a specified period.

(b) The collections from Income Tax, Excise Duty and Customs Duty during the last three years are as under -

(In Crores of Rupees)

| Tax/Duty | Actuals 1995-96 | Actuals 1996-97 | RE 1997-98 |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Income Tax | 15592 | 18234 | 18700 |
| 2. Union Excise Duty | 40187 | 45008 | 47700 |
| 3. Customs Duty | 35757 | 42851 | 41000 |

(c) At present only Income Tax and Union Excise Duties are shareable with the States. The share paid to the States during the last three financial years is given in Statement I enclosed. Small Savings collections in the States and loans to States against the net collections given during the last three years are shown in Statement II and III enclosed.

Statement-I

Showing State-wise distribution of Income-Tax Basic Excise Duties and Additional Excise Duties during the last three years

(In crores of Rupees)

| Sl. No. | States | Actuals 1995-96 | | | | Actuals 1996-97 | | | | Revised 1997-98 | | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---|---------|-----------------|---------------------|---|---------|-----------------|---------------------|---|---------|
| | | Income Tax | Basic Excise Duties | Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax | Total | Income Tax | Basic Excise Duties | Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax | Total | Income Tax | Basic Excise Duties | Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 952.86 | 1408.33 | 201.48 | 2562.67 | 1145.35 | 1560.38 | 232.98 | 2938.71 | 1144.59 | 1365.23 | 258.09 | 2767.91 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 18.80 | 103.05 | 2.67 | 124.52 | 23.03 | 152.90 | 3.10 | 179.03 | 22.97 | 204.54 | 3.41 | 230.92 |
| 3. | Assam | 313.38 | 567.88 | 63.50 | 944.76 | 376.71 | 724.88 | 73.97 | 1175.56 | 376.42 | 806.27 | 81.14 | 1263.83 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1449.44 | 1832.15 | 203.86 | 3485.45 | 1740.16 | 2101.38 | 236.67 | 4078.21 | 1738.98 | 2074.51 | 260.81 | 4074.30 |
| 5. | Goa | 20.01 | 45.06 | 5.98 | 71.05 | 24.38 | 59.26 | 6.91 | 90.55 | 24.33 | 64.58 | 7.66 | 96.57 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|-------|------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| 6. | Gujarat | 457.98 | 526.85 | 154.43 | 1139.26 | 547.24 | 633.69 | 178.61 | 1359.54 | 547.23 | 651.96 | 197.81 | 1397.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 139.41 | 160.09 | 60.97 | 360.47 | 167.49 | 193.90 | 70.49 | 431.88 | 167.40 | 199.80 | 78.10 | 445.30 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 78.89 | 306.12 | 15.27 | 400.28 | 95.29 | 425.77 | 17.73 | 538.79 | 95.17 | 536.52 | 19.54 | 651.23 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 122.22 | 462.79 | 21.91 | 606.92 | 148.55 | 656.09 | 25.50 | 830.14 | 148.24 | 839.67 | 28.01 | 1015.92 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 600.93 | 696.09 | 147.65 | 1444.67 | 722.47 | 836.20 | 171.13 | 1729.80 | 721.85 | 860.07 | 188.97 | 1770.89 |
| 11. | Kerala | 436.44 | 504.24 | 96.28 | 1036.96 | 524.32 | 606.91 | 111.42 | 1242.65 | 523.95 | 624.49 | 123.30 | 1271.74 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 934.78 | 1073.20 | 186.35 | 2194.33 | 1121.63 | 1298.39 | 215.58 | 2635.60 | 1120.97 | 1337.47 | 238.66 | 2697.10 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 702.27 | 794.43 | 309.76 | 1806.46 | 828.14 | 959.46 | 358.32 | 2145.92 | 828.86 | 987.99 | 396.74 | 2213.59 |
| 14. | Manipur | 31.42 | 129.34 | 5.04 | 165.80 | 38.18 | 187.80 | 5.87 | 231.85 | 38.11 | 244.86 | 6.44 | 289.41 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 31.60 | 12 p- | 3.27 | 4.84 | 159.71 | 38.32 | 173.62 | 5.60 | 217.54 | 38.25 | 220.85 | 265.28 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 16.50 | 105.12 | 2.05 | 123.67 | 20.19 | 159.24 | 2.35 | 181.78 | 20.13 | 213.83 | 2.64 | 236.60 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 20.05 | 162.50 | 3.55 | 186.10 | 24.51 | 246.16 | 4.08 | 274.75 | 24.45 | 338.04 | 4.57 | 367.06 |
| 18. | Orissa | 506.15 | 692.92 | 85.86 | 1284.93 | 608.20 | 858.13 | 99.66 | 1565.99 | 607.78 | 875.97 | 109.86 | 1593.61 |
| 19. | Punjab | 165.51 | 188.34 | 87.92 | 441.77 | 197.58 | 228.82 | 101.95 | 528.35 | 197.62 | 235.92 | 112.49 | 546.03 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 623.57 | 733.95 | 125.70 | 1483.22 | 751.25 | 869.40 | 145.18 | 1765.83 | 750.46 | 897.20 | 161.07 | 1808.73 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 17.64 | 45.82 | 1.37 | 64.83 | 17.08 | 62.99 | 1.58 | 81.65 | 17.01 | 78.56 | 1.76 | 97.33 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 753.38 | 853.87 | 198.33 | 1805.58 | 897.53 | 1039.49 | 228.48 | 2165.50 | 897.77 | 1072.19 | 254.33 | 2224.29 |
| 23. | Tripura | 42.32 | 178.60 | 7.37 | 228.29 | 51.16 | 259.10 | 8.52 | 318.78 | 51.10 | 340.51 | 9.45 | 401.06 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 2008.48 | 2743.82 | 374.93 | 5127.23 | 2410.06 | 3134.66 | 434.17 | 5978.89 | 2408.20 | 2873.84 | 480.05 | 5762.09 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 844.29 | 966.37 | 206.61 | 2017.27 | 1010.62 | 1170.12 | 239.41 | 2420.15 | 1010.37 | 1205.55 | 264.50 | 2480.42 |
| Total | | 11288.32 | 15404.20 | 2573.63 | 29266.20 | 13529.44 | 18598.74 | 2979.26 | 35107.44 | 13522.21 | 19150.42 | 3295.58 | 35968.21 |

Statement-II*Gross and Net collections of Small Savings Schemes in Post Offices State-wise and UTs (with legislature)*

(Rs. in thousand)

| State/UT | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | |
|-----------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | Gross | Net | Gross | Net | Gross | Net |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 19958137 | 6098805 | 16312710 | 2012149 | 21269303 | 6618089 |
| Bihar | 19413942 | 4334751 | 21059550 | 6584181 | 28613839 | 13055988 |
| Base | 567023 | 55234 | 676066 | 90890 | 935409 | 247082 |
| Delhi | 12507907 | 6582091 | 11877627 | 1623378 | 17974906 | 9975085 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 3058872 | 1615304 | 3031014 | 1274885 | 4313799 | 2069725 |
| Karnataka | 13535696 | 2939543 | 13073121 | 3518226 | 17709240 | 3253876 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 12101251 | 3908285 | 12558301 | 4672933 | 16477546 | 7533516 |
| Orissa | 7245679 | 2754609 | 6987443 | 1382484 | 8666872 | 3647044 |
| Rajasthan | 14627854 | 5107055 | 16558127 | 5834044 | 22696437 | 10446194 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 50400738 | 19896689 | 49338957 | 15740097 | 65833906 | 277577708 |
| Haryana | 9519613 | 3203755 | 10508271 | 3942578 | 13836396 | 6665290 |
| Tamil Nadu | 19659165 | 3798104 | 20519874 | 3629762 | 22065504 | 3952546 |
| Pondicherry | 127858 | 23145 | 143426 | 30385 | 201022 | 78853 |
| Maharashtra | 32311263 | 5714312 | 34177070 | 30014825 | 51908600 | 24355618 |
| Goa | 695367 | 89144 | 699539 | 127606 | 986048 | 384824 |
| Gujarat | 25916660 | 10056479 | 27073629 | 9237244 | 38747689 | 17543789 |
| Kerala | 9383308 | 2970765 | 9114816 | 1768512 | 11405989 | 2634381 |
| Punjab | 14608028 | 5805677 | 15587170 | 7267328 | 22260992 | 12136985 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 8983164 | 3899512 | 8141793 | -1775584 | 19578008 | 9419506 |
| West Bengal | 43786368 | 19366101 | 45418200 | 21445951 | 63743159 | 31016095 |
| Sikkim | 85685 | 60217 | 73243 | 39343 | 113682 | 77184 |
| Assam | 6560156 | 2390678 | 7406284 | 2178173 | 8470751 | 2745294 |
| Manipur | 225101 | 119853 | 267188 | 142984 | 338061 | 188178 |
| Meghalaya | 365323 | 72176 | 398341 | 110641 | 495786 | 161629 |
| Tripura | 975424 | 333909 | 931669 | 277197 | 1447130 | 708986 |
| Mizoram | 160875 | 53977 | 156331 | 5309 | 230912 | 47902 |
| Nagaland | 91900 | 24897 | 151910 | 89866 | 158983 | 78341 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 122710 | 53131 | 131021 | 58408 | 200416 | 125269 |
| Total | 326995067 | 99757222 | 332372691 | 121323795 | 460680385 | 203924977 |

Statement-III

*Small Savings Loans Sanctioned to State/UT Governments
from 1995-96 to 1997-98*

(In Crores of Rupees)

| Sl.No. | Name of State | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
|--------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 621.38 | 212.11 | 435.87 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.56 | 2.75 | 6.67 |
| 3. | Assam | 183.86 | 321.45 | 210.77 |
| 4. | Bihar | 428.49 | 510.06 | 841.74 |
| 5. | Goa | 21.83 | 27.74 | 36.33 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1004.87 | 911.48 | 1418.14 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------------|---|---|--------|--------|---------|
| 7. Haryana | | | 287.13 | 256.45 | 484.03 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | | | 134.2 | 276.09 | 648.88 |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | | | 63.34 | 181.91 | 154.16 |
| 10. Karnataka | | | 434.43 | 479.3 | 491.98 |
| 11. Kerala | | | 338.41 | 180.25 | 182.65 |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | | | 295.18 | 363.37 | 56.27 |
| 13. Maharashtra | | | 990.11 | 1518 | 2521.69 |
| 14. Manipur | | | 1.44 | 9.48 | 12.6 |
| 15. Meghalaya | | | 2.28 | 2.94 | 15.16 |
| 16. Mizoram | | | 1.54 | 1.45 | 3.27 |
| 17. Nagaland | | | 0.45 | 4.78 | 4.68 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|----------|----------|
| 18. | Orissa | 209.91 | 111.92 | 263.53 |
| 19. | Punjab | 5.60 | 573.01 | 990.26 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 499.96 | 563.82 | 782.64 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 0 | 4.01 | 4.74 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 291.4 | 390.61 | 396.99 |
| 23. | Tripura | 2.28 | 17.32 | 43.3 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 1462.98 | 1329.67 | 1991.47 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 1541.86 | 1744.79 | 2550.54 |
| Total | | 9377.89 | 9994.76 | 15054.69 |
| UTs with legislature | | | | |
| 1. | Delhi | 607.38 | 666.61 | 668.32 |
| 2. | Pondicherry | 4.82 | 9.68 | 9.18 |
| Total | | 612.2 | 676.29 | 677.5 |
| Grand Total | | 9990.09 | 10671.05 | 15732.19 |

[Translation]

Development of Lal Matia

2260. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of Coalfields is responsible to carry out the development work in the surrounding areas of coal mines;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the management of Lalmatia colliery has not taken any effective steps in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Managements of coal companies are not directly responsible for development work in the surrounding areas of coal mines. However, the managements of coalfield areas, within their limited resources available, do undertake community development work around/adjointing periphery of the project/mines.

(b) and (c) As reported by the Coal India Limited, during every meeting with district level authorities in Lalmatia area, the project management submit data relating to welfare and community development work carried out by them and the same is reviewed periodically. The reports on jobs undertaken and done are submitted to district authority.

[English]

Scheme for the Scientists of Commodity Board

2261. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to implement flexible complementing scheme for scientists of Commodity Board;

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

(c) whether there is any impediments in implementation thereof; and

(d) by when this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The proposal for extension of Flexible Complementing Scheme to the Scientists of Commodity Boards is under consideration of the Government of India.

Industrial Licence

2262. SHRI GIRAJALA VENKATA SWAMY NAIDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of socially sensitive sectors which require industrial licenses to produce goods in the Country;

(b) the criteria which determined the social aspects of the industry;

(c) whether the Government proposes to restrict further expansion of such sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) At present there are six industries which are subject to compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for reasons related to security and strategic concerns, social reasons, problems related to safety and over-riding environmental issues and manufacture of products of hazardous nature. There are (i) Distillation and brewing of alcoholic drinks; (ii) Cigars and cigarettes of tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes; (iii) Electronic Aerospace and defence equipment: all types; (iv) Industrial explosives including detonating fuses, safety fuses, gun powder, nitrocellulose and matches; (v) Hazardous chemicals; and (vi) Drugs and Pharmaceuticals (according to modified Drug Policy issued in September, 1994).

All proposals for expansion of capacity in industries attracting compulsory licensing are considered on merits, keeping in view the sectoral policy in force and the directives of the courts received from time to time.

[Translation]

Tourist Facilities under L.T.C.

2263. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the facility being provided by the Union Government in addition to the railway fares under the Leave Travel

Concession (LTC) facility for Bharat Darshan to the Government officials with a view to encourage tourism.

(b) whether an extension of one and half year was granted for each of the block years 1986-89 and 1990-93; and

(c) if so, whether the period of block year 1994-97 would also be extended and continued upto June 1999 and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) As per entitlement of the Government Servants, Air/Rail fare by direct shortest route is admissible while traveling on LTC. In addition, Government servants can get their earned leave encashed for the purpose subject to certain conditions like not more than 10 days at a time and 60 days in entire career.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Govt. servants had sufficient time from 1994 to date to avail the LTC and there are no reasons to extend it beyond 31.12.1998.

[English]

Development of Tourism in Kerala

2264. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a project report to the Union Government for the development of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to make a comprehensive action plan to develop tourist places in Kerala. and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has not received any project report from the State Government of Kerala. However, the Union Government has financed Rs. 1.9 crores for the preparation of a project report for the Bekal Special Tourism Area.

(c) and (d) The Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has prioritised 15 projects amounting to Rs. 467.00 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1998-99.

Assistance Sought from NRF

2265. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from Gujarat for sanctioning assistance from National

Renewal Fund for recouping the State Renewal Fund towards the expenditure incurred on Voluntary Retirement Scheme of Workers of Gujarat State Textile Corporation closed down by the Government of Gujarat as per the orders of Gujarat High Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government received any proposal for assistance from National Renewal Fund in respect of statutory dues of workers of Private Mills under liquidation in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Development has received two proposals from the Government of Gujarat as follows:

(i) Proposal of Gujarat State Textile Corporation Ltd. (GSTC) for assistance from National Renewal Fund (NRF).

(ii) Proposal of Government of Gujarat seeking NRF assistance for closed Textile Mills.

Assistant from NRF is presently available only for VRS in Central Public Sector Undertakings and for counselling, retraining of rationalised workers

Coal Handling Plants

2266. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal handling plants (CHPs) constructed in different collieries of ECL;

(b) the number of CHPs lying either idle or misutilised;

(c) whether the CHPs at Dharmo Main and Chinakuri Collieries had not handled the coal to their capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated loss suffered by these collieries as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility for such losses; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) There are 10 major CHPs and 38 mini CHPs in different collieries of ECL.

(b) 3 numbers of mini CHPs at Siduli, North Searsole and B.C. incline are temporarily closed for major repairs. None of the CHPs are misutilised.

(c) and (d) The CHP at Dhemomoin Colliery was fore-closed before its completion since the extraction of coal it

envisaged earlier could not be found feasible. The CHP at Chinakuri Colliery is capable to handle 0.7 MT of coal annually but is under utilised due to low production of coal at this Mine.

(e) An expenditure of Rs.4.18 crores has been incurred on construction of Dhemomoin CHP. The equipments procured have been gainfully utilised at other places. Other structural elements are also being utilised in other CHPs/installations.

(f) and (g) Due to unforeseen and difficult Geo-Mining conditions the desired levels of production could not be achieved in some projects. This has led to under utilisation of some CHPs and foreclosure of one CHP. No responsibility has been fixed on any individual for this.

Funds to Shri Bharathi Mills

2267. SHRI S. ARUMUGHAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to make the payment of dues to Shri Bharathi Mills in Pondicherry which is under the control of N.T.C.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the above mill is unable to pay arrears of electricity bill to the State Government and received notices of disconnection of electricity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Government is releasing funds as budgetary support to all the mills under NTC including Sri Bharathi Mills in Pondicherry.

(c) and (d) Electricity dues amounting to Rs.123.91 lakhs for the period 1995-96 are payable by Sri Bharathi Mills to the State Government. Due to severe financial constraints of the mill, the Electricity Department, Government of Pondicherry is being requested not to disconnect the power supply and to accept payment in easy instalments.

Grants to J & K

2268. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the grants provided to Jammu and Kashmir for security related matters alongwith the brief account of these matter during each of the last three years and also during the current year,

(b) the grants provided for relief, rations etc. for the Kashmiri migrants during the said period; and

(c) the demand projected by the State Government for the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) Details of the claims made by the State

Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the releases made to them during the three years, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows:

| Years | (Rs. in Crores) | | | |
|---------|------------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| | Security related Expenditure | | Relief to migrants | |
| | Claim | Released | Claim | Released |
| 1995-96 | 142.69 | 143.26 | 26.03 | 24.43 |
| 1996-97 | 151.99 | 141.96 | 30.44 | 30.44 |
| 1997-98 | 249.52 | 139.96 | 33.84 | 26.24 |

During the current year (1998-99), an amount of Rs.75.00 crores has so far been released as advance to the State Government for meeting the Security Related Expenditure.

In addition to the releases detailed above, Rs.38.74 crores in 1995-96, Rs.93.03 crores in 1996-97 and Rs.15.20 crores in 1997-98 were released as additional SRE for elections in Jammu & Kashmir. Also a sum of Rs.6.60 crores was released for improvement in migrant camps during 1996-97.

Security Related Expenditure relates to expenditure on items such as carriage of Constabulary, materials and supplies, purchase of vehicles, payment of rent for accommodation of security personnel, security works, airlifting charges etc.

FDI in Cigarette

2269. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

SHRI SODE RAMAIAH :

DR. SANJAY SINH :

SHRI GIRAJALA VENKATA SWAMY NAIDU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government propose to allow 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Cigarette/Tobacco Industry and other such non-priority sectors;

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

(c) the number of proposal pending in this regard with the Government at present;

(d) whether such proposals were opposed at any stage;

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

(f) whether workers' interests have been kept in view while allowing such proposal;

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith its impact on tendu and bidi workers; and

(h) the plan chalked out by the Government for resettlement of workers likely to be affected due to new proposals?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) The existing guidelines for consideration of FDI proposals by FIPB do not stipulate any ceiling on the extent of foreign equity participation in sectors pertaining to consumer non-durables, which include cigarettes. However, as there has been no precedent of 100% FDI approval in cigarettes so far, it was felt necessary to clarify the position vide Press Note No.11 (1998 series) dated 27th August, 1998, that proposals for manufacture of cigarette with Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% will also be considered by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) subject to the provisions relating to compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. This has been done with a view to lending greater transparency in decision making.

(c) The only proposal received so far is from M/s Rothmans of Pall Mall (International) Limited. U.K.

(d) and (e) Several representations both in favour and against the proposal have been received inter-alia from Members of Parliament, trade unions, tobacco growers, bidi workers etc. While representations against the proposal have been received on grounds such as health hazard, unemployment of bidi workers, unfair competition to the domestic cigarette industry and negative revenue implications for the Government; the representations in favour of the proposal highlight issues such as competitive price for tobacco growers, benefit to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa & Karnataka, foreign exchange earnings etc.

(f) to (h) The proposal is still under consideration of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and a final view on it will be taken only after due consideration of all relevant issues.

[Translation]

Mukherjee Committee on Mine Accidents

2270. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mukherjee Committee constituted to examine the accidents occurred in Gaslit and mine of BCCL has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further action being taken on the basis of this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Madam.

The Committee has submitted its report to the Government in the Ministry of Labour on 29-6-1998.

(b) and (c) The recommendation made in the report are under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Expansion of PMRY

2271. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to expand the scope of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana to cover horticulture, piggery, fishing, small tea garden etc. under group financing with subsidy component of 15% and the age limit revised to 40 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the progress of implementation;

(c) the number of people belonging to SCs/STs benefitted under PMRY during each of the last three years, State-wise, particularly in North East region; and

(d) the allocation of funds under the scheme and the estimated target of coverage to the unemployed during 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana aims to assist educated unemployed youth in setting up micro-enterprises. The assistance is provided by way of bank loan, subsidy, training etc. The scheme targets youth in the age group of 18 to 35 years for setting up micro-enterprises in industry, service & business sectors in the country as a whole. Subsidy is provided @ 15% subject to a maximum of Rs.7,500/-.

For the North East since the year 1997-98 activities such as horticulture, piggery, fishing, small tea gardens etc., so as to cover all economically viable activities have been included. Upper age limit has also been relaxed to 40 years for individual as well as for a group. Family income eligibility has been revised to Rs.40,000/- per annum for parents as well as for the beneficiary and his/her spouse separately, for the North East Region.

(b) and (c) The details showing State-wise overall achievement as well as achievement for SC/ST for the country as a whole including the North Eastern Region for the last 3 years i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Funds for subsidy @ 15% subject to a maximum of Rs.7,500/- are authorised to Reserve Bank of India to be passed on to individual beneficiary through implementing banks. Funds for training etc. are released to State/UTs

Government. The details showing target, achievement and amount of the funds authorised to the Reserve Bank of India and released to State/UT Governments for 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Progress of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for Educated Unemployed Youth for the year 1995-96

As Reported by RBI

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of the States/UTs | Target | Loan sanctioned by banks (nos.) | Loan disbursed by banks (nos.) | Loan sanctioned to SC/ST by banks (nos.) | Loan disbursed to SC/ST by banks (nos.) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| NORTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | 7200 | 9003 | 7199 | 781 | 581 |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | 2100 | 2570 | 2350 | 438 | 370 |
| 3. | Jammu & Kashmir | 3100 | 2658 | 1692 | 143 | 54 |
| 4. | Punjab | 15000 | 15312 | 12301 | 2372 | 1626 |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 10400 | 9936 | 6891 | 1602 | 1086 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 150 | 177 | 153 | 19 | 15 |
| 7. | Delhi | 4550 | 4358 | 2537 | 532 | 253 |
| NORTH EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 8. | Assam | 9900 | 8784 | 7478 | 1762 | 1304 |
| 9. | Manipur | 4000 | 1272 | 1134 | 269 | 184 |
| 10. | Meghalaya | 550 | 534 | 391 | 492 | 174 |
| 11. | Nagaland | 300 | 295 | 292 | 264 | 172 |
| 12. | Tripura | 1300 | 1407 | 673 | 313 | 150 |
| 13. | Arunachal Pradesh | 300 | 256 | 226 | 242 | 48 |
| 14. | Mizoram | 250 | 250 | 215 | 117 | 106 |
| 15. | Sikkim | 200 | 161 | 144 | 30 | 22 |
| EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 16. | Bihar | 22150 | 17100 | 12506 | 3107 | 2095 |
| 17. | Orissa | 8250 | 7941 | 5708 | 1280 | 853 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 22900 | 11535 | 7188 | 1699 | 1066 |
| 19. | Andaman & Nicobar | 100 | 92 | 71 | 16 | 10 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 27050 | 30592 | 22789 | 5133 | 3232 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 35813 | 34477 | 28308 | 5689 | 3341 |
| WESTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 22. | Gujarat | 8500 | 10455 | 8905 | 1313 | 1132 |
| 23. | Maharashtra | 35900 | 40070 | 31852 | 5643 | 4695 |
| 24. | Daman & Diu | 100 | 44 | 29 | 6 | 6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| 25. | Goa | 550 | 514 | 409 | 28 | 19 |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 150 | 188 | 177 | 81 | 79 |
| SOUTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 27 | Andhra Pradesh | 31900 | 29776 | 23904 | 4613 | 3048 |
| 28 | Karnataka | 17700 | 15877 | 13341 | 1912 | 1647 |
| 29 | Kerala | 15000 | 14211 | 12556 | 1427 | 1230 |
| 30 | Tamil Nadu | 21800 | 18311 | 14959 | 2363 | 1808 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 50 | 36 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| 32 | Pondicherry | 500 | 472 | 339 | 46 | 37 |
| | Not specified | | 11 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| | All India | | 289000 | 226759 | 43769 | 30480 |

*Progress of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for Educated Unemployed Youth for the year 1996-97**As Reported by RBI*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No | Name of the States/UTs | Target | Loan sanctioned by banks (nos.) | Loan disbursed by banks (nos.) | Loan sanctioned to SC/ST by banks (nos.) | Loan disbursed to SC/ST by banks (nos.) |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| NORTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | 7200 | 8247 | 5780 | 603 | 446 |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | 2100 | 2406 | 2185 | 282 | 227 |
| 3. | Jammu & Kashmir | 3500 | 1240 | 645 | 94 | 70 |
| 4. | Punjab | 8600 | 9814 | 7368 | 1314 | 791 |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 10400 | 10247 | 5899 | 1514 | 704 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 150 | 148 | 105 | 9 | 6 |
| 7. | Delhi | 4550 | 1883 | 949 | 162 | 70 |
| NORTH EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 8. | Assam | 15000 | 7809 | 5497 | 1177 | 938 |
| 9. | Manipur | 3000 | 1916 | 1344 | 306 | 249 |
| 10. | Meghalaya | 550 | 485 | 419 | 358 | 319 |
| 11. | Nagaland | 450 | 309 | 281 | 255 | 166 |
| 12. | Tripura | 1950 | 1355 | 548 | 585 | 302 |
| 13. | Arunachal Pradesh | 450 | 283 | 261 | 280 | 243 |
| 14. | Mizoram | 375 | 225 | 179 | 225 | 179 |
| 15. | Sikkim | 200 | 126 | 102 | 92 | 77 |
| EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 16. | Bihar | 22150 | 17353 | 12811 | 2251 | 1073 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 17. | Orissa | 8250 | 7363 | 3341 | 972 | 365 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 22900 | 8674 | 5660 | 1069 | 603 |
| 19. | Andaman & Nicobar | 100 | 81 | 58 | 45 | 38 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 27050 | 31545 | 19240 | 4152 | 2280 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 35813 | 33549 | 24880 | 3540 | 2566 |
| 22. | Gujarat | 8500 | 9590 | 8301 | 1148 | 1002 |
| 23. | Maharashtra | 35900 | 36819 | 29674 | 4907 | 3719 |
| 24. | Daman & Diu | 100 | 24 | 19 | — | — |
| 25. | Goa | 550 | 485 | 376 | 6 | 5 |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 150 | 173 | 131 | 79 | 35 |
| SOUTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 27. | Andhra Pradesh | 31900 | 27887 | 18110 | 2509 | 1412 |
| 28. | Karnataka | 17700 | 15916 | 10946 | 2034 | 1312 |
| 29. | Kerala | 15000 | 14607 | 12646 | 1296 | 1170 |
| 30. | Tamil Nadu | 21800 | 15229 | 9852 | 1851 | 971 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 50 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 500 | 282 | 182 | 31 | 21 |
| | Not specified | | 18 | 13 | 2 | 2 |
| All India | | | 266161 | 187838 | 33162 | 21396 |

*Progress of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for Educated Unemployed Youth for the year 1997-98**As Reported by RBI*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of the States/UTs | Target | Loan sanctioned by bank (nos.) | Loan disbursed by bank (nos.) | Loan sanctioned to SC/ST by bank (nos.) | Loan disbursed to SC/ST by bank (nos.) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| NORTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | 6300 | 6070 | 3785 | 542 | 352 |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | 2300 | 2331 | 1842 | 295 | 239 |
| 3. | Jammu & Kashmir | 3500 | 2764 | 1718 | 238 | 162 |
| 4. | Punjab | 9000 | 9143 | 6642 | 1319 | 942 |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 14300 | 12340 | 6847 | 1900 | 1033 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 200 | 165 | 94 | 10 | 8 |
| 7. | Delhi | 4700 | 1086 | 493 | 135 | 53 |
| NORTH EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 8. | Assam | 13400 | 7871 | 1858 | 1118 | 272 |
| 9. | Manipur | 1300 | 294 | 83 | 41 | 10 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| 10. | Meghalaya | 550 | 439 | 124 | 100 | 30 |
| 11. | Nagaland | 450 | 412 | 290 | 109 | 44 |
| 12. | Tripura | 1300 | 911 | 116 | 120 | 26 |
| 13. | Arunachal Pradesh | 300 | 222 | 31 | 59 | 18 |
| 14. | Mizoram | 400 | 213 | - | 29 | - |
| 15. | Sikkim | 100 | 62 | 28 | 14 | 10 |
| EASTERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 16. | Bihar | 21500 | 12961 | 7907 | 2496 | 1477 |
| 17. | Orissa | 9250 | 7218 | 912 | 914 | 140 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 23000 | 4482 | 2560 | 588 | 365 |
| 19. | Andaman & Nicobar | 100 | 56 | 36 | 12 | 8 |
| CENTRAL REGION | | | | | | |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 31500 | 27015 | 11752 | 3450 | 1638 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 45200 | 36796 | 25538 | 5678 | 3798 |
| 22. | Gujarat | 12600 | 17834 | 13239 | 2439 | 1906 |
| 23. | Maharashtra | 42600 | 38744 | 27180 | 4195 | 3086 |
| 24. | Daman & Diu | 50 | 31 | 30 | 2 | 2 |
| 25. | Goa | 600 | 311 | 223 | 13 | 9 |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 50 | 75 | 67 | 22 | 20 |
| SOUTHERN REGION | | | | | | |
| 27. | Andhra Pradesh | 34200 | 25017 | 14619 | 3903 | 2524 |
| 28. | Karnataka | 22000 | 17003 | 9113 | 2324 | 1436 |
| 29. | Kerala | 16000 | 13814 | 10296 | 1170 | 971 |
| 30. | Tamil Nadu | 27700 | 15133 | 9153 | 2164 | 1322 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 50 | 47 | 38 | 47 | 38 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 500 | 409 | 185 | 42 | 17 |
| Not specified | | | | | | |
| All India | | | 261269 | 156799 | 35488 | 21967 |

Statement-II

Target achievement and allocation of funds under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana during 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

(Amount Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Year | Target (Nos.) | Cases sanctioned (Nos.) | Funds authorised to Reserve Bank of India | Funds allocated to States/UTs |
|---------|---------|---------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | 1994-95 | 2,20,000 | 1,82,178 | 7453.00 | 2029.41 |
| 2. | 1995-96 | 2,20,000* | 2,88,604 | 11820.00 | 2475.57 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| 3. | 1996-97 | 2,20,000 | 2,66,161 | 9800.00 | 1679.00 |
| 4. | 1997-98 | 2,20,000 | 2,61,269 | 7900.00 | 1574.23 |

*Inclusive of backlog the target was 2,60,000.

Procurement of Cotton

2272. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for changes in the procurement policies of Cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the modifications made therein; and

(c) the extent to which the plight of cotton farmers have been improved by this change in procurement policy?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) A reference has been received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh suggesting inter-alia, that Government should direct the Cotton Corporation of India to purchase 20% of the market arrivals of cotton in Andhra Pradesh. The Corporation has been entrusted under the Textile Policy of 1985, amongst other things, to undertake price support operation whenever the market price of kapas touches the support price announced by the Government without any quantity limit and to undertake commercial operations at its own risk which does not envisage purchase of a fixed quantum from any particular State.

(c) Does not arise.

Tobacco Cultivation

2273. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under tobacco cultivation in the country at present, State-wise; and

(b) the area covered under the tobacco cultivation during each of the last five years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEDGDE) : (a) Total area under FCV tobacco cultivation during the current year i.e. 1998-99 (provisional) is as follows:-

| State | Area (Hect.) |
|----------------|--------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 92,782.00 |
| Maharashtra | 106.00 |
| Orissa | 508.00 |
| Karnataka | 54,235.00 |
| Total | 1,47,631.00 |

(b) The area covered under FCV tobacco cultivation during the last 5 years is as under:-

| State | Area-Hectares | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 87,531.00 | 76,645.00 | 96,114.00 | 1,19,437.00 | 1,12,578.00 |
| Maharashtra | 117.00 | 89.00 | 196.00 | 196.00 | 210.00 |
| Orissa | 48.00 | 52.00 | 100.00 | 180.00 | 252.00 |
| Karnataka | 35,136.00 | 29,601.00 | 27,729.00 | 32,910.00 | 40,988.00 |
| Total | 1,22,832.00 | 1,06,387.00 | 1,24,139.00 | 1,52,723.00 | 1,54,028.00 |

TREAD

2274. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for clearance of Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development Programme (TREAD) for rural women; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to sanction the pending projects of Andhra Pradesh sent to them long back?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far 12 proposals have been sanctioned by Government for receiving grant under the Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD) scheme for women. Out of 12 proposals, 8 are from Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Development for Temples of Himachal Pradesh

2275. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a study group to develop the famous temples in the country as tourist spots and that group has also recommended for developing the world famous temples of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken on the recommendations so far and

(d) the amount allocated for this purpose and the temples which have been developed as tourist places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Pilgrim Committee set up by the Ministry of Tourism has identified the following pilgrim centres for development in Himachal Pradesh:

(i) Paunta Sahib.

(ii) Jwalaji

(c) The development of pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government considers allocation for the development of tourist places on the basis of inter-se priority, availability of funds, etc.

(d) The amount of financial assistance provided so far to these centres which have been developed as tourist places is:

- (a) Jwalamukhi Rs.49.43 lakhs
 (b) Paunta Sahib Rs.27.11 lakhs

Import of Food Items

2276. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the food items, fruits and vegetables which have been imported during each of the last two years, and

(b) the foreign exchange spent on their import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEDGDE) (a) and (b) The desired information in respect of food items, fruits and vegetables imported during 1996-97 and 1997-98 is as under:-

| Food items* | Value Rs. Lakhs c.i.f. value of import | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| Wheat | 40375.93 | 97096.26 |
| Rice | 1.87 | 7.28 |
| Other Cereal | 49.59 | 37.31 |
| Pulses | 89033.76 | 83363.51 |
| Vegetables | | |
| (ITC(HS)-0701 to 0709) | 140.59 | 372.38 (upto Nov.97) |
| Fruits (excluding dry dates) | | |
| (ITC(HS)-0804 to 0810) | 2293.69 | 483.44 (upto Nov.97) |

*Value for food items are provisional

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta.

[English]

Development of Tourist Spots in Orissa

2277. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :
 SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
 SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals/projects submitted by Orissa Government for financial assistance for development of tourist spots, project-wise during the next year;

(b) whether the Government have drawn up any programme to develop the Buddhist religious places to attract Buddhist Tourists;

(c) if so, the details of places identified for the purpose;

(d) whether some of those tourist places of Buddhist interest are located in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the details of the programmes prepared to develop those places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Prioritisation of tourism projects are finalised in consultation with the State Governments on year to year basis. No prioritisation of projects is approved in advance for the next financial year.

(b) to (e) Development of tourism is a continuing process and is primarily undertaken by the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure based on specific project proposals received from the State Governments and the availability of funds. The Union Ministry of Tourism have sanctioned the following projects for Buddhist religious places of Orissa:-

| Sl.No. | Name of Project | Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs) |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | 1995-96 | |
| 1. | Amenities Centre at Dhauli | 20.26 |
| | 1996-97 | |
| 1. | Refurbishment of monuments at Lalitgiri | 25.00 |
| 2. | Refurbishment of monuments at Udaigiri | 20.00 |
| 3. | Refurbishment of monument at Ratnagiri | 31.00 |
| | 1997-98 | |
| 4. | Tourist Reception Centre, Ratnagiri | 75.00 |
| 5. | Tourist Reception Centre, Lalitgiri | 25.00 |
| 6. | Tourist Reception Centre, Udaigiri | 25.00 |

Loss due to Fire

2278. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI :
 SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of coal destroyed due to fire annually on an average in the Mines of different coal fields of the country;

(b) the estimated loss per annum in rupee terms due to such fire;

(c) the total quantum of coal blocked and caved in Jharia due to fire;

(d) whether there have been increased in the incident of fire in recent years;

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to control the fire incidents;

(f) whether the Government propose to shift Jharia Township; and

(g) if so, the details of rehabilitation plans chalked out by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) It has been reported by Coal India that in the event of any fires breaking out in the mines the same is tackled on a war footing. In case the fire cannot be quenched, the area is sealed off to prevent access of oxygen to the area to allow the fire to die out and the area is later re-opened and recovered. As such the amount of coal lost due to fires is negligible.

(d) The total quantum of coal blocked due to fires in Jharia coalfield was 1864 million Tonnes and coal destroyed about 37.0 Million Tonnes as per estimate made by CMPDIL in 1986. After implementation of fire control measures, nearly 400 MT of coal has been released from the fire zone.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. All statutory precautions against outbreak of mine fire are being undertaken.

(f) and (g) There is no plan to shift the Jharia township by BCCL/CIL. However, in compliance with the recommendations of the High Power Committee constituted by the Government to study the problem of fire and subsidence in Jharia and Raniganj coalfield, one demonstration scheme has been formulated for shifting of people from endangered areas of BCCL. Under the scheme 1500 houses are envisaged to be constructed for BCCL employees and 3100 units of modified Indira Awas Yojana type are proposed to be constructed for Non-BCCL people over non-coal bearing land to be provided by BCCL. The scheme has been sanctioned by Govt. of India at a capital outlay of Rs.33.88 crores. The scheme is under implementation.

Master Plan of Karnataka

2279. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a Master plan for tourism development in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop Kodagu district in Karnataka as a tourist centre;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated to the State for tourism development during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The

Master Plan for Tourism Development of Karnataka is for provision and augmentation of infrastructural facilities at Tourist Circuits covering different areas and different types of tourism.

(c) and (d) The Tourism Policy of the State Government has identified Kodagu District as a thrust area for Special Tourism Development.

(e) Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has prioritised 14 projects amounting to Rs.455.30 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance in 1998-99.

Package to Haryana

2280. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have provided propose to provide any financial assistance or package to the farmers of Haryana as the floods have destroyed the paddy, Jawar, Bajra and Cotton Crops in the State; and

(b) if so, when the amount has been released/proposed to be released to the State?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) A Central Team had been deputed to visit the affected areas in the State of Haryana and submit a report. The report of the team has been considered by an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG). The recommendations of IMG are being placed before the National Calamity Relief Committee who will determine the quantum of assistance, if any, to be provided to the State.

The State has an allocation of Rs.27.79 crore under the Calamity Relief Fund for the current year (1998-99). This includes Rs.20.84 crore as the share of the Central Government which has already been released to the State.

[Translation]

Supply of Sub-standard Coal

2281. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from some States regarding supply of sub-standard coal during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been sharp decline in power production due to supply of sub-standard coal to power stations;

(d) if so, whether Government have fixed any accountability in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir, A complaint from the State Government of Bihar has been received.

(b) They had pointed out that coal has been admixed with large quantity of stone, shale etc.

(c) No, Sir. There has been substantial improvement in the quantitative and qualitative supply of coal to the thermal power stations as a result of which the electricity generated and the plant load factor (PLF) achieved by the thermal power stations had gone up as would be seen from the following table:-

| | Generation (MU) | PLF(%) |
|--|------------------------|--------|
| Terminal year of 7th Plan 1989-90 (Actual) | 156000 | 56.2 |
| Terminal year of 8th Plan 1996-97 (Actual) | 265503 | 61.2 |
| 1st year of 9th Plan 1997-98 (Actual) | 276605 | 63.8 |
| Terminal year of 9th Plan 2001-02 (Projected) | 296238 (As per CEA) | 68.3 |

(d) and (e) In the case of supplies to Muzafarpur Thermal Power Station of Bihar, a thorough investigation was done. Two senior officers were suspended and General Manager of the area was charge-sheeted.

(f) To check recurrence of such incident coal companies have agreed with the Council of Power Utilities (CPU) to have sampling and analysis of coal at both loading and power house ends by the same independent third party agency.

Community Development Scheme of CCL

2282. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent under community development scheme by the Coking Coal Limited, the subsidiary of Coal India Ltd., against the funds allocated during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of amount spent under the above Scheme by C.C.L. during the last three years;

(c) whether any work has been executed in the Palamu district under the community development scheme during the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) As reported by Coal India Limited, the funds allocated and expenditure incurred

under community development programme in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd., during last three years are as under:-

| Year | Fund allocated (Rs. lakhs) | Actual Expenditure (Rs. lakhs) |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 93.00 | 76.60 |
| 1996-97 | 88.20 | 70.91 |
| 1997-98 | 90.00 | 71.16 |

(c) and (d) The works undertaken in Palamu District and expenditure incurred under Community Development Scheme during last two years are given below:

| 1996-97 | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Construction of 2 rooms in CS Dubey College, Cheney. | Rs.0.61 Lakhs |
| 2. Construction of 2 room in Middle School, Lohra | Rs.0.14 Lakhs |
| Total | Rs.0.75 Lakhs |
| 1997-98 | |
| 1. Construction of drain CS Dubey College, Cheney. | Rs.0.43 Lakhs |
| 2. Construction of 2 rooms in Middle School, Lohra | Rs.1.86 Lakhs |
| Total | Rs.2.29 Lakhs |

(e) Does not arise, in view of the answer to part (d) above.

[English]

Top Touris. Centres

2283. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of ten top tourist centres of the country which were visited by maximum number of domestic and foreign tourists during the last three years;

(b) the total income in foreign exchange and Indian currency earned from these 10 top tourist centres during the said period;

(c) the break-up of percentage of foreign and domestic tourists during this period; and

(d) the details of the initiatives being taken to further boost tourism at these tourist centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) According to a survey of foreign tourists conducted during 1996-97, the top ten tourist centres in India visited by the maximum number of foreign tourists are:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| i) Delhi | vi) Jaipur |
| ii) Mumbai | vii) Varanasi |
| iii) Agra | viii) Bangalore |
| iv) Chennai | ix) Panjim |
| v) Calcutta | x) Udaipur |

Similar information in respect of domestic tourists are not available. However, on the basis of estimates available, the top ten States popular with domestic tourists are:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| i) Andhra Pradesh | vi) Madhya Pradesh |
| ii) Uttar Pradesh | vii) Maharashtra |
| iii) Tamil Nadu | viii) Rajasthan |
| iv) Karnataka | ix) Jammu & Kashmir |
| v) Bihar | x) Kerala |

(b) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the last three years were as given below:

| Year | Tourism Receipts (Rs. cores) |
|------|------------------------------|
| 1995 | 8633 |
| 1996 | 10050 |
| 1997 | 11051 |

Place-wise estimates of foreign exchange earning from tourism and domestic tourist expenditure figures are not available.

(c) As per the survey of foreign tourists during 1996-97, the estimated number of foreign tourist visits in the top ten tourist centres are as given below:

| Places visited | Number of tourist visits |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Delhi | 890196 |
| Mumbai | 536388 |
| Agra | 314825 |
| Chennai | 256480 |
| Calcutta | 251589 |
| Jaipur | 208679 |
| Varanasi | 126863 |
| Bangalore | 101068 |
| Panjim | 73921 |
| Udaipur | 60922 |

(d) In addition publicity and promotional material have been produced on these tourist centres, which have been widely circulated. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for the implementation of specific tourism projects based on proposals received from the State Governments.

Project proposal from Gujarat

2284. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any project proposals from the Gujarat Government during the last three years for construction of Yatri-Niwas, Tourist Bungalows, Tourist Complex, etc. for the middle class tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects approved out of them and the funds allocated therefor;

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be approved; and

(e) the specific infrastructural facilities being provided or proposed to be provided for the middle class tourists visiting Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (e) Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 13 projects amounting to Rs.90.19 lakhs to the Government of Gujarat in 1995-96 and 1996-97. In 1997-98 an amount of Rs.38.63 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State Government for construction of a Tourist complex at Nalsarovar.

For 1998-99 the Union Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has prioritised 15 projects amounting to Rs.400.00 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance. The Government of Gujarat has not sent the detailed project proposal for sanction for any of these prioritised projects so far.

Tourists in Gujarat

2285. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of tourists visiting Gujarat have been increasing steadily;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to add more five star hotels in the state to attract more foreign tourists for earning more foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the statistics available from the Government of Gujarat, the number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Gujarat during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 are as follows:

| | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Domestic | 57303 | 64478 | 118994 |
| Foreign | 3005 | 6581 | 7994 |
| Total | 60308 | 71059 | 126988 |

(c) The policy of the Government is to encourage private investment in the tourism sector including hotels by providing various incentives like tax exemptions, interest subsidy, concessional custom duty on import etc. These incentives are available to hotels in all the State including Gujarat.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

2286. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal Inida Ltd., and its sister concerns are introducing Voluntary Retirement Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of workers in excess, company-wise;

(d) whether the Unions and workers are coming forward for above scheme;

(e) if so, the details of benefits which are likely to be given to workers;

(f) the total burden on Government exchequer as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes. Sir. CIL and its subsidiary companies have introduced 'Voluntary Retirement Scheme 1989' based on the guidelines laid down by the Govt.

(b) Besides payment of Gratuity and Contributory Provident Fund as per rules, this scheme provides for an exgratia amount equivalent to one and half months' wages for each completed years of service or monthly wages at the time of retirement multiplied by the number of months of service left before the normal date of retirement, whichever is less.

(c) The number of workers in excess as on 1.4.98, company-wise, are as follows:-

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Eastern Coalfields Limited | 12,580 |
| Bharat Coking Coal Limited | 7,100 |
| Central Coalfields Limited | 5,968 |

(d) Many workers are opting for the scheme.

(e) As at (b) above.

(f) For the year 1998-99, a budgetary support of Rs. 160 crores is being provided from the National Renewal Fund to finance the Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the Eastern Coalfields Limited and the Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

Economic Agenda

2287. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has prepared a draft economic Agenda;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main suggestions made by the Confederation of Indian Industry on the agenda;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Allocation of Funds for Ninth Plan

2288. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Governments have demanded to increase the Central allocation for tourism related development projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance given for this purpose to each State during the said period State-wise;

(c) the criteria fixed for providing central assistance for tourism related development projects to States; and

(d) the effective action plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (d) The State Governments have emphasised the need for providing larger allocation of funds for tourism development in each State. The Central Financial Assistance is aimed at supplementing their resources for the implementation of identified projects. The assistance is thus project based and is based on the performance of the States in the implementation of the projects. The State-wise details of financial assistance provided by the Central Government during 1997-98 are shown in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Central Financial Assistance during 1997-98

| Sl.No. | State | 1997-98 | |
|--------|----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | (Rs. in Lakhs) Amt. Sanced. | (Rs. in lakhs) Amt. Released (installments) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 206.70 | 69.10 |
| 2. | Assam | 288.88 | 94.20 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|--------------------|---------|---------|
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 271.00 | 82.50 |
| 4. | Bihar | 233.07 | 76.38 |
| 5. | Goa | 144.62 | 42.08 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 111.84 | 41.90 |
| 7. | Haryana | 108.24 | 44.83 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 119.00 | 37.50 |
| 9. | J&K | 293.35 | 86.25 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 130.78 | 44.16 |
| 11. | Kerala | 282.00 | 106.50 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 119.31 | 49.22 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 169.84 | 49.14 |
| 14. | Manipur | 186.11 | 56.35 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 85.70 | 28.05 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 142.45 | 43.50 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 116.90 | 40.58 |
| 18. | Orissa | 557.05 | 180.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 52.87 | 15.72 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 107.33 | 52.27 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 65.20 | 24.55 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 59.74 | 22.86 |
| 23. | Tripura | 126.68 | 40.16 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 221.10 | 76.17 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 157.76 | 45.65 |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | — | — |
| 28. | Dadra Nagar Haveli | 5.20 | 2.60 |
| 29. | Delhi | 229.43 | 79.22 |
| 30. | Daman | 60.17 | 17.25 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 5.00 | 2.50 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 35.64 | 12.83 |
| Grand | | 4752.96 | 1785.02 |

Statement-II*Projects Prioritised (1998-99)*

| Sl.No. | State | No. of Projects Prioritised | Amount Prioritised (in lakhs) |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 14 | 367.08 |
| 2. | Assam | 12 | 397.00 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 7 | 131.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|--------------------|-----|---------|
| 4. | Bihar | 10 | 325.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 12 | 210.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 15 | 400.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 12 | 312.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 11 | 448.00 |
| 9. | J&K | 17 | 525.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 14 | 455.30 |
| 11. | Kerala | 15 | 467.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 17 | 421.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 10 | 265.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 13 | 220.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 15 | 180.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 8 | 165.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 10 | 200.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 7 | 368.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 8 | 402.34 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 25 | 431.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 23 | 302.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 11 | 435.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 10 | 310.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 35 | 740.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | | 350.00 |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar | 6 | 200.00 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 8 | 113.00 |
| 28. | Dadra Nagar Haveli | 5 | 82.00 |
| 29. | Delhi | 19 | 350.00 |
| 30. | Daman | | |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 3 | 31.00 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 11 | 189.00 |
| Total | | 383 | 9791.64 |

*[English]***Health Club**

2289. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the I.T.D.C. has rented out some areas for health club as added facility for its guest in its hotels;

(b) if so, the names of the Hotels and since when these Health Clubs are operating;

(c) the money spent on creation of such facilities and the revenue earned therefrom during the last two years, hotel-wise;

(d) the specific amount spent on renovation of Samrat Hotel health club;

(e) whether the authorities have considerably reduced the rental charges for this particular unit; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ITDC has rented out covered area for operating Health Club in the following hotels:

| Name of the hotel | Date of commencing Health Club operation |
|----------------------------|--|
| Samrat Hotel, New Delhi | 15-08-90 |
| Qutab Hotel, New Delhi | 23-04-97 |
| Hotel Ashok, Bangalore | 01-11-84 |
| Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort | 29-08-92 |
| IMP Mysore | 20-12-87 |
| Hotel Ashok Hassan | 15-11-89 |
| Hotel Ashok Madurai | 01-04-94 |

The area and facilities of Health Club vary from unit to unit.

(c) Of the above hotels, ITDC created health club structural facilities in Hotel Samrat, New Delhi at a cost of Rs.52.56 lakhs. For other hotels, ITDC leased out covered space only. The details of income generated to ITDC by letting out the health club/space for health club during the last 2 years are given below:

| Name of Hotel | Income generated during | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
| | (Rupees in lakhs) | |
| Samrat Hotel, New Delhi | 19.20 | 24.00 |
| Qutab Hotel, New Delhi | 7.02 | 7.02 |
| Hotel Ashok, Bangalore | 1.98 | 2.42 |
| Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort | 2.16 | 2.60 |
| IMP Mysore | 1.64 | 1.64 |
| Hotel Hassan Ashok | 0.34 | 0.34 |
| Hotel Ashok Madurai | 0.83 | 0.94 |

The equipment etc in all cases have been provided by the licensee.

(d) The Health Club in Samrat Hotel was damaged due to fire incident in May 97. An amount of Rs.50.89 lakhs has

been spent for restoration of Health Club. Necessary claim has been lodged with the insurance Company.

(e) No, Sir. The rental charges have not been reduced for Health Club of Samrat Hotel.

(f) Does not arise.

Funds for Singareni Collieries

2290. SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought financial assistance to revitalise the Singareni Collieries which is a joint venture of State and Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have proposed that the Government of India waive outstanding interest of Rs.663.34 crores due from Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) which had accrued during the VIII Plan period on the loans from Government of India. A restructuring package including revision of the equity-debt structure of SCCL and the request of the State Government for waiver of the outstanding interest is under consideration of the Government.

Appointments in NCL/BCCL

2291. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the report of BCCL on manpower position for the year 1994-95, there was a reduction of 10103 workers and addition of 60 Welfare Officers and Executives;

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

(c) whether any complaint is also before Vigilance about the written test for the post of Welfare Officer held on July 10, 1997 in NCL; and

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

(e) whether any complaint is also before Vigilance about the written test for the post of Welfare Officer held on July 10, 1997 in NCL; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) As per the report of Bharat Coking Coal Limited for 1994-95, the net decrease of manpower was only 6604 and the reasons for such decrease were death, retirement, resignation, medical unfitness, voluntary retirement and transfer etc. The addition in the executive

cadre on the other hand was 62 persons as junior executive trainees and welfare officer trainees.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given to (c) above.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The matter was investigated but no irregularity was found.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands/adjourned to meet again at 1 P.M.

11.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the clock.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirteen of the Clock.

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU *in the Chair*]

(Interruptions)

13.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go to your seats first.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The leaders are consulting the Speaker. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is very bad on your part. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

13.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Observation by the Speaker

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it may be recalled that on the 11th of December, 1998, when the House proceedings commenced, an acrimonious situation arose in the context of the *Bandh* that had been launched by certain political parties

to demonstrate against the economic policies of the Government and in the context of the Women's Reservation Bill.

Several hon. Members of the House committed transgression into the official area, that is, the Well of the House, and also menacingly pushed forward towards the Speaker's Chair, shouting slogans. In the process, seemingly physical assaults amongst the Members also occurred.

This behaviour of the Members is not merely a violation of the established Rules of Procedure of the House, but is also a serious breach of the solemn pledge made by this entire House during its special Golden Jubilee Session, not to speak of the criminality of the seeming assaults.

The incident has also been, *prima facie*, in the nature of a gross violation of the privilege of the House in that it has seriously detracted from the dignity of the House. Pursuant to the incident, certain privilege notices have also been received from some Members.

Incidents of this sort strike at the root of the very credibility of this House and its survival and, therefore, are dangerous for our democratic polity.

In the circumstances, I strongly condemn the incident of 11th December, 1998 and the behaviour of the participants in the incident.

I shall also refer the privilege notices to the Committee of Privileges with direction to give a time-bound report.

14.04 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report of Process and Product Development Centre, Agra for 1997 and review of its working

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1997-98.

[*Placed in Library, See No. LT 1741/98*]

Annual Reports of Council for Leather Exports, Chennai for 1997-98, Federation of Indian Export Organisation, New Delhi etc. and review of their working etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Ramakrishna Hegde, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council for Leather Exports, Chennai, 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 Council for Leather Exports, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1742/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Federation of Indian Export Organisation, 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 Federation of Indian Export Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1743/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council, 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 Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1744/98]

Annual Reports alongwith Audited Report of Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi for 1997-98, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune etc. and review of their working etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1745/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1746/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1747/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1748/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1749/98]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1750/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1751/98]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1752/98]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1753/98]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, for the year 1996-97.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1754/98]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1996-97.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1755/98]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for

the year 1996-97, together with audit Report thereon.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1756/98]

- (18) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Indian Institute of Technology Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1757/98]

- (19) A copy each of the following Papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 14 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990—

(a) (i) Annual Report of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Action taken Report on the Annual Report of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(b) Review by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1758/98]

- (21) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1759/98]

Annual Reports alongwith Audited Reports of Power Finance Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for 1997-98 etc. and review of their working etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : 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 Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1760/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation Limited, New Shimla, for the year 1997-98

(ii) Annual Report of the Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation Limited, New Shimla, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1761/98]

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98

(ii) Annual Report of the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1762/98]

Annual Report on the Working and Administration of the Companies Act, 1956 for the year 1997-98

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working and Administration of the Companies Act, 1956 for the year 1997-98, under section 638 of the said Act

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1763/98]

Annual Reports of the Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association, Mumbai for 1997-98 etc. and review of their working etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) Sir, on behalf of Shri Kanshi Ram Rana, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association, Mumbai, 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 Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1764/98]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, 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 Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1765/98]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Man Made Textiles Research Association, Surat, 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 Man Made Textiles Research Association, Surat, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1766/98]

Copies of Notifications under Section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 —

(i) The Income-tax (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 721(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 1998

(ii) The Income-tax (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 794(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th September, 1998.

(iii) The Income-tax (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 889(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 1998

(iv) The Income-tax (Twentieth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 917(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1998

(v) The Income-tax (Twenty-Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 939(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th October, 1998

(vi) The Income-tax (Seventeenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 898(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1998.

- (vii) The Income-tax (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 647(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 1998.
- (viii) The Income-tax (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 648(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 1998.
- (ix) The Income-tax (Twelfth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 781(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1998.
- (x) The Income-tax (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 812(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 1998.
- (xi) The Income-tax (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 830(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 1998.
- (xii) The Income-tax (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 897(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1998.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1767/98]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962—
 - (i) G.S.R. 524(E) published in Gazette of India dated 26th August 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 29/97-Cus. dated the 1st April, 1997;
 - (ii) G.S.R. 623(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials imported into India against a Special Advance Licence with Actual User Condition, from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 656(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th November, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt Countervailing Duty on import of the goods from Nepal to India, manufactured in Small Scale Industries in Nepal on the Scheme of exemption given to the similar Small Scale Industries in India.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1768/98]

- (3) A copy of the Notifications No. S.O. 622(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India

dated the 22nd July, 1998 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 771(E) dated the 29th December, 1972, sub-section (3) of section 39 of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1769/98]

- (4) A copy of the Wealth-tax (First Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 918(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 46 of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1770/98]

- (5) A copy of the Expenditure-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 919(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 31 of the Expenditure-tax Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1771/98]

- (6) A copy of the Interest-tax (21st Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 920(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 27 of the Interest-tax Act, 1974.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1772/98]

- (7) A copy of the Kar Vived Samadhan Scheme Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 728(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th August, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 98 of the Finance Act, 1998.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1773/98]

- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992—
 - (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Foreign Institutional Investors) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 545(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1998.
 - (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Amendment Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 930(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1998.
 - (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy Back of Securities) Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 975(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 1998.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1774/98]

- (9) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of India, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Saurashtra and State Bank of Travancore for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 40 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, respectively.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1775/98]

- (10) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 1998, together with Auditor's Report thereon—

- (i) Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1776/98]

- (ii) Bhitwara Ajmar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhitwara (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1777/98]

- (iii) Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank, Bharuch (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1778/98]

- (iv) Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bareilly, (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1779/98]

- (v) Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sawai Madhopur (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1780/98]

- (vi) Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pratapgarh (U.P.)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1781/98]

- (vii) Bundi Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1782/98]

- (viii) Valsad Dangs Gramin Bank, Valsad (Gujarat).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1783/98]

- (ix) Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kanpur (U.P.)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1784/98]

- (x) Dungarpur Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Dungarpur (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1785/98]

- (xi) Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sultanpur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1786/98]

- (xii) Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Allahabad (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1787/98]

- (xiii) Raebareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raebareilly (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1788/98]

- (xiv) Nainital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Nainital (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1789/98]

- (xv) Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Faizabad (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1790/98]

- (xvi) Shahjahanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahjahanpur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1791/98]

- (xvii) Panchmahal Vadodara Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Godhra (Gujarat).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1792/98]

- (xviii) Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Fatehpur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1793/98]

- (xix) Jhabua Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhabua (M.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1794/98]

- (xx) Gomti Gramin Bank, Jaunpur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1795/98]

- (xxi) Kashi Gramin Bank, Varanasi (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1796/98]

- (xxii) Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank, Rewa (M.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1797/98]

- (xxiii) Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Azamgarh (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1798/98]

- (xxiv) Sri Ganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sri Ganganagar (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1799/98]

- (xxv) Marwar Gramin Bank, Pali (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1800/98]

(xxvi) Bikaner Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bikaner (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1801/98]

(xxvii) Vidisha Bhopal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Vidisha (M.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1802/98]

(xxviii) Cauvery Grameena Bank, Mysore (Karnataka).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1803/98]

(xxix) Kalparharu Grameena Bank, Tumkur (Karnataka).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1804/98]

(xxx) Junagadh Areli Gramin Bank, Junagadh (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1805/98]

(xxxi) Surendranagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank, Surendranagar (Gujarat).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1806/98]

(xxxii) Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank, Jamnagar (Gujarat).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1807/98]

(xxxiii) Malwa Gramin Bank, Sangrur (Punjab).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1808/98]

(xxxiv) Sravasthi Gramin Bank, Bahraich (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1809/98]

(xxxv) Sharda Gramin Bank, Satna (M.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1810/98]

(xxxvi) Tulsi Gramin Bank, Banda (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1811/98]

(xxxvii) Saryu Gramin Bank, Lakhimpurkheri (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1812/98]

(xxxviii) Bhagirath Gramin Bank, Sitapur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1813/98]

(xxxix) Chatrasal Gramin Bank, Orai (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1814/98]

(xl) Vindhya Vasini Gramin Bank, Mirzapur (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1815/98]

(xli) Visveshvaraya Grameena Bank, Mandya (Karnataka).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1816/98]

(xlii) Mewar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1817/98]

(xliii) Chikmagalur Kodagu Grameena Bank, Chikmagalur (Karnataka).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1818/98]

(xliv) Faridkot Bathinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bathinda (Punjab).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1819/98]

(xlv) Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Mainpuri (U.P.).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1820/98]

(xlvii) Marathwada Gramin Bank, Nanded (Maharashtra).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1821/98]

(xlviii) Thane Gramin Bank, Thane (Maharashtra).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1822/98]

(11) A copy each of the following Papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual report of the Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited, Calcutta for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1823/98]

(12) A copy each of the following annual reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1824/98]

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1825/98]

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1826/98]

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1827/98]

- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1828/98]
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1829/98]
- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1830/98]
- (viii) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1831/98]
- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1832/98]
- (x) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1833/98]
- (xi) Report on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1834/98]
- (xii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1835/98]
- (xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1836/98]
- (xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1837/98]
- (xv) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1838/98]

- (xvi) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1839/98]
- (xvii) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1840/98]
- (xviii) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1841/98]
- (xix) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1842/98]

14.06 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

14.07 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.

Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts of Coal India Ltd. for 1997-98 and review of its working

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMOK APANG) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Dilip Ray, 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:—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Coal India Limited, Singrauli, for the year 1997-98.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Coal India Limited, Singrauli, (Volumes I and II) for the year 1997-98, alongwith

*Not recorded.

Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1843/98]

Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts of the India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for 1997-98 and review of its working

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : 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—
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1844/98]

Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., New Delhi for 1997-98 and review of its working

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal, 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—
 - (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1845/98]

National Highways (Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Gazette of India under Sub-section (3) of Section 9 of National Highways Act, 1956

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

A copy of the National Highways (Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 417(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st

July, 1998 under sub-section (3) of section 9 of the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1847/98]

14.08 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

“In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd December 1998 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill.”

14.08½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Tenth Report and Action Taken Statements

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR) : Sir, I beg to present the Tenth Report of the Committee on 'Fire and Subsidence Control in Coalmines' relating to Ministry of Coal and lay the following Action Taken Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy:—

- (1) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 29th report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 20th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1995-96) of Ministry of Power.
- (2) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 30th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 25th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on “Coal Linkages—Policy and its implementation—An Examination” relating to Ministry of Coal.
- (3) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 31st Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 21st

- Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1995-96) of Ministry of Coal.
- (4) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 33rd Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1995-96) of Department of Atomic Energy.
 - (5) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 7th report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 34th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on "Nuclear Power Programme—An Evaluation" relating to Department of Atomic Energy.
 - (6) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 8th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 37th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on "Problems of Rajasthan Atomic Power Stations" relating to Department of Atomic Energy.
 - (7) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 38th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on "Finalisation of Service Conditions and Absorption of Deputationists in Nuclear Corporation of India Limited" relating to Department of Atomic Energy.
 - (8) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 10th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 1st Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Department of Atomic Energy.
 - (9) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 11th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
 - (10) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 12th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 4th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Ministry of Power.

- (11) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 13th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 2nd Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Ministry of Coal.
- (12) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 8th Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 17th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1997-98) of Ministry of Coal.

14.09 hrs.

RE: BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 14th December, 1998 will consist of :

1. Further discussion on the Motion regarding 30th Report of erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1989-91.
2. Consideration and passing of :
 - (a) The Delhi Development Authority (Validation of Disciplinary Powers), Bill 1998 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
 - (b) The Coffee (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
 - (c) The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1998
 - (d) The Explosive Substances (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
3. Discussion and Voting on :
 - (a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1998-99.
 - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1998-99.
4. Consideration and passing of :
 - (a) The Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998.
 - (b) The Leaders and Chief Whips of Recognised Parties and Groups in Parliament (Facilities) Bill, 1998.
 - (c) The Customs (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

5. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha :

- (a) The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997.
- (b) The Indian Majority (Amendment) Bill, 1997.
- (c) The Administrators General (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

14.09½ hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—GENERAL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHVANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1998-99.

14.10 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FOURTH AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Articles 239AA, 331 and 333 and Insertion of new articles 338A, 332A and 334A)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we go to Item No. 19.

As the is aware, the Minister of Law, Justice and company Affairs moved a motion on 14th July 1998 seeking leave of the House to Introduce Constitution (Eighty-Fourth Amendment) bill, 1998. It could not be put to the vote of the House on that day. I shall now put the question to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

Those in favour may say, 'Aye'.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : 'Ayes'.

MR. SPEAKER : Those against may say 'No'.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : 'No'.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, the 'Ayes' have it; the 'Ayes' have it.

The Motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : Leave is granted. The Minister may now introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section 2, dated 14.12.1998.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : I introduce the Bill.

14.11 hrs.

COFFEE (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up item no. 20.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Ramakrishna Hegde, I beg to move*.

"That the Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942, be taken into consideration."

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We are on item no. 20, Coffee (Amendment) Bill.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Since there are no hon. Members to speak on this, I will put the motion for consideration of the Bill to vote.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

14.13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifteen of the Clock.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

15.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifteen of the Clock.

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : There was no zero hour today...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we shall take up the Coffee (Amendment) Bill.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : Sir, before the Coffee (Amendment) Bill is taken up...(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Whatever has happened in Maharashtra...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : The bill is in danger...(*Interruptions*) Is there any moral responsibility?...(*Interruptions*) Discussion should be held regarding these acts of goondaism...(*Interruptions*) It is an important issue...(*Interruptions*) Why was the Zero Hour skipped?...(*Interruptions*) Who indulged in Goondaism? Who can make an attack?...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour) : An attempt is being made to impose cultural emergency in Maharashtra...(*Interruptions*) Whatever is happening in Maharashtra, should be discussed...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

Sir, you assure that some discussion will take place...(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dilip Kumar's house has been attacked. Dilip Kumar Ji is a respected artist of our country...(*Interruptions*) The goondas of Shiv Sena have attacked his house...(*Interruptions*) It is a deliberate attack...(*Interruptions*) The Government of Maharashtra is aiding them...(*Interruptions*) We strongly condemn it. What has happened, is far worse than the emergency...(*Interruptions*) Dilip Kumar Ji is a respected artist of this country...(*Interruptions*) We strongly condemn the attack at the house of such a great artist as Dilip Kumar ji...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Sir, we want a discussion...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, Dilip Kumar does not belong to any community...(*Interruptions*) He is a great Indian artist. He is a humanist...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can raise it tomorrow during Zero Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir those goondas are backed by the Maharashtra Government...(*Interruptions*). Dilip Kumar is not only an Indian artist, he is a great humanist...(*Interruptions*). We are proud of Dilip Kumar. This House must pay a tribute to Dilip Kumar...(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dilip Kumar ji does not belong to a particular community...(*Interruptions*) He belongs to the entire humanity...(*Interruptions*) Dilip Kumar ji is a respected figure all over the world...(*Interruptions*) The Government of Maharashtra is responsible for the unruly behaviour displayed at his house...(*Interruptions*) We demand from this House that it should ensure awarding of strict punishment for those goondas...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak one by one.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given notice regarding the attack at the house of Shri Dilip Kumar by Shiv Sainik...(*Interruptions*).

I would urge upon you that the Shiv Sena Government is ruling there and it is defending them. Such goondaism is dangerous for democracy. Through you I would like to request that the Central Government...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Dilip Kumar ji approached the Supreme Court due to the film 'fire'. An assault on him tantamounts to contempt of court. Such goondaism will not be allowed. A political party is involved in it. Hence I would request the Home Minister that...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

[*English*]

You can raise it tomorrow.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Sir, law and order is a State subject. They cannot raise it here. This is not 'Zero Hour' now...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. You can raise it during 'Zero Hour' tomorrow. You give notice.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Sir, this is 'Zero Hour'. The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is here. You direct the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

[Translation]

Through you, I would request you to call the Home Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, do you want to respond?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : I shall request the Home Minister to make a statement in the House tomorrow and convey the truth.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we take up item number 16. Shri Madan Lal Khurana to make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I shall make it tomorrow.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will go through the proceedings and if there is anything objectionable. I will delete it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Sir, you can go through the record...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said will not be a part of the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If there is anything objectionable, that will be removed from the record.

(Interruptions)

*Not Recorded.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He is not an anti-national and he is not a Pakistani.

[Translation]

SHRI AKBAR AHMAD (Azamgarh) : Such goondaism will not be tolerated...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Dilip Kumar has accepted the award given by Pakistan...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I do not agree that Dilip Kumar is a Pakistani...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dilip Kumar ji has served this country for 75 years...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot make such remarks.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The Government does not consider Shri Dilip Kumar to be anti-national...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister is on his legs. Please hear him.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : Sir, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs made a statement that we are proud of Shri Dilip Kumar; he is a national Artist and we respect him. Anything spoken ill of a person of that stature should not be allowed to go on record. I request you to wipe it off from record.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : That is what I have said ...*(Interruptions)* I have conveyed the views of the Government to you...*(Interruptions)* We do not agree with what they have said. The Home Minister will make a statement tomorrow and clarify it...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : Sir, this is too serious and it cannot be rectified. He cannot describe anybody as anti-national...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Home Minister will make a statement tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said will not form part of the proceedings.

[Translation]

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : The country is facing several problems...*(Interruptions)*. The issue regarding

Dilip Kumar is not the only issue before us...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central) : I shall surely sit down but regarding an artist...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : This type of cultural fanaticism should not be allowed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dilip Kumar is a great artist of our country. Using such unparliamentary words regarding him is a threat to the dignity of this country...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That has been expunged from the record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : How can the House function if the Members keep on saying whatever they feel like. You should take note of it. A demonstration was staged at the house of Dilip Kumar ji and now such sort of behaviour is being displayed in the House...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us now take up Item No. 20. consideration motion of the Coffee (Amendment) Bill. Shri V. Radhakrishnan to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You should admonish them that they should not use such words...*(Interruptions)* your word is final.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, we could take it up later. I have met the hon. Speaker and...*(Interruptions)* I have also given a notice in this regard. Please allow me two minutes...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have taken up a new subject now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, I have already met the hon. Speaker and he had announced in this House that he would be giving me an opportunity to speak...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may make your submission tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : He told me four days ago that I would be given opportunity to speak the very next day. I met Hon'ble Speaker in this regard. He had promised that he would allow me to speak. I would like to speak for just two minutes with your permission.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have taken up the Coffee (Amendment) Bill now.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, I have met the hon. Speaker in this regard and he had announced in the House that he would allow me...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may make your submission tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, he has announced in the House. *(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may make your point tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, on that day he said, 'tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The privilege motion is under consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, my privilege motion is different. This is about the security cover provided to Mayawatiji, a Member of this House who has said that there is a threat to her life...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is also under consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, if a Member of this House is feeling threatened and she has made a specific allegation that the threat is coming from the BJP from the VHP...*(Interruptions)* This is the threat which is coming...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may speak tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, if a member is making such an allegation, then where shall I go...*(Interruptions)* if I do not report it to the House...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, would you allow every Member to raise whatever he wants...*(Interruptions)* This is not fair...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, I have given notice...*(Interruptions)* This is the letter which she has written to the hon. President of India...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, there is no 'Zero Hour' today, then why are these things being allowed to be raised here?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, an hon. Member of this House feels threatened...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, have you allowed him to speak...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, the hon. Speaker has said that he would allow me...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the hon. Speaker is on record having said that I can speak the next day...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sir, this is under consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : If the life of Ms. Mayawati is threatened, then let her come to the House and raise it...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khan, the heavens will not fall if you raise it tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, do you want me to raise it tomorrow?...*(Interruptions)* All right.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : There is no threat...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, a serious lapse has taken place in this House...*(Interruptions)* The procedure of the House has not been followed...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, what about the issue of Shri Dilip Kumar...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That matter was raised by several hon. Members here and the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has responded to it saying that the hon. Home Minister will make a statement about it tomorrow. Now, please allow Shri Radhakrishnan to speak.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Sir, then allow me to speak tomorrow...*(Interruptions)* because I have given a notice...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, Shri Radhakrishnan may continue now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, the Women's Reservation Bill has not been introduced...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Speaker could not complete the process...*(Interruptions)* Sir, he did not announce it in the proper manner...*(Interruptions)* and we take it that the Bill has not been introduced...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : It has been introduced...*(Interruptions)*.

(Translation)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that a provision should be made in the Women's reservation Bill for providing reservation to women belonging to dalit, adivasis, backward castes and minority communities...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we have taken up another subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We were struggling and protesting for it and came to the well of the House. The Government had stated earlier that the bill would not be introduced without reaching consensus on this issue but now Khuranaji and this Government are trying to create an indecent scene in this House and thereby hurt the feelings of the people belonging to backward classes, minorities and adivasis...*(Interruptions)* The ruling given by the Chair is supreme. We will wait for your ruling...*(Interruptions)* We are struggling for it. I don't know as to what action has been taken by the Government in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This bill has been introduced.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are protesting against this Bill because it is hurting the interests of crores of people. Yesterday we came to the well of the House and requested that such an anti-people, anti-dalits and anti-backward classes bill should not be introduced.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This bill has been introduced now and you may give amendments.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, people in the know of things believe that legally there is no need to bring amendments in it from the constitutional viewpoint. This is being done with the connivance of the Government. Legal experts are of the opinion that amendments were not accepted earlier and amendments are not required, then how this could be introduced...*(Interruptions)* How shall we be in a position to put forward our viewpoint in this House?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Raghuvansh Prasadji, please sit down.

You have raised your point. Radhakrishnanji is on his legs, please let him speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. You may bring amendments to the bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, they are trying to get publicity in the name of women. Actually they are anti-women...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Buta Singhji, please take your seat.

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (Kurukshetra) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, they are trying to come up by using dalit women as crutches...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not Zero Hour, Zero Hour is already over. Now discussion is going on on this bill. Shri Radhakrishnanji...

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir it is a question of constitutional amendment...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Shri Radhakrishnan is on his legs, let him speak.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a large number of women belonging to backward castes, dalit and minority communities. What will happen to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will also be done, you can give amendments.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We can accept your ruling if you say that reservation will be provided to women belonging to backward classes, dalit, minority and adivasi communities...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to raise one point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, this is not Zero Hour, please take your seat.

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, dalit women were beaten up. You can imagine as to how much respect they have for dalit women. They are anti-women...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are wasting the time of the House.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, please allow me to speak for just one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not Zero Hour.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to speak in Zero Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you speaking then? I will not allow you to speak. Please take your seat.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, please listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I shall not listen to that, please take your seat.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir please listen to me. I would like to say that I am a new Member...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, you are not a new member.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir we have come here to learn something. The House was not in order at the time when the Women's Reservation Bill was introduced. In such a situation that bill should not have been introduced. We hope from the Chair that this Bill would be introduced when peace is restored in the House...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : I also wanted to say the same thing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this? Nothing will go on record except what Shri Varakala Radhakrishnan says.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : There is a procedure for introducing bills in the House, which is given in the rule book 'Rules of Procedure...' That should be followed. That procedure should have been followed essentially in this case because it is going to be a constitutional amendment. I am very sorry to say that this bill has been introduced here in a totally wrong manner...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : It is unfortunate, Sir. Despite the hon. Speaker condemning the walking into the Well, within a minute they came to the well. How is that they are talking about the procedure now...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this bill should be introduced properly...*(Interruptions)* I believe that this bill

*Not recorded.

has not been introduced...*(Interruptions)* Rules and procedure have not been followed...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you please continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you wasting the time of the House? Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : They have cheated...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Prime Minister had given an assurance that this Bill would be introduced after a consensus is reached. Where is that consensus?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Consensus has been reached. You can ask members sitting on your side...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain peace.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : You can go through the record and find out whether rules and procedure have been followed or not while introducing this bill...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I do not know as to what happened to this Bill. Therefore, we except your ruling on it. I would like to know as to what will be the fate of this bill...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Radhakrishnanji, please speak.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Banka) : How can he speak. Can any gentleman speak in such a situation?...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Radhakrishnanji is on his legs.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I would also like to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I have not permitted you to speak.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Digvijay Singh has said that no gentleman can speak in such a situation. I would like to know as to whether Raghuvansh Babu agrees to it or not?...*(Interruptions)*.

15.30 hrs.

COFFEE AMENDMENT—*contd.*

[English]

SHRI VARAKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I understand that the House is in possession of the Coffee (Amendment) Bill.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please do not disturb the proceedings of the House.

SHRI VARAKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I cannot support the Bill straightway. There are reservations...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there will be no order in this House if all the Members keep on speaking like this...*(Interruptions)* No proper arrangements have been made for other members to speak and...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Propriety should be observed in conducting the business of the House. That has not been done in this case. I would like to say that proper procedure has not been followed while introducing this Bill...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Propriety has been observed.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : This should not be taken in this way. Opinion of the opposition should have been sought whereas it was not done...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are not paying proper attention to my question of propriety...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please let Shri Radhakrishnan speak now...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, they are saying something about the speaker...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : You please give your ruling on what has been said by hon. Buta Singh...*(Interruptions)* Please see the ruling, record and taperecord in this matter.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, clarification should be given on what has been said by them about the Hon. Speaker...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

How can they challenge the ruling of the Hon. Speaker? They cannot challenge the ruling of the Hon. Speaker.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please abide by the rules.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are following the rules. But we should also know as to what ruling would be given on propriety of convention of this House. high ideals and parliamentary procedure...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : All this is being done as per the convention set by you today...*(Interruptions)* You are determined to follow that convention...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Impartial decision should be taken in this regard. We are struggling for it for years...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I had demanded division on the Women's Reservation Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As that Bill has already been introduced, the objection cannot be raised now in regard to the introduction of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, permission of the House should be sought...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, you may go through the proceedings of the House...*(Interruptions)* That bill has not been introduced...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That Bill has been introduced.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, the Rules of the House must be followed...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir the bill pertaining to Eighty fourth amendment to the Constitution has not been introduced as per the Rules and procedure. Therefore, we are protesting against it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Rules were not followed while introducing this Bill. Rules should be followed we have not been given an opportunity...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

SHRI AKBAR AHMAD (Azamgarh) : Sir, we wanted a division at the time of introduction of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill to provide for reservation for women...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir we are obeying your orders but let us say that Rules have

not been followed. This is a Constitution amendment...*(Interruptions)*.

15.36 hrs.

At this stage Shri Buta Singh, Shri Akbar Ahmad and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned to meet at 4.30 p.m.

15.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Sixteen of the Clock

16.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-two minutes past Sixteen of the Clock.

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise on a point of order. Sir according to Rule 72 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the procedure has been given a go-by in this House. Sir, the procedure has not been followed when the hon. Minister got up to introduced the Bill. Nothing could be heard in the House at that time...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rule 72 should be heard...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That subject is over now. The House shall now take up further discussion regarding atrocities on minorities.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : Sir, the rule has been violated...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should have raised those issues at the time of introduction and not now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we will take up further discussion regarding atrocities on minorities.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rule 72 should be heard...*(Interruptions)* Rule 72 has been violated...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I am calling the next hon. Member to participate on that discussion. Shri T.R. Baalu.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singh, you are a senior Member. You are aware of all those things. It is not possible to raise any point of order at this time, regarding that issue. that issue is over now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, you are well versed with the rules and regulations. How is it possible to raise that issue now?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, the ruling of the Chair cannot be discussed.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, he could have given in writing if he had any objection...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

Sir, this is an afterthought...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, Shri Vijay Goel, do not argue with them.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singh, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singh, you are a senior Member. The Chair has already given the ruling. The Bill has already been introduced. How can you raise a point of order at this juncture?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Lal Muni Choubey, why are you unnecessarily interrupting the proceedings? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can you challenge the Speaker's ruling?

(Interruptions)

16.37 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will not allow this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way to protest.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : You raise your point of order from your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will not allow this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You must have raised the point of order at the time of introduction of the Bill and not now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Speaker has given the ruling. That is all over. That subject is over. I will not allow it now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way. If you have any doubt, you can meet the Speaker and discuss with him. Once the Bill has been introduced, the matter is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What about the Coffee (Amendment) Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SONPAL) : Chairman, Sir...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will hear your points of order, you first go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, it is absolutely a violation of law...*(Interruptions)*.

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give you a chance. This is not the way.

18.42 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir they have violated the law, the Constitution, the propriety and the assurance given to the Supreme Court. In fact, they have violated everything.. *(Interruptions)* Let him react to it...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give you chance later on. Please sit down

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk) : He is on the panel of Chairman, yet he rushes to the well of the House daily. The day, when he will be in the Chair and we rush to the well of the House then how will he check us. He is on the panel of Chairman, he should not rush to the well of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You should follow the Rules.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : You should not go there. What are you talking...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We will go by the Rules...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : How will you be able to control the House. In this way the business of the House cannot be transacted. The public money is being wasted...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

He is on the Panel of Chairman also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not argue with them.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Please listen to me under Rule 72...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are a senior Member of the House. You are aware of all that I am saying

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Since I am a senior Member, you should listen to me...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can you raise the point of order, once the speaker has given a ruling?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I am not raising the point of order. I am asking...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot allow you. Once the Bill is introduced, there is no point raising the matter again and again.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : This is not proper...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You said that attention would be paid on it immediately. Mr. Chairman, Sir, said that you would listen to our point promptly...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH : How this can be done?

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : The Chair has been given power to correct any mistake that has been committed. It has been pointed out that a mistake has been committed. The Chair has the power to correct it...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You should observe propriety and convention of the House. We are requesting that this issue pertains to proper procedure, decorum and convention

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Once the matter is over, I cannot allow further discussion on it

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Without hearing how it could be decided...*(Interruptions)*

16.44 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill has already been introduced.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are all senior Members. Once the bill is introduced, how can I allow you to speak on this subject?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 15th December, 1998 at 11 00 hours.

16.46 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, Decembet 15, 1998/Agrahayana 24, 1920 (Saka)