

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, December 10, 1998/Agrahayana 19,
1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

REFERENCE TO FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On this day, fifty years ago, the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. India, as a Member State of the United Nations made significant contributions to the establishment of the International Bill on human rights. This Bill consists of the Declaration and the two International Covenants, one on economic, social and cultural rights and the other on civil and political rights and their optional protocols.

True to our role in the United Nations and our tradition of respecting the rights of the individual since Vedic and Epic periods, we have provided for protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in our Constitution. Further we have diligently tried to bring our practices in conformity with our commitments in this regard with the International community and in the Constitution. In the process we have enacted appropriate laws, created institutional mechanisms and taken affirmative actions.

Considering that we have a pluralistic society of diverse religions, communities and vast masses of vulnerable people living below poverty line, we shall continue, with eternal vigilance, our efforts at respecting and actually protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms. In particular, we shall give special attention to protecting these rights and freedoms of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Communities, minorities, women, children and persons with disabilities through democratic, constitutional, legal developmental and educational processes, involving the legislative, executive and judicial arms of governance at the National and State levels as well as the civil society.

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Air Crashes

+
*161. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item appearing in 'Economic Times' dated August 3, 1998 under caption "Human-error behind 62% of air crashes : D.G.C.A.";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of accidents occurred due to human-errors, mechanical disorder and other reasons separately; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such crashes in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 62% of the accidents to civil registered aircraft in India during the period from 1985 to 1998 (till date) have been attributed to human errors. Human errors related accidents are mainly due to skill errors, inadvertent errors and deliberate errors of the crew.

(c) In addition to human errors, other factors resulting in accidents are 19% due to aircraft and maintenance factors, 7% due to weather conditions and 12% due to miscellaneous factors.

(d) Steps are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety such as implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, monitoring of Flight Data Recorders, introducing additional safety guidelines & regulations, dissemination of safety information through safety seminars & workshops, surveillance by Flight Inspectors, carrying out periodic inspection of aerodromes, Safety Audit of Operators, conducting of Cockpit Resource

Management (CRM) course for the flight crew, making mandatory installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) and Ground Proximity Warning System in the aircraft.

[English]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : Sir, has the attention of the Government been drawn towards the news-item appearing in *The Economic Times* dated August 3, 1998 under caption "Human-error behind 62 per cent of air crashes : D.G.C.A."? If so, the details thereof. I also want to know the percentage of accidents occurred due to human-errors, mechanical disorder and other reasons separately and the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such crashes in future.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the air accidents happen to the extent of 62 per cent because of the human error. That statement is a factual statement. In that, skill-errors are 46 per cent, inadvertent errors are 30 per cent and deliberate errors are about 24 per cent of these accidents. We have taken various steps to check them.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : What is deliberate error?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : That can be asked as another supplementary for which I will be answering because now I am answering to his supplementary.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Please explain what do you mean by that?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Skill errors are those errors that occur basically because of lack of operating skill. Sometimes the skill level will not be up to the mark. Actually, one example of that can be given of A-320 accident which happened nine years back. That was because of the skill error.

Inadvertent errors are because of various things like mismatch in the pastime relations, improper communications etc., like it happened in Charki-Dadri.

And the third category is of deliberate errors. Deliberate errors are caused when the pilot commits a mistake in decision-making at the time of inclement weather or he wants to take a misadventurous decision. We have been taking various measures to correct these things. One is, continuous inspection from the Director-General of Civil Aviation, review of safety measures and conducting various air safety seminars and symposia. I am happy to inform the House that over the last six years, incidents have been reduced to 36 per cent to the 1994 base.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, about the 'Deliberate Errors', I would like to say that nobody does it deliberately.

It can be only a suicidal tendency where you can have things like that and not otherwise . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI K. VIJAYABHASKARA REDDY : Do you mean to say that you appoint people only to kill somebody? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : It is like casting aspersion on the staff. Such derogatory expressions should never be used . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I accept the suggestion of the Hon. Senior Members . . . (Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : He was speaking in RSS English.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is not a question of any other English. It is a technical term. We will change the nomenclature of that term.

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has told that 62 per cent accidents take place due to human incompetency or skill error. I would like to know as to what are the reasons behind these skill errors? Whether the concerned staff lack adequate training or they are over burdened with work which are causing these skill errors resulting in accidents?

Sir, with this, I would also like to know the loss of life and property suffered so far due to these accidents? Further, I have also come to know that instruments purchased by his ministry or the concerned departments for the aircrafts and their maintenance are also of sub standards quality and are causing accidents whereas the hon'ble Minister is hiding this fact by saying that 64 per cent air accidents are taking place due to human incompetence or skill errors. Whether it is right on his part?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at last, I want to know from the hon'ble Minister about the safety measures likely to be taken by him in near future to avoid such accidents? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please conclude. Don't ask so much supplementaries at one time.

DR. SUSHIL INDORA : O.K. Sir, but I would like to know from the Minister about the safety measures being contemplated by him to ensure the safe air journey of passengers?

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Out of the number of accidents, 62 per cent of accidents relate to human error.

And as I have already explained, this is because of the problems in skill and other factors. The number of accidents occurring due to maintenance problem of the aircraft is 19 per cent, and seven per cent of the accidents happen due to weather conditions . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Alcoholic condition is also one of the factors.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : That comes under 62 per cent the human factor.

When there is a pre-medical check up before the pilot and crew members get into the aircraft, no such incident is ever reported.

Regarding the problems related to maintenance of aircraft, the figure of 19 per cent is very minimal. This year, only four accidents have occurred. The last accident cannot be termed as an air mishap because one photographer went into a helicopter when the rotaries were on and he got himself killed. Fortunately, compared to world figures and commensurate with the world standards, accidents are so low in India. Our insurance premium speak a lot about this point. Actually, there is a reduction of insurance premium compared to 1994 to the extent of 75 per cent. We used to pay an insurance premium of more than Rs. 36 crore in Indian Airlines. Now, we are paying an insurance premium of only 11 per cent. I think that itself speaks amply about air safety . . . (Interruptions)

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Yesterday, the Director-General of Civil Aviation, Shri Kohla, said in Bangalore that accidents occur since they are not following some procedure. What are the procedures which they are not following?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the hon. Member's question pertains to human errors. There are set procedures to take off, to navigate and to land. Even if one of these procedures is not followed, accidents may occur. We cannot pinpoint it. There are so many aspects to be followed under each set of procedure. Even if one of them is not followed, there is a possibility, to that extent, of an air mishap. Therefore, we have taken very strict measures about it and we are continuously and vigorously monitoring the whole thing.

[Translation]

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, No double plane crashes do take place because of technical faults but why don't the Government allow the entry of several reputed airlines like Tata Airlines who are committed for better service. Their entrance will increase competition and in return that will yield good result in the form of better air service. Even during the tenure of former Prime Minister Shri Devegowda, these air services were not made available . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The main question is with regard to air crash.

[Translation]

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entry of these airlines were not allowed during the tenure of Shri Gujral ji. Now, you have become the Minister and you are also not providing the facility of these air services. Whether such air crashed do take place because of non-availability of standard air services ?

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the main question is regarding air crashes and air safety. So, his supplementary does not pertain to the main question.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Most of the Indian Airlines aircraft fleet consists of Airbus-300 and Boeing-737. We are seeing that these aircraft are worn out and are more than 15 years old. Major airlines of the world discard the aircraft when they are 17 or 20 years old. The Indian Airlines Pilots Association has complained on this point several times. What steps the Government is going to take to renew and bring new aircraft to replace the old ones?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : To be lie the wrong perception of some sections of this House, I am very happy to inform that our fleet is very old. The average age of Indian Airlines fleet, that is, of A-320 is seven years and six months and the total average age of the whole fleet is eleven years and nine months.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : I asked about A-300 and Boeing-737.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I am coming to that point.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : What about Boeing-737?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : A-300 aircraft is not more than 25 years old. It is 18 years old. And Boeing-737 is 17.3 years old. The point is the age of the aircraft is of no consequence. The safety of the aircraft and the viability of the aircraft depend on the maintenance of the aircraft. Therefore, it is a wrong perception that because of the age of the aircraft, the fleet will become unviable. The only point which I want to say is that fleet augmentation is an on-going process and we need not only to replace but also add new aircraft to our fleet of Boeings and others. We are vigorously looking into it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has told in his reply that 26 per cent accidents take place due to inadvertent errors and 34 per cent

accidents take place due to deliberate errors, therefore, I would like to know from him as to what action the Government have taken in the matter of accidents took place due to deliberate errors?

[English]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : It is a suicide mentality!

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I do not call it a suicide mentality. I call it a misadventure mentality.

Regarding all this and especially regarding the human errors, I will be placing a statement before the House.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that my question may not be strictly within the purview of the main question . . . (Interruptions) I am afraid that of the corrective measures he has taken, it appears that suspension of the route itself is one such measure. Suppose some air crash takes place in a particular route. They will withdraw the operation in that very route. Why I am telling is that for the last six months, after the crash of the aircraft, I personally have this experience. That is why, Sir, with your permission, I am asking him what is the reason for this. Mr. Minister, have you got the Inquiry Report about the crash that had taken place in Cochin? When are you going to resume the operation? I want to know about this. Please commit it on the floor of the House.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I understand the feelings and concerns of my senior Member Shri P.M. Sayeed. The thing is that there was a Dornier flight between Cochin and Lakshadweep. There was a bad crash about four months back. A Commission of Inquiry was set up. It has given a report. Corrective measures have been taken. The Action Taken Report has also been accepted by the Government of India. I also understand and appreciate that we need a service to that island place. We are vigorously considering it. As soon as the Dorniers are available to us, we will consider it because they are operating in the North-East. We have to connect the inaccessible regions by the Dorniers. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : This is not an inaccessible region. When are you going to do it? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is. I am accepting the need of it. Therefore, I vigorously consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : The hon. Minister in his answer has said that steps are being taken for introducing additional safety guidelines etc. etc. I would like to know whether it has been brought to his attention that in the Delhi Airport, the control tower which was built sometime ago is still not being commissioned and the pilots are complaining that they are having a great deal of difficulty in making the landings and take-off. If one were

to talk about human error, if the technology minimising that human error is not being put into operation, then why should one blame the pilot? So, I would like to know whether he is aware that the control tower that has been built at the Delhi Airport and instruments that have been put in place are still not operational.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The hon. Member is speaking about modernisation of air traffic systems between Mumbai and Delhi, MAX-BD. Regarding secondary surveillance radars also, already we have got eight secondary surveillance radars in the country which are giving very good service and the ninth one will be commissioned shortly within the next three months in Nagpur, the major air traffic intersection.

Regarding Delhi, I am happy to inform the House that we will be commissioning the MAX-BD, the modernisation of air traffic system which includes SSRs and ILS by first or second week of January.

Expenditure on Publicity

*163. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Railways have been incurring huge expenditure on publicity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years and current financial year, zone-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to bring down this expenditure in future; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Details are given in the enclosed Annexure.
- (c) and (d) Release of Railway advertisements are being normally restricted to only publications having DAVP rates which are much lower than the commercial rates of advertisements. Moreover, apart from the statutory tender advertisements, Railway advertisements are restricted to only occasions requiring determination of rail user related information on new projects, services, facilities and generating public awareness towards safety measures etc. in rail travel. To contain expenditure on publicity, actions have been taken to restrict release of full-page advertisements to only occasions of major events having national relevance and in such cases also restrict the number of newspapers.

Annexure
Expenditure Incurred on Publicity (Advertisement) By Zonal Railways
(Figures in Rupees)

Railway	Type of Advt.	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Upto 31.10.98)
Central	Tender (Statutory)	1,57,41,546	1,96,59,522	2,35,63,779	1,52,62,575
	Display (Publicity)	58,46,518	69,44,405	81,36,990	46,19,502
	Total	2,15,88,064	2,66,03,927	3,17,00,769	1,98,82,077
Eastern	Tender (Statutory)	3,98,88,983	4,10,88,161	3,13,20,077	1,21,25,521
	Display (Publicity)	1,05,32,331	1,08,78,691	67,96,089	18,95,235
	Total	5,04,21,314	5,19,66,852	3,81,16,166	1,40,20,756
Northern	Tender (Statutory)	1,86,15,441	1,87,80,125	3,36,31,596	2,84,97,819
	Display (Publicity)	61,78,850	1,32,85,731	1,31,04,481	54,52,282
	Total	2,47,94,291	3,20,65,856	4,67,36,077	3,39,50,101
North Eastern	Tender (Statutory)	1,74,35,380	1,59,08,019	1,66,59,642	67,29,719
	Display (Publicity)	05,52,309	1,38,08,505	47,12,034	31,243
	Total	1,79,87,689	2,97,16,524	2,13,71,676	67,60,962
Northeast Frontier	Tender (Statutory)	41,60,545	78,71,784	77,14,950	62,14,564
	Display (Publicity)	05,11,858	15,83,586	23,35,870	13,92,970
	Total	46,72,403	94,55,640	1,00,50,820	76,07,534
Southern	Tender (Statutory)	1,98,79,300	2,02,02,657	3,39,93,783	2,72,16,400
	Display (Publicity)	33,52,478	98,28,284	48,37,057	37,77,057
	Total	2,32,31,778	3,00,30,941	3,88,30,840	3,09,93,457
South Central	Tender (Statutory)	N/A	85,00,000	1,12,00,000	54,00,000
	Display (Publicity)	N/A	27,00,000	07,00,000	02,53,000
	Total	1,96,00,000	1,12,00,000	1,19,00,000	56,53,000
South Eastern	Tender (Statutory)	1,67,90,981	1,92,08,938	1,19,36,598	71,32,692
	Display (Publicity)	39,42,535	17,82,351	28,44,944	17,13,501
	Total	2,06,62,516	2,09,91,287	1,47,81,542	88,46,193
Western	Tender (Statutory)	62,27,772	51,63,520	71,12,683	56,94,074
	Display (Publicity)	07,14,564	15,33,611	21,03,773	03,87,815
	Total	69,42,336	66,97,131	92,16,456	60,81,889
Metro Railway, Calcutta	Tender (Statutory)	09,26,153	05,54,928	09,28,800	14,64,208
	Display (Publicity)	20,13,487	10,08,684	10,24,000	03,17,682
	Total	29,39,640	15,63,000	19,52,800	17,81,890
Total For All Zonal Rlys. And Metro Rly. Cal	Tender (Statutory)	13,95,95,101*	15,69,37,652	17,80,61,908	11,57,37,572
	Display (Publicity)	3,36,44,930*	6,33,54,118	4,65,95,238	1,98,40,287
	Total	19,28,40,031	22,02,91,770	22,46,57,146	13,55,77,859

*S.C. Railway Figure not included.

SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Sir, the hon. Minister has given a statement about the expenditure incurred on advertisement. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any discrimination has been made between the local vernacular dailies and the national dailies while issuing the advertisement in the newspapers for certain projects.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : No discrimination is made between them. What ever is required by Zonal Railways and where ever the advertisement are to be placed. There are two types of advertisement, one is statutory advertisement, regarding tender etc. and the other one is the display advertisement, which have already been classified discrimination is made between them. Normally, the advertisements are given on the D.A.V.P. rates.

[English]

SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : During the last visit of the hon. Minister to Assam for the inauguration of a certain project in the North-Eastern States, no advertisement came out in the local vernacular dailies in Assam. While the advertisement was given to the national dailies, no vernacular daily had received any advertisement from the Railway Department. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the local vernacular dailies have been neglected while issuing the advertisement.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Hon'ble Member is citing a specific example, we would enquire about that, Based on the information, I have got with me, I have reviewed it and I have got this information that no discrimination has been made between them. If there is any complaint about discrimination, the matter will be probed. Advertisements should come out in local vernacular dailies also.

[English]

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : Hon. Speaker, Sir, it appears from the statement that has been provided by the hon. Railway Minister that a sum of Rs. 17 crore was incurred as expenditure on advertisement display. On the one hand, many of the schemes are starved of funds because of lack of resources. On the other hand, there is an expenditure on advertisement display and full page display is being used in the shape of news. These are routine things and there is nothing special about it. But, according to me, it is for the ago satisfaction of the Minister and the Zonal Managers. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is your supplementary?

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : I am just coming to that in a minute. My question is in two parts. One is, what is the allocation for the advertisement display? Second, does the Minister not think that this fund can be better utilised for certain specific schemes of the Railways, particularly in respect of safety measures which are being starved of fund allocation?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The hon. Member has furnished the figures of Rs. 17 crore spent on advertisement display. It is not authentic. These figures are of last three years and those of upto 31st October of this year. It has been given in your appendix.

[English]

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : If you add the figures, the total comes to Rs. 17 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You look into this carefully. As far as 1995-96 is concerned that is the statutory advertisements about the tender etc., the total expenditure of that is Rs. 13,95,95,101 and Rs. 3,36,44,930 of display publicity in which the figures of South Central Railway are not included. Thus an amount of around Rs. 19 crore was spent on this. The expenditure made on next year and in the year 1997 amounts to be about Rs. 22 crore was spent. This year till now an amount of Rs. 13 crore has been spent in which Rs. 1 crore 98 lakh 40 thousand and 287 was for display and publicity. The information about safety, and the movement of trains is given in this. As far as inauguration and functions are concerned, the instructions have already been issued in this connection, which are followed. Can you please give me any example of advertisements of inauguration covering the full page during our rule, can you please give any example, except Konkan Railway about which publicity was made as to what has been achieved by our engineers. Its special information was given in a full and half pages, besides that if you cite any single example, we will take action immediately.

The directions were issued soon after our Government resumed the office and the substantial deduction have been made and the austerity is going up. As far as the full page tender advertisement is concerned there is statutory requirement of full page tender. They are bound to give them publicity, that is legal requirement. In Eastern Railway, in South-Eastern Railway and in Northern Railway it has been decided that there fourths of advertisement are given in a day, information regarding our tender is given therein. One fourth free space is

provided therein. The concerned Railways give their advertisement regarding these activities.

The one fourth free space is covered regarding the activities of the concerned Railways. I have decided about that half of the one fourth i.e. in 1/8th page, the Zonal Railway will give their information and at the level of Railway Board, the required information would be provided to the people. Please cite an example, or any information, we will take action immediately. This amount is reducing, the rates of D.A.V.P. have increased about 20 to 30 percent. Have a glance at the expenditure amount after that time period and have a glance at the transparency.

Closure of Mini Steel Plants

+

*166. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mini-steel plants closed during the last three years and in current financial year alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the total number of workers rendered jobless due to closures;

(c) total production affected by the closure of above plants; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Closure of Mini Steel Plants

(a) As per available information, details of Electric Arc Furnace (Mini-Steel Plants) units closed during the last three years and in current financial year are as under :

Year	No. of Units Closed
1995-96	4
1996-97	15
1997-98	25
1998-99	7

(Total number of closed Electric Arc Furnace units as on 31.10.98 is reportedly 143).

The performance of these units has been adversely affected due to various reasons such as high power tariffs, poor quality; rising input costs; uneconomic production capacities; outdated technology; labour; financial and managerial problems; and demand slow down.

(b) The total number of workers rendered jobless due to closures is estimated to be around 34,000.

(c) The closed units represent on aggregate capacity of nearly 5.3 million tonnes per annum.

(d) Under the extant industrial policy, the Iron & Steel Industry has been completely liberalized. Market conditions therefore determine the viability of any unit. In case of sickness, Government provides the institutional mechanism of BIFR for considering revival option.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has come forward to revive all these sick mini-steel industries through the BIFR or from the its end. I also wanted to know whether the Government has any intention to give subsidy to these industries to compete in the Indian market economy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the electric arc furnace units have been installed long ago. These units were installed in 1991 under Free licencing policy. The present government have a clear cut policy in this regard. At present, the govt. do not have the latest figures regarding the closed units so that an appropriate action may be taken in this regard . . . (Interruptions)

The Government do not have the latest figures of those units which have been installed after the declaration of the free licencing policy. As per the information available with us, the number of units closed in 1995-96 were 4, 15 in 1996-97 and 7 in 1998-99.

In all 143 units were closed till date. The factors responsible for the closure of these units are increase in power tariff, increase in production cost for maintaing the quality. Incapability of economic production, unskilled industrial labour, problems relating to financial mismanagement and frequent strikes in support of labour demands etc.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Hon'ble Minister, Sir, you have mentioned the reasons about the increase in power tariff, I would like to mention that mini-steel industries are like small scale industry which should be given subsidy from the Government. Whether the Government have any intention to provide subsidy to these industries so that these units can start production and the workers employed in these units continued to work there

and whether the Ministry would consider to provide relief to these units which have been threatened due to adverse market economy?

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : This is a state matter and we cannot take any action until those states reduce the power tariff.

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : May I know from the hon. Minister whether any plan has been made by the Government to expand the infrastructure for gearing up the industrial development?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : No infrastructure have been framed for electric arc furnace . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Khan, you have only one supplementary. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, many mini-steel plants of our country are facing crisis. This is not only because of the recession in the steel sector . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : No reply has been given to my question. Reply must be given to my question. . . . (Interruptions)

11.33 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sunil Khan came and stood on the floor near the Table)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : I want answer to my question . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good.

(Interruptions)

11.34 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sunil Khan went back to his seat)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, many mini-steel plants of our country are facing crisis for the last three or four years. The recession which is already there in the steel sector is not the reason for the crisis in the mini-steel industries. There are a number of factors. Mini-steel

industries were contributing to the extent of 5.3 million tonne per annum.

Our total steel production is to the extent of only 20 million tonnes per annum and due to the closure of 143 mini steel plants, 34,000 workers have been rendered jobless and we are incurring losses. There are a number of reasons for closure of steel plants. One reason is due to the earth furnace which is an old, outdated technology. May I know from the Minister whether the Government of India will take steps to revive, restart and reopen all these closed mini steel plants where thousands of workers are engaged?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please ask your supplementary.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, may I know from the Minister whether the Government will formulate any programme in order to revive, restart and reopen the closed mini steel plants?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Sir, presently 34000 employees have been rendered jobless due to the closure of private sector units. A few units are being closed in private sector whereas 6-7 industries are being installed there. There is no plan to give benefit to those employees who have been affected due to closure of these units of private sector, and the Government is not responsible. These employees are getting employment in the newly set up units.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Where these units have been opened and who is getting employment, whether the government is taking any initiative and who is establishing these industries? Please clarify the position in this regard? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Those industries, which have been closed due to old technique and mismanagement and reopened, are Indian Seamless, Essar, Jindal, Prakash etc. The employees are being absorbed in the newly set up industries.

[English]

FDI for Housing Sector

*167. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI K.P. MOHAN :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted 100% foreign direct investment for housing sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of estimated investment in housing from the Government and Private Sector and from foreign direct investment during the current year and the Ninth Plan period; and

(d) the details of investment proposed for housing in rural sector?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

FDI for Housing Sector

(a) and (b) At present, Foreign Direct Investment is not permitted in the housing sector.

(c) As per the report of the Working Group on Urban Housing for the Ninth Plan, the projected flow of funds from the formal sector for urban housing is Rs. 34,000 crores during the 9th Plan period. During 1998-99 the gross budgetary support for central sector housing and shelter schemes is to the extent of Rs. 491 crores in urban sector. Since FDI is not permitted now, the issue of estimating foreign direct investment during the year and the Ninth Plan does not arise.

(d) As ascertained from the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, during the Ninth Five Year Plan the budgetary outlay envisaged for the Centrally sponsored scheme of Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) for 1997-98 is Rs. 1143.75 crores and for 1998-99 the outlay is Rs. 1600 crores.

Sir, without the hon. Member having to ask the supplementary question, I would like to supplement this information and draw the attention of the hon. Member to a statement made by the hon. Prime Minister on the 28th of November, 1998 in which he said, *inter alia*, that the possibility of availing investments from abroad, including FDI in housing-related activities, is also an important thrust area for my Government and the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment has already come up with specific proposals which are under serious consideration by the Cabinet. We propose to provide highly liberal terms for FDI in the housing sector.

Sir, the policy will be formulated very soon. I will come back to the House with the policy. So, I would request all the Members to postpone asking any further questions about this matter a little later.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good reply.

Shri Sharma, please keep in mind the fact that the Minister has already requested not to put any supplementary on this question.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has mentioned one point. He is of the view that a policy is to be framed for the direct capital investment. In this connection Hon'ble Prime Minister has also stated and a proposal is being awaited from his ministry. The Hon'ble Minister has said that it would be better to consider this question after that is reached to them. Therefore, I think that this question may be put up later on at any time.

[English]

Disparity in Pay Scales of Armed Forces

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*168. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since examined the Ajit Kumar Committee report on anomalies and disparities in pay and allowances of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

(d) whether the Government have also constituted any anomalies committee within the Defence wings to remove genuine anomalies among the various cadres of the Armed Forces; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Ajit Kumar Committee constituted to consider the anomalies in Pay and Allowances of the Armed Forces personnel arising out of the implementation of the Vth Central Pay Commission recommendations submitted its Report to the Government on 23.4.1998. On the directions of the Prime Minister, a Group of Officers consisting of Cabinet Secretary as Chairman, Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Naval Staff and Chief of Air Staff, Defence Secretary, Home Secretary, Secretary (DOP&T), Secretary (Expendi-

ture) as members is currently considering the recommendations of the Committee which cover disparities in pay scales, allowances and other related anomalies. The meetings of the Group of Officers are being held regularly and it is expected that final decisions will be taken very soon by the Government.

The Government has not constituted any other Anomalies Committee to consider anomalies arising out of implementation of Vth Central Pay Commission Awards for Armed Forces. However, a Departmental Anomalies Committee has been set up by the Government to consider anomalies pertaining to Defence civilians working in various Defence establishments.

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, consequent upon the implementation of the Fifth Central Pay Commission's recommendations, there was a lot of discontent and heart-burning among the various officers and jawans of Armed Forces because the recommendations were heavily biased. Now, the Report of the Ajit Kumar Committee has been examined and considered by the Government. What is the percentage of its implementation in the three Forces, namely, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, consequent upon the examination of that Report, a small Committee has been set up which is looking into the various aspects of the recommendations made by this Committee. This Committee is holding, more or less, daily and weekly meetings depending on the convenience of those who are concerned with it. Once the final recommendations become available, these will be implemented.

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Has any time-frame been suggested by the Government to implement these recommendations for various categories?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : There is no question of time-frame. The three Service Chiefs, the Cabinet Secretary and the Defence Secretary are examining these issues. And the moment they come to a final conclusion, we shall act on it.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Sir, a Committee has been constituted. That Committee submitted its Report as early as 23rd April, 1998. Subsequently, the Minister mentions about constituting another Committee to go into the Report of the original Committee. There is a saying in Tamil.

"Committiyai podu, illavittal kinathile kallai podu."

This means :

"If you want to shelve the matter or delay it to your convenience, constitute a Committee in the guise of delaying it."

It amounts to putting a stone in the well which cannot be taken out normally. So, may I request the Minister, who was spearheading the struggle for the Railway employees in 1975, to avoid such delay and implement the Report of the Fifth Central Pay Commission without any further delay.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, this is not a matter of implementation of the Commission's Report. There have been a series of developments, including some major trouble, at least, in one category of employees in one of the Defence Services. Consequent upon that, a Committee was set up. That Committee gave its Report. What is now happening is that a Group of Officers is there. I did mention about a Committee. But calling it a Committee may not be an appropriate way of putting it across. A Group of Officers are examining each of the recommendations. The three Service Chiefs are involved in examining these recommendations. They will come to conclusions. Those conclusions will be the final thing.

The Member is making a point about the delay. There are a number of recommendations that have come. They relate to pay-scales. There are six different recommendations in regard to six various aspects of this recommendation.

Then, there are allowances which run into 29. There are differences and discussions pertaining to those allowances.

Then, another area where the Committee has given a recommendation, is the grievances redressal system.

So, in all these matters, the three Service Chiefs and, as I said, a Group of Officers – who are associated – are examining it. When their recommendations come, these will be implemented. The Pay Commission's recommendations have already been implemented. This is a fallout of the Pay Commission's recommendations and their implementation.

[Translation]

MAJOR-GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Hon. Speaker Sir, the pay structure of Armed Forces is discussed every now and then, but there is one category which is discussed less and those are the released veterans of 2nd World War, who were sacked after 5-6 years. They were relieved without pension and that time they had received some gratuity but for a long time they got nothing. State Governments used to provide them 100 rupees per month. I have raised this issue in tenth Lok Sabha also. After that some state governments had agreed to provide them 250 rupees every month. It is my request to the central government to take a decision

in a systematic way. The veterans of 2nd World War are more than 80 years of age. So many of them have no support, there is no one to look after. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether you are going to make some arrangement for remaining period of their life so that they can spend their life with dignity.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a few days before I have received an application in this regard which is under consideration. I can assure the House that the decision will be taken on that matter utmost sympathetically.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. 169. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Sir, you must give me an opportunity. I am the only survivor here among the 500 War veterans of Azad Hind Fauj . . . (Interruptions) I may be given a chance . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. There are other Members who were in the Army.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Sir, then I walk out in protest . . . (Interruptions)

11.46 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Dada Baburao Paranjpe left the House)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has been a soldier of Azad Hind Fauz, therefore he may give a chance to ask a question. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand. I understand his position. But I have gone to the next question. Next time, I will give his chance.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Paranjpe, please take your seat. I will consider your request later.

(Interruptions)

Revival Package for Steel Industry

*169. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to announce revival package for Steel Industry on the basis of recommendations of Expert Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its first report;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) the extent to which this revival package is likely to improve the functioning of the Steel Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Revival Package for Steel Industry

(a) to (c) A Working Group had been set up by Government to study the present slow down in the Steel Sector. The Group has since submitted its report. The recommendations of the Working Group, inter alia, include :

- (i) Rationalisation of DEPB (Duty Entitlement Pass Book) rates.
- (ii) To consider feasibility of converting ad valorem rate of import duty into fixed duties on certain finished steel items.
- (iii) To consider a combination of measures comprising levy of Special Import Duty on imports of seconds and defectives alongwith raising duties for certain types of steel up to World Trade Organisation bound rates.
- (iv) To consider removal of imports of Seconds and Defectives below a specific floor price from OGL.
- (v) To deal with cases of dumping by establishing a fast track mechanism.
- (vi) Withdrawal/Waiver of Special Customs Duty of 2% + 3% and Special Additional Duty of 4% on input items for the steel sector which are not available within the country.

(d) and (e) The details of action taken by Government on the recommendations and some of the results achieved so far to enable the steel industry to overcome the present problems are as under :

- (i) The import of several inputs such as coking coal (ash content < 12%), non-coking coal, metallurgical coke, ferro nickel, charge nickel and nickel oxide sinters, low silica limestone and graphite electrodes (> 28") have been exempted from Special Custom Duty of 2% + 3%.
- (ii) An appropriate anti dumping duty has been levied on imports of HR Coils/Strips/Sheets/Plates and Boiler quality plates from Russia & Ukraine.

The above measures alongwith steps being taken by Government to boost demand for steel, encourage steel exports by rationalising DEPB rates and enhance project financing to steel sector by All India Financial Institutions, are likely to improve the functioning of the steel industry.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, the hon. Minister, in his reply, has given only general revival package. He has not considered the position of various steel plants in the steel industry. My first question is about Visakhapatnam Steel Plant where the Government of India has invested about Rs. 8,500 crore and till today, even though the steel plant is doing very well, it is not able to get the profit. It is a serious problem. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps he is taking.

Sir, even though the hon. Minister has converted the loan as equity recently, still there are so many internal problems. There is a fear among the workers and also the steel plant management of the public undertakings where a sum of Rs. 8,500 has been sunk that it might be closed. It may be disastrous. Therefore, my question to the hon. Minister is whether the Government is taking steps, at least, to solve the problems and see that such a gigantic steel plant is saved.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, R.I.N.L. Vizag Steel Plant is not mentioned in this question but if you require, I can give you detail of the question ask for. The name of that particular steel plant was not in the main question.

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : The House wants to know and not the Member only . . . (Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, the Vizag Steel Plant is a sinking plant and the question relates to sinking plants in the steel industry . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is not regarding Vizag. I may give you other information if you need.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can give him a written reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the other day, I brought to your notice that the Ministers are not coming prepared. We want your protection, Sir . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Please.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, this question relates to steel industry and the hon. Minister is not giving any satisfactory answer . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He will give him a written reply.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, none of the Ministers is coming prepared to answer the questions in the House. We want your protection in this matter. I would request you to give instructions to the hon. Ministers to come prepared in the House . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has already replied.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, even though the hon. Minister may not have adequate information, he must have the policy in his mind as to how the present Government going to consider the serious and disastrous position of Vizag Steel Plant where Rs. 8,500 crore has been sunk. I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Minister to this. This is my first question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is giving special care to R.I.N.L. Vizag and Rourkela in this case and also matter is being discussed with finance department so that as soon as possible, the steel industries running in loss could be made profitable. Decision will be taken soon in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shakuni Choudhary, please.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I have asked only one supplementary . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, please.- You are entitled to only one supplementary.

(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I am entitled to ask two supplementaries . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No.

(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, as per rules, a single Member listed on the question is entitled to ask two supplementaries. I am the single person listed for this question . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have already asked more than two supplementaries.

(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I have asked only half of the question . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, my second supplementary is that lakhs and crores of rupees are involved in the steel industry. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how is the present Government going to solve the problem. I want a categorical answer to my question. I would like to know when is the Government going to decide, apply its mind and solve this problem.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is difficult to fix a time limit for this but the government is worried about it. Efforts are on to make them profitable which are running in losses.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you, Sir, that whether the Bokaro Steel Plant of Bihar had suffered a loss of 670 crores during the nine months. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister that whether steel worth of Rs. 245 crores, have been sold in loss this year?

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no information in this regard. If hon. Member have any information, then tell me. I am ready to investigate the matter.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have asked a simple question that whether there is a loss of Rs. 670 crore this year in 1998-99? . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised to see their concern in this matter because there was congress led government in 1991, that time when country's steel plants started to suffer. From that time the pattern was changed every year in import and excise duty for making

favourable condition, for export and adverse for domestic steel industries. Today when they make hue and cry, I feel ridiculous. Our government have taken so many measures and imposed 4 per cent special additional duty. I want to ask that today indogenous steel industry is facing bad days due to changes in taxes whether the government are contemplating to abolish this tax structure, which is the creation of Congress and to make it favourable so that steel industry may be made profitable?

SHRI RAMESH BAIS : Due to reduction in duties by the previous government in steel sector, import has increased and which has created a state of inbalance. Our Government have imposed taxes on H.R./C.R. Coil wages and anti dumping import duty on steel to stop the import of steel. In this way the economic situation of steel sector will improve and the problem of steel will also be rectified.

[English]

Losses by Air India

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*171. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has incurred heavy losses during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) steps proposed by the Government to revive the financial condition of Air India; and

(d) the number of new aircraft purchased by the Air India during last five years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Losses by Air India

(a) and (b) Details of losses are as under :

1997-98	Rs. 181.01 crores
1998-99 (Estimated)	Rs. 340.72 crores

The losses are due to increase in expenditure on account of interest and depreciation on new aircraft, reduction in yield due to increased competition and cost of operations, increase in wage bill and other staff costs and landing, handling and navigational charges, depreciation of rupee value, etc.

(c) Air India Limited has taken the following steps to improve the performance :

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

The Government has also constituted a Committee of experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, at present Finance Secretary to the Government of India to undertake a comprehensive examination of the reasons for the losses incurred by the Air India and to suggest strategy for turning around the company.

The Disinvestment Commission in its VIII Report on Air India inter-alia has recommended infusion of Government equity of Rs. 1000 crores and induction of strategic partner on the basis of global bids. The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

(d) Air India has acquired six B747 aircraft during the last five years.

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is planning for amalgamation of Indian Airlines and Air India. How is it going to benefit in reducing the losses? This is my first supplementary.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the Government of India has no plans to amalgamate Indian Airlines and Air India but we want to synergise the operations of both the Airlines. Now, on the Gulf route there is a fierce competition between Air India and Indian Airlines and on the metro domestic routes. There is an amount of competition between Air India and Indian Airlines. To remove this competition and make both of them mutually viable by synergising, we are planning towards this end so that the losses can be reduced and we can have a profitable edge.

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Sir, I come from the constituency where the internationally famous places like Ajanta and Ellora are there. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is planning to have new air route from Jalgaon to Delhi.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, this question does not pertain to the main Question.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last five, ten years – I am not blaming the present Minister and the present Government only – there have been suggestions from both the organisations, Air India and Indian Airlines that very rarely a professional person, whether a flying profession or a technical profession, gets a chance to head these organisations. This is the profession which is making these organisations go. I would like to know from the Government whether the Government has any consideration to put these organisations under a professional person so that improvement in operation could take place. Do you have any such suggestion or consideration in your mind?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, these two organisations are headed by very well experienced bureaucrats who have got experience in the profession. Also the entire country is being headed by them. But the point is that whenever the supportive strength is required, we have Directors from various professional skills who assist the management of both the Airlines.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

Misuse of Funds Under JRY

*162. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the funds allocated to the States under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are being misutilised by Sarpanchs/Committees;

(b) if so, whether any complaints have been received by the Government;

(c) if so, the action taken on each complaint; and

(d) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken to avoid such misutilised of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (c) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is implemented all over the country in about 2.27 lakhs Gram Panchayats, about 5906 Panchayati Samities and about 515 District Rural Development Agencies/Zilla Parishads (DRDAs/ZPs). A few complaints of misutilisation of funds by some sarpanchs/committees are received. As and when such complaints are received, these are referred

to the State Government concerned for taking appropriate action against the erring sarpanches/committees as per the Panchayat Acts and Rules laid down by the respective State Governments. Details of the complaints received in the Ministry during the last two years against the sarpanches are given in the Statement.

(d) A number of steps have been taken to avoid the misutilisation of funds by the Panchayat functionaries and

other implementing agencies. These include regular audit before the release of funds, regular inspection by State and district officials, review and monitoring by the Governing Body of the DRDA and Standing Committee of the Zilla Parishads, periodical meetings of the Gram Sabhas, social audit by the Gram Sabhas and constitution of Monitoring & Vigilance Committees at the State, district, block and village levels consisting of public representatives of the local areas.

Statement

Misuse of Funds Under JRY

Complaints received against Sarpanches/Mukhias/Committees during 1997-98 and 1998-99

Sl.No.	Date	Name of the Complainant	Regarding	Action Taken
1.	12.6.97	Shri Naval Kishore Rai, M.P. (LS)	Misappropriation/improper utilization of JRY funds in Banda district of Uttar Pradesh by Pradhan	After inquiry by State Government, the complaint was found to be baseless.
2.	3.11.98	Shri Indra Narain Khan, Vice President, BJP	Misappropriation of Funds under JRY by Sarpanch of Barsher Panchayat, district Saharsa, Bihar	Sent to Bihar Government on 9.11.98 for appropriate action.
3.	20.7.98	Shri Shiv Raj Singh Chauhan, MP (LS)	Misappropriation of JRY funds by Sarpanch of Paroriya Gram Panchayat, district Navada, Bihar	Sent to Bihar Government on 4.8.98 for appropriate action.
4.	10.7.98	Complaint of Shri C.P. Ghosh of Paroriya Gram Panchayat, Bihar received through Sh. George Fernandes, Defence Minister	Misappropriation/irregularities committed by Mukhiya & Panchyat Sewak of Paroriya Gram Panchyat district Navada, Bihar	Sent to Bihar Government on 4.8.98 for appropriate action.
5.	5.11.98	Statement of Commissioner, Panchayati Raj, Government, Government of Andhra Pr. reported in "Andhra Jyoti" (News Paper) Dated 5.11.98	Misappropriation of JRY funds in Andhra Pradesh	Sent to Andhra Pradesh Government on 12.11.98 and State Government reported that the Commissioner, Shri S. Chillappa, Panchayati Raj have issued the clarification that he has been misquoted by the press.

Million Wells Scheme

*164. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the physical and financial performance of Centrally sponsored "Million Wells Scheme" during Eighth Plan, State-wise;

(b) the funds provided to each State for the current year under the above scheme;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding diversion of the amount to other purpose during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to monitor the utilization of funds meant for the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) During Eighth Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 3727.46 crores was allocated under MWS. A total No. of 743030 wells were constructed during this period State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) State-wise details of funds allocated under MWS (to each State) during 1998-99 are given in the enclosed Statement-II

(c) and (d) The funds under the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) which is primarily intended for open irrigation wells can also be utilised for the other schemes of minor irrigation like irrigation tanks, water harvesting structures and also for the development of lands belonging to small and marginal farmers, if construction of wells is not feasible due to geological factors. At least two-thirds of the funds utilised under the scheme in any year are to be spent on poor small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs and STs. Generally these guidelines have been followed and there has been no complaint regarding diversion of MWS funds to other programmes.

(e) The Ministry has issued instructions to all States/UTs to constitute Monitoring and Vigilance Committee at the State, District and Block levels for all the programmes of this Ministry including MWS. At the Central level MWS is continuously monitored through monthly, half yearly and annual progress reports which the State Governments are required to furnish to the Ministry. Senior Officers of the Ministry are also designated as Area Officers who visit allotted States and give necessary feed back on implementation of different programmes including MWS. The implementation of MWS is also reviewed at the meetings of Secretaries of Rural Development of States and U.Ts from time to time.

Statement-I

Resources allocated and wells constructed under Million Wells Scheme during the Eighth Plan Period

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		Funds allocated	Wells constructed	Funds allocated	Wells constructed	Funds allocated	Wells constructed	Funds allocated	Wells constructed	Funds allocated	Wells constructed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pr.	3738.64	11457	7386.03	18265	8129.99	17498	4342.14	10899	4342.14	13169
2.	Arunachal Pr.	64.5	0	96.75	77	96.75	77	44.58	130	44.58	89
3.	Assam	1225.93	1162	2431.45	1129	2676.36	1651	1429.41	1865	1429.41	2332
4.	Bihar	9178.1	50689	14487.42	41203	15946.67	30045	8516.94	25476	8516.94	22911
5.	Goa	69.69	12	104.54	0	104.54	31	48.16	37	48.16	33
6.	Gujarat	2270.21	4874	2711.26	5609	2984.36	6407	1593.91	4107	1593.91	3148
7.	Haryana	432.6	963	651.28	1446	716.88	1613	382.88	572	382.88	363
8.	Himachal Pr.	250.94	34	332.18	26	332.18	17	153.04	138	153.04	670
9.	Jammu & Kash.	314.35	725	471.52	1563	675	3409	310.99	1673	310.99	1544
10.	Karnataka	2875.55	3803	4959.4	4081	5458.93	4295	2915.55	5236	2915.55	3004
11.	Kerala	1531.86	3893	1871.5	3064	1986.03	3218	1060.71	3488	1060.71	2268
12.	Madhya Pr.	6258.46	43396	9359.17	29763	10301.88	38989	5502.11	35654	5502.11	19950
13.	Maharashtra	4266.64	6739	8051.78	5284	8862.8	6322	4733.53	8770	4733.53	8002
14.	Manipur	89.28	189	124.01	300	124.01	507	57.14	520	57.14	429
15.	Meghalaya	96.74	788	145.1	727	145.1	483	66.85	732	66.85	885
16.	Mizoram	48.9	322	61.13	774	61.13	1033	28.16	425	28.16	483
17.	Nagaland	125.55	774	155.54	1334	155.54	924	71.66	0	71.66	80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
18.	Orissa	2701.39	21126	5991.8	21301	6595.33	26113	3522.49	24263	3522.49	18349
19.	Punjab	396.51	0	490.29	0	509.79		272.28	0	272.28	0
20.	Rajasthan	3031.65	9973	3888.4	4844	4280.06	3071	2285.93	2457	2285.93	2389
21.	Sikkim	46.39	0	56.63	66	56.63	87	26.09	364	26.09	91
22.	Tamil Nadu	4030.11	7162	6676.85	4073	7349.33	6902	3925.23	10899	3925.23	5962
23.	Tripura	130.77	716	161.07	2378	161.07	1439	74.21	2049	74.21	1221
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12064.32	5437	17999.52	1753	19812.53	.780	10581.64	518	10581.64	43
25.	West Bengal	5184.78	6718	6618.96	2579	7285.66	3845	3891.19	2402	3891.19	1461
26.	A&N Islands	30.54	0	45.81	8	45.81	6	21.11	6	21.11	13
27.	D&N Haveli	18.21	30	24.87	21	24.87	16	11.46	24	11.46	8
28.	Daman & Diu	9.77	0	14.65	0	14.65	0	6.76	0	6.76	0
29.	Lakshadweep	15.31	0	22.97	0	22.97		10.58	0	10.58	0
30.	Pondicherry	35.18	13	44.84	5	44.84	2	20.65	1	20.65	0
Total		60532.87	180995	95436.72	151673	104961.78	158780	55907.38	142685	55907.39	108897

Note : Funds allocated : Centre : 80%
State : 20%

Statement-II

Resources allocated under Million wells scheme during 1998-99 (Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total Resources allocated (Central + State)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3165.49
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	69.60
3.	Assam	1808.38
4.	Bihar	10369.79
5.	Goa	7.30
6.	Gujarat	1191.55
7.	Haryana	701.01
8.	Himachal Pradesh	295.23
9.	J & K	365.38
10.	Karnataka	2390.40
11.	Kerala	1072.56

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5256.18
13.	Maharashtra	4725.23
14.	Manipur	121.24
15.	Meghalaya	135.83
16.	Mizoram	31.43
17.	Nagaland	93.16
18.	Orissa	3620.68
19.	Punjab	340.69
20.	Rajasthan	1815.11
21.	Sikkim	34.80
22.	Tamil Nadu	2798.99
23.	Tripura	218.89
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11412.05
25.	West Bengal	4023.65
26.	A & N Islands	13.47

1	2	3
27. Dadra & NH		13.47
28. Daman & Diu		0.45
29. Lakshadweep		0.90
30. Pondicherry		17.06
Total		56109.97

Note : Funds allocated

Centre : 80%

State : 20%

Safety Measures in Railways

*165. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the safety measures in the back-ground of increasing incidence of rail accidents during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of accidents and losses incurred therefrom during the last three years zone-wise; and

(c) the fresh investment made on strengthening and modernising safety measures particularly in accident prone areas during the last three years, zone-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) Yes Sir, Indian Railways have accorded the highest priority to rail safety and safety measures are being reviewed regularly.

(b) No. of accidents during last three years, zone-wise :

Railway	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Central	54	57	65
Eastern	32	31	27
Northern	50	58	48
North Eastern	28	21	24
Northeast Frontier	23	18	20

1	2	3	4
Southern	52	40	56
South Central	41	42	37
South Eastern	73	66	63
Western	44	44	42
Metro	1	1	1
Konkan Railway Corp. Ltd.	0	3	3
Total	398	381	396

Cost of Damage

(Rs. in Crores)

Railway	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Prov.)
Central	5.79	7.70	8.15
Eastern	14.45	7.94	9.88
Northern	6.27	5.52	5.75
North Eastern	0.54	0.22	0.19
Northeast Frontier	1.31	1.56	1.89
Southern	5.24	6.48	1.20
South Central	5.44	5.52	7.59
South Eastern	25.11	16.70	20.21
Western	0.90	1.32	1.63
Metro	0.01	0.05	0.02
Konkan Railway Corp. Ltd.	0	0.20	0.22
Total	65.06	53.21	56.13

(c) No separate budget is earmarked exclusively in safety head. Instead the allocation is made for various regular and modernization works incorporating necessary upgradation for safety. The work include upgradation of signaling, track renewal/upgradation, bridge works, modernisation of communication, upgradation in rolling stock etc. Details of investment made on these works for last three years, zone-wise and year-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Investment on

Zone	Signalling works				Walkie-Talkie sets			
	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central	24.36	15.5	7.11	46.97	0	0	1.73	1.73

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eastern	25.93	34.1	20.25	80.28	0	0	1.02	1.02
Northern	21.8	29.79	31.05	82.64	0	0	1.9	1.9
North Eastern	3.89	4.01	4.06	11.96	0	0	0	0
Northeast Frontier	8.8	12.2	12.46	33.46	0	0	0.15	0.15
Southern	5.08	15.02	4.75	24.85	0	0	0.77	0.77
South Central	37.1	26.36	19.48	82.94	0	0	1	1
South Eastern	8.94	19.11	18.14	46.19	0	0	0.5	0.5
Western	25.36	16.9	29.63	71.89	0	0	0.97	0.97
Total	161.26	172.99	146.93	481.18	0	0	8.04	8.04

Investment on

Zone	Bridge works				Track Renewal			
	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total
Central	5.21	4.27	7.94	17.42	254.25	276.49	313.5	844.24
Eastern	4.29	5.62	8.73	18.64	164.2	202.68	210	576.88
Northern	15.79	9.77	13.65	39.21	226.94	232.7	235	694.64
North Eastern	11.41	3.83	3.13	18.37	53.95	65.22	76	195.17
Northeast Frontier	5.68	5.19	5.92	16.79	42.02	57.65	53	152.67
Southern	9.85	8.32	7.71	25.88	105.57	99.83	121	326.4
South Central	19.17	28.3	12.44	59.91	178.78	122.2	107	407.98
South Eastern	6.53	4.67	4.73	15.93	349.77	361.69	405	1116.46
Western	11.35	11.11	10.72	33.18	170.59	178.06	204.5	553.15
Total	89.28	81.08	74.97	245.33	1546.07	1596.52	1725	4867.59

Investment on Rolling Stock Maintenance

Zone	for design improvement & maintenance				for maintenance infrastructure			
	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total	95-96	96-97	97-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central	2.51	5.77	7.17	15.45	8.32	12.48	13.5	34.3
Eastern	2.57	4.14	2.87	9.58	11.49	10.99	14.1	36.58
Northern	4.54	5.47	3.87	13.88	14.81	13.32	13.09	41.22
North Eastern	0.72	1.13	1.33	3.18	2.2	1.3	2.85	6.35
Northeast Frontier	0.005	0.72	1.56	2.285	7.5	7.16	4.54	19.2
Southern	3.42	6.25	3.06	12.73	14.12	18.76	14.44	47.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
South Central	2.76	3.8	3.04	9.6	5.36	1.91	9.1	16.37
South Eastern	2.2	3.64	3.65	9.49	19.9	22.74	20.65	62.99
Western	1.96	4.39	3.93	10.28	7.93	11.46	21.81	41.2
Rly. Board	67.47	70.71	85.23	223.41				
Total	88.155	106.02	115.71	309.885	91.63	100.12	113.78	305.53

Figures are in Crores.

Fixation of Labour Material Ratio

*170. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed labour material ratio of 60:40 in execution of works under various Rural Employment Schemes;

(b) if so, whether this labour material ratio is not practical because of increased material cost in construction of permanent structures to maintain the accounts correctly;

(c) whether the Government have been requested to amend the ratio of labour and material 60:40 from various States;

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

(e) whether the Government have received proposals from Government of Rajasthan for amendment of labour material ratio to 50:50; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) are wage employment programmes. The main objective of these programmes is to provide wage employment to the rural poor by taking up labour intensive works. To meet this objective, 60% of the funds are spent on payment of wages under these programmes.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. The requests from various States, including Rajasthan, to amend the wage material ratio in respect of JRY are being examined. There is no proposal to amend wage material ratio in respect of EAS.

[Translation]

Houses in Rural Areas

*172. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in Rural Areas about homeless people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any time bound programme to provide houses to homeless in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) No specific survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment to determine homelessness in rural areas. However, according to 1991 Census, the rural housing shortage was 137.2 lakh. Details of statewise housing shortage are given in the enclosed statement. In pursuance of the set goals of the Government to provide Housing for All, a national action plan for rural housing has been prepared for the construction of 13 lakh additional houses annually in the rural areas. This will go a long way in providing housing for all homeless in the rural areas at the earliest. Moreover, during the current financial year a central budgetary allocation of Rs. 1600 crore has been provided which is an increase of Rs. 410 crore over the budgetary allocation for 1997-98.

Statement

Statewise Break Up of Rural Housing Shortage (Census 1991)

State/Union Territory	Housing Shortage
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1118355
Arunachal Pradesh	112170
Assam	2243855

1	2
Bihar	4095740
Goa	9910
Gujarat	264805
Haryana	29510
Himachal Pradesh	16111
Karnataka	426915
Kerala	346780
Madhya Pradesh	285770
Maharashtra	659900
Manipur	89198
Meghalaya	147918
Mizoram	36897
Nagaland	88881
Orissa	684655
Punjab	44370
Rajasthan	110885
Sikkim	12446
Tamil Nadu	313095
Tripura	192133
Uttar Pradesh	1251095
West Bengal	1084675
A & N Islands	17949
Chandigarh	454
D & N Haveli	7857
Daman & Diu	4483
Delhi	9125
Lakshadweep	165
Pondicherry	6247
Total	13721538

Rail Link with Europe

*173. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a direct rail link with Europe via Pakistan and Iran;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) to (c) Indian Railways have agreed in principle to participate in the Trans Asian Railway link between Europe and South East Asia via Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia. This Trans Asian Railway Project is being considered by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), under Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development Project. While some preliminary information has been collected by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), specific project proposals have yet to be formed and no target date can be suggested for the completion of the project.

[English]

Financial Performance of JRY

*174. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the physical and financial performance of the Centrally sponsored scheme "JRY" during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated to each State for the implementation of the scheme during the current year;

(c) whether any target has been set up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The State/UT-wise physical and financial performance under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) during last three years i.e. during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 is given in the Statement I to III respectively.

(b) to (d) The State/UT-wise funds allocated and physical targets fixed in terms of mandays generated during the current year i.e. 1998-99 under JRY are given in Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Statement showing Financial & Physical Performance under
Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during 1995-96

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Allocation (Centre+State)	Total Release (Centre+State)	Utilisation	Annual Target (Lakh Mandays)	Achievement	%age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37232.40	35933.21	34556.90	700.08	701.57	100.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	329.58	304.48	357.12	7.99	8.24	103.13
3.	Assam	10820.18	9649.70	9583.33	178.63	179.08	100.25
4.	Bihar	78598.18	68022.66	62281.95	1245.86	1197.03	96.08
5.	Goa	356.09	356.09	363.47	7.94	8.38	105.54
6.	Gujarat	14754.11	13857.04	12824.42	213.23	209.42	98.21
7.	Haryana	3398.28	3735.78	3304.78	34.63	33.5	96.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1149.09	1221.28	1001.19	24.27	21.45	88.38
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3381.00	2554.36	2534.38	90.96	48.23	53.02
10.	Karnataka	24422.41	23860.96	24908.76	491.56	524.89	106.78
11.	Kerala	8029.34	9731.61	8888.24	108.01	127.75	118.28
12.	Madhya Pradesh	51119.46	44104.58	42377.25	849.29	759.46	89.42
13.	Maharashtra	41658.79	40876.70	39801.56	910.75	1014.47	111.39
14.	Manipur	425.45	344.79	506.22	5.78	9.34	161.59
15.	Meghalaya	496.31	415.25	200.28	7.88	4.86	61.68
16.	Mizoram	208.04	229.00	284.56	4.15	5.2	125.30
17.	Nagaland	526.28	749.36	264.07	11.82	5.76	48.73
18.	Orissa	30642.94	27522.29	28671.68	623.47	678.31	108.80
19.	Punjab	1969.93	984.96	408.38	28.25	6.44	22.80
20.	Rajasthan	20825.10	18825.93	18204.39	300.89	361.72	120.22
21.	Sikkim	341.93	553.15	618.83	5.38	9.27	172.30
22.	Tamil Nadu	32634.06	36774.35	39615.70	853.09	1069.75	125.40
23.	Tripura	558.65	839.60	788.23	12.40	18.43	148.63
24.	Uttar Pradesh	87188.55	86920.98	83562.16	1320.54	1532.66	116.06
25.	West Bengal	33287.71	31870.59	30492.80	433.38	416.75	96.16
26.	A & N Islands	154.18	151.14	161.26	2.26	2.59	114.60
27.	D & N Haveli	83.92	93.92	33.18	1.42	0.64	45.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28.	Daman & Diu	49.28	59.28	55.02	1.55	1.11	71.61
29.	Lakshadweep	76.70	86.70	40.86	1.45	1.05	72.41
30.	Pondicherry	151.86	77.12	199.85	3.16	3.1	98.10
Total		484869.80	460706.86	446890.82	8480.07	8960.45	105.66

Statement-II

*Financial & Physical Performance under Jawahar
Rozgar Yojana during 1996-97*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Allocation (Centre+State)	Total Release (Centre+State)	Utilisation	Annual Target (Lakh Mandays)	Achievement	%age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17372.39	18243.70	17488.47	373.67	329.75	88.25
2.	Arunachal Pr.	178.30	129.85	198.33	4.42	2.79	63.12
3.	Assam	5718.18	3983.66	4543.21	98.77	91.54	92.68
4.	Bihar	34075.58	28570.09	30563.53	489.25	460.02	94.03
5.	Goa	192.65	146.10	236.26	4.39	5.30	120.73
6.	Gujarat	6376.25	5524.16	6280.49	109.14	105.20	96.39
7.	Haryana	1531.81	1494.23	1371.79	15.73	13.08	83.15
8.	Himachal Pr.	612.16	485.15	745.94	7.63	10.62	139.19
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1243.93	1499.69	994.37	47.27	18.36	38.84
10.	Karnataka	11665.34	11091.48	12015.30	255.74	250.94	98.12
11.	Kerala	4244.16	4108.25	4458.15	59.73	55.45	92.83
12.	Madhya Pradesh	22014.51	19316.44	19724.06	444.97	349.02	78.44
13.	Maharashtra	18937.55	17923.14	18664.14	469.32	455.08	96.97
14.	Manipur	228.53	162.40	186.36	3.20	3.49	109.06
15.	Meghalaya	267.40	133.69	365.90	4.35	6.96	160.00
16.	Mizoram	112.65	105.26	138.26	2.29	2.46	107.42
17.	Nagaland	286.64	263.33	485.57	6.54	11.65	178.13
18.	Orissa	14093.11	13387.43	14426.64	321.32	314.19	97.78
19.	Punjab	1089.39	1011.58	705.63	15.62	7.85	50.26
20.	Rajasthan	9146.40	9039.76	8766.70	162.92	168.12	103.19
21.	Sikkim	104.36	101.71	167.26	1.49	2.63	176.51
22.	Tamil Nadu	15704.96	15110.64	18040.02	406.90	488.60	120.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Tripura	296.83	296.81	566.91	6.35	10.38	163.46
24.	Uttar Pradesh	42334.91	40553.36	42123.49	603.21	658.18	109.11
25.	West Bengal	15569.34	11956.08	12837.59	221.86	178.53	80.47
26.	A & N Islands	84.41	42.21	54.95	1.25	0.82	65.60
27.	D & N Haveli	45.81	44.57	49.75	0.65	1.02	156.92
28.	Daman & Diu	26.99	26.99	27.61	0.85	0.50	58.82
29.	Lakshadweep	42.32	21.16	49.22	0.80	0.88	110.00
30.	Pondicherry	82.64	64.68	121.96	1.74	2.91	167.24
Total		223679.48	204837.57	216397.86	4141.37	4006.32	96.74

Statement-III

Financial & Physical Performance under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Allocation (Centre+State)	Total Release (Centre+State)	Utilisation	Annual Target (Lakh Mandays)	Achievement	%age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19410.49	20857.30	18745.52	336.97	310.98	92.29
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	199.21	127.58	241.82	4.94	2.88	58.30
3.	Assam	6389.03	6905.19	5546.71	110.36	107.69	97.58
4.	Bihar	38073.25	36853.46	36250.75	546.64	538.31	98.48
5.	Goa	215.25	130.48	155.77	3.32	2.55	76.81
6.	Gujarat	7124.30	7184.65	6999.43	69.00	82.81	120.01
7.	Haryana	1711.53	2030.94	1995.94	16.11	16.01	99.38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	683.98	504.33	693.88	8.52	10.11	118.66
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1389.86	1218.28	1475.73	22.64	24.05	106.23
10.	Karnataka	13033.90	12942.49	12578.33	222.78	265.91	119.36
11.	Kerala	4742.08	4667.65	3655.38	66.74	7.00	10.49
12.	Madhya Pradesh	24597.23	23721.44	24574.06	329.89	347.15	105.23
13.	Maharashtra	21159.28	21020.11	21438.52	524.38	527.74	100.64
14.	Manipur	255.34	310.65	114.80	3.15	2.16	68.57
15.	Meghalaya	298.78	199.48	247.74	4.87	4.54	93.22
16.	Mizoram	125.86	128.59	124.18	1.59	1.91	120.13
17.	Nagaland	320.26	303.91	276.16	7.30	9.21	126.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Orissa	15746.50	16776.65	15073.72	299.18	299.82	100.21
19.	Punjab	1217.19	1115.99	1310.34	11.95	12.83	107.36
20.	Rajasthan	10219.44	10439.83	10330.83	182.03	196.14	107.75
21.	Sikkim	116.60	120.98	185.97	1.66	2.65	159.64
22.	Tamil Nadu	17547.45	18205.48	20699.98	312.56	388.81	124.40
23.	Tripura	331.65	595.44	351.51	5.91	7.31	123.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	47001.56	44867.69	48122.11	561.71	599.49	106.73
25.	West Bengal	17395.93	11333.74	12404.99	206.58	154.62	74.85
26.	A & N Islands	94.31	50.70	14.36	1.04	0.15	14.42
27.	D & N Haveli	51.18	50.22	24.71	0.73	0.49	67.12
28.	Daman & Diu	30.16	16.21	30.28	0.45	0.56	124.44
29.	Lakshadweep	47.28	25.41	78.98	0.90	1.46	162.22
30.	Pondicherry	92.34	74.37	66.55	1.00	0.63	63.00
Total		249921.18	242579.19	243809.05	3864.90	3925.97	101.58

Statement-IV

Allocation & Physical Targets fixed for 1998-99

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Allocation	Physical Target (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14629.93	254.01
2.	Arunachal Pr.	321.65	7.97
3.	Assam	8357.73	144.36
4.	Bihar	47925.96	688.11
5.	Goa	215.25	3.32
6.	Gujarat	5506.98	53.34
7.	Haryana	3239.85	30.49
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1364.43	17.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1688.66	27.50
10.	Karnataka	11047.66	188.82
11.	Kerala	4957.05	69.77

1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	24292.41	325.80
13.	Maharashtra	21838.53	541.22
14.	Manipur	560.30	6.92
15.	Meghalaya	627.74	10.22
16.	Mizoram	145.26	1.84
17.	Nagaland	430.60	9.82
18.	Orissa	16733.63	317.94
19.	Punjab	1574.54	15.46
20.	Rajasthan	8388.86	149.43
21.	Sikkim	160.83	2.29
22.	Tamil Nadu	12936.06	230.42
23.	Tripura	1011.64	18.02
24.	Uttar Pradesh	52742.94	626.32
25.	West Bengal	18596.09	220.83
26.	A & N Islands	117.89	1.30
27.	D & N Haveli	77.81	1.11

1	2	3	4
28. Daman & Diu		37.70	0.57
29. Lakshadweep		59.10	1.12
30. Pondicherry		115.42	1.25
Total		259702.47	3966.57

NAREDCO

*175. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) on the pattern of US based National Association of Home Builders and National Association of Realtors;

(b) if so, the details of composition and functions thereof;

(c) the details of fresh initiatives taken/proposed to standardise and adopt uniform bylaws for Urban areas; and

(d) the details of amendments made/under consideration to the Laws governing construction activities in urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has set up a National Real Estate Development Council registered under the Societies and Registration Act XXI of 1860 on 26 August, 1998.

(c) and (d) It is a State subject and the State Governments are to formulate bylaws for the Urban areas. However, Department of Urban Development in this Ministry has formulated Urban Development Plan Formulation and implementation (UDPFI) Guidelines suggesting a package of inter related plans consisting of long term perspective plans, medium term development plan and projects and schemes synchronizing with the planning system of the country. These guidelines have been circulated among the State Governments for reference and adoption suiting to the local conditions.

As part of UDPFI Guidelines a Model Urban and Regional Planning and Development law has been formulated and circulated among State Governments for guidance. Model Building bylaws to provide facilities for physically handicapped persons and guidelines and space standards for barrier free built environment for disabled and elderly persons have also been formulated.

Involvement of Private Parties in Construction of Rail Lines

*176. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to involve private agency for detailed survey or construction of new railway lines and gauge conversion;

(b) if so, the details of proposed lines for which open tenders for survey for new lines and gauge conversion were floated with details of response thereto, State/Zone-wise;

(c) the number of tenders received for construction/survey of Angamaly-Sabarimala railway line in Kerala alongwith the result thereof; and

(d) whether RITES or other public undertakings are likely to be involved in such survey, if competent private agency is not available for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) Private agencies are already being involved in some of the detailed surveys by the various Railways in addition to being entrusted to RITES and departmental teams.

Construction of new lines and gauge conversion works, are executed through contracts to private agencies and sometimes public sector units.

(b) The details of the lines for which open tenders for survey for new lines and gauge conversions were floated with response thereto are being collected from the Zonal Railways and would be furnished to the Lok Sabha.

(c) The construction work of Angamaly-Sabarimala railway line has not yet been taken up. As regards the Final Location Survey, open tenders have been invited and opened on 7.12.98. In all five parties had purchased the tender papers but only two parties have submitted tenders. The result of the tender will be known once the tenders are finalised.

(d) Decision in this regard would be possible once the tenders are considered and finalised.

[Translation]

Disinvestment Proposals for A.I., I.A. & H.C.I.

*177. SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to disinvest the shares of Indian Airlines, Air India and the Hotel Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the percentage share which is proposed to be disinvested to private sector; and

(c) the extent to which the financial condition, quality and management system of these corporations would be improved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Disinvestment Commission in its VIIIth Report has recommended restructuring/disinvestment in Air India (AI). The main recommendations of the Commission are as under:

- (i) Infusion of Government equity of Rs. 1000 crores and finally bringing down the Government share holding in Air India to 40%.
- (ii) Induction of a strategic partner holding 40% equity on the basis of global bids.
- (iii) 10% equity to be offered to the domestic institutional investors and 10% to retail investors and employees.

The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

The Disinvestment Commission in its VIth Report on Hotel Corporation of India Limited (HCIL) has recommended that :

- (i) Hotels at Mumbai and Delhi be sold as separate units through a transparent and competitive bidding process after undertaking a proper valuation through a Financial Adviser.

In case of the Centaur, Srinagar, the management of Air India could initiate dialogue with Jammu and Kashmir Government in order to exit from its ownership. Since lands on which the airport hotels are located belong to the Airports Authority of India, Air India would need to negotiate and settle the terms of transfer with them prior to the sale.

- (ii) AI would have to decide whether the flight catering service should continue to be provided by HCIL or whether it should be sold of as independent units through a transparent competitive bidding process after undertaking a proper valuation by the Financial Adviser.

The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Board of Air India.

As regards Indian Airlines Limited, it is proposed to undertake a phased disinvestment in Indian Airlines over three years, bringing the Government's equity holding down to 49%.

(c) With the restructuring/disinvestment, the Air India Limited and Indian Airlines Limited would be able to raise their equity base to meet their future financial needs for expansion, modernisation and replacement of fleet and to enhance market share.

[English]

Expenditure on Expansion of Airports

*178. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the airports where modernisation and expansion works were undertaken during each of the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon airport-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake the said works at few more airports;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some airports are proposed to be upgraded into international airports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The list of the airports where modernisation and expansion works were undertaken during the last three years alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon is at annexure.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Development of airports is a continuous process. There are plans to develop airports at Amritsar, Aurangabad, Bhuj, Dibrugarh, Guwahati and Varanasi.

(e) and (f) Five more cities are being identified for development/construction of world class international airports with 100% foreign equity participation. A high level Task Force has been set up under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman. Planning Commission in this regard.

Statement

Names of Airports where modernisation and upgradation works were undertaken during the last three years and expenditure incurred thereon

(Rs. in crores)

Names of Airports	Expenditure incurred		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
International Airports			
Chennai International Airport, Chennai	8.28	14.00	11.42
Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi	37.44	36.65	37.44
Mumbai International Airport, Mumbai	47.14	66.08	39.74
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Calcutta	5.74	9.28	10.70
Trivandrum International Airport, Thiruvananthapuram	3.84	10.84	11.96
Domestic Airports (Rs. in Lakhs)			
Agartala	406.75	336.06	129.32
Aurangabad	560.00	-	104.47
Ahmedabad	-	-	38.52
Agra	76.98	150.46	738.36
Amritsar	45.36	4.00	-
Baroda	480.53	484.53	78.83
Bhopal	59.42	336.35	349.09
Bagdogra	213.22	-	-
Bhubaneshwar	245.04	102.93	655.60
Bhuj	-	0.62	1.44
Bangalore	2.02	163.71	313.73
Calicut	1889.27	1997.08	2039.54
Dibrugarh	-	894.85	2.23
Dinapur	595.17	200.26	267.69
Goa	285.60	802.93	486.34

1	2	3	4
Guwahati	6.61	1095.90	420.41
Hyderabad	496.00	450.00	832.50
Imphal	2.83	59.27	304.47
Indore	157.06	847.49	433.46
Jaipur	327.11	342.29	-
Jabalpur	-	55.09	-
Jammu	-	184.00	183.79
Jodhpur	162.66	97.40	246.36
Kargil	1769.76	-	224.35
Ludhiana	-	-	62.74
Lilabari	270.29	115.30	315.02
Lucknow	819.94	29.59	83.36
Leh	13.45	-	-
Nagpur	631.48	227.64	85.47
Patna	170.94	236.72	94.16
Porbandar	0.73	-	1.47
Port Blair	-	-	347.61
Rajkot	-	-	10.88
Raipur	311.79	558.00	276.00
Ranchi	86.92	-	-
Shimla	10.64	42.55	-
Silchar	61.98	42.80	242.64
Tezpur	-	359.54	688.00
Tirupathi	28.46	-	-
Udaipur	1.03	346.00	885.29
Varanasi	3.89	-	-
Vijayawada	-	1.87	2.70

Redemption of Bonds by KRC

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

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation has asked to extend the time limit for redemption of bonds worth Rs. 160 crore which are due for redemption in March, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the various steps taken by the Government to enhance the revenue of Konkan Railway?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir, however Konkan Railway Corporation which had an option to float the bonds for 10 years, initially issued the bonds for a period of 5 years keeping in view the marketability of the instrument at that time. Now the Corporation has approached the bond holders whether they would like to avail of the remaining 5 year period. The Corporation has given them the first opportunity to avail of this benefit which gives an attractive return in the market.

(b) Through out the planning of the project, the intention was to avail of the full 10 year period available, being an infrastructure project. It was never the intention that redemption can be planned before 10 years. However the bonds were issued for 5 years consciously to improve the marketability of the same with intention to re-roll.

(c) The steps being taken by Government and Konkan Railway Corporation to enhance the revenue of Konkan Railway are as under :

- (i) Restructuring of financial obligations and raising bonds to refinance,
- (ii) considering diversion of goods traffic between Gujarat/Punjab/Rajasthan to Goa/South & North Canara, Kerala and South-West Tamilnadu over Konkan Railway line,
- (iii) intensifying marketing efforts by Konkan Railway through offering customer friendly services on both passenger and freight businesses to wean away traffic from other modes, and
- (iv) State Governments who are equity partners are being requested to issue instructions for moving all important construction material like steel, cement, bitumen etc. in bulk by Konkan Railway in the West Coast Districts.

International Cargo Hubs at New Delhi

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up first International Cargo Hub at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the expenditure and manner in which the Government propose to meet this expenditure;

(c) whether the Government have any Plan to extend this scheme to all other international airports in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to develop Delhi Airport as an International Cargo Hub.

(b) Presently works are in progress for expansion of the existing integrated cargo terminal at IGI Airport. Delhi involving capital cost of Rs. 42 crores. These works are expected to be completed by April, 2000. A joint venture partner, for which a global tender is being floated, will be required to invest in the venture of the proposed parallel Cargo Terminal to be run in competition with the existing terminal, and also for developing facilities to make Delhi as a major International Cargo Hub.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Depending on the experience gained at Delhi Airport, such cargo hubs at other airports in the country would be taken up.

Planning of Railway Siding

1832. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are considering to lay Railway siding at Vedayapalam (Nellore) and Tatmanchi (Britragunta);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways proposed to link Krishnapatnam and Padugupadu with Railway network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the above projects are likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION. (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) Do not arise.

Collection of Donations

1833. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether rehabilitation Ministry Employees Co operative House Building Society Ltd., Shivalik, New Delhi has constituted a body called "Shivalik Welfare Committee" and have collected donations of Rs. 20,000 each from the residents of Shivalik Colony having purchased plots on "General Power of Attorneys";

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the donations to the tune of more than Rs. 50 lakh have been collected without having taken any consent either from the Department of Rehabilitation or the Registrar of Cooperative Societies; and

(d) if so, the action contemplated by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Registrar Cooperative Societies, Govt. of Delhi has informed that no such information is on records.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Charges against Managing Director of Hotel Corporation of India

1834. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Managing Director of Hotel Corporation of India was suspended recently;

(b) if so, the charges levelled against him;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into the charges levelled against him; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Managing Director, Hotel Corporation of India Limited (HCIL) was placed under suspension with effect from 25.8.98 for misusing his official position by providing free air-tickets and free board and lodging in Centaur Hotel to an officer of the National Commission for SCs & STs who was dealing with the SC and ST cases of HCIL with a view to influencing the officer in the official discharge of his duties.

(c) and (d) An inquiry officer has been appointed to conduct a detailed inquiry in the case. The proceedings are in progress.

Construction of Over-Bridge at Manimajra in Chandigarh

1835. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the enormous problems are being faced by the residents of Manimajra because of long closure of Railway Phatak near Manimajra in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct a road over-bridge at said level crossing; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. No such report is there.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Introduction of Sabari Express

1836. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether problems coming on the way to introduce proposed Sabari Express from Koraput to Bhubaneswar via Rayagada;

(b) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry to sort-out these problems; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken for running this proposed train?

< THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) It has already been decided to introduce 8447A/8448A Bhubaneswar-Koraput Link Express before 31st March, 1999.

Settlement of Issues by I.A. & A.I.

1837. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of issues represented by the SC/ ST Employees Association of Air Corporations which have been settled in the years 1997 and 1998;

- (b) the number of issues still pending; and
 (c) the reasons for their non-settlement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A total of 127 issues pertaining to Air India, Indian Airlines and Alliance Air were raised by the Air Corporations SC/ST Employees Association. Out of these, 113 issues have been settled. The remaining issues relate to Promotion, Housing Loans, Transfers, Harassment etc. Settlement of these issues is an on going process. The concerned organisations have been advised to settle the pending issues at the earliest.

Conversion of Aurihar and Jaunpur Rail Line

1838. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether rail-line between Aurihar and Jaunpur in Eastern Uttar Pradesh is meter gauge while other nearby rail-lines are broad gauge ones;
 (b) whether there is any proposal to convert said rail line; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) A survey has been ordered. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the results of the survey are available.

[Translation]

Self Employment

1839. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal for providing self-employment to ten lakh youths belonging to the most deprived families;
 (b) if so, the details thereof in regard to Bihar;
 (c) the total outlay worked out for this programme alongwith the time limit fixed for its implementation; and
 (d) the name of the implementation agency of this programme alongwith the sources from which funds are to be mobilized for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) There is no such specific proposal. However, rural families below the poverty line are assisted under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) with a view to providing them with self-employment through income generating activities. The rural poor are provided with productive assets in the shape of term credit and Government subsidy to have sustainable income generation.

(b) In respect to Bihar, total allocation, utilisation and physical coverage for the year 1997-98 & 1998-99 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The total outlay for IRDP for the country as a whole during 1997-98 & 1998-99 is Rs. 113351.23 lakhs & Rs. 145616.95 lakhs respectively. IRDP is a continuing programme and there is no prescribed time limit.

(d) The programme is being implemented by the State Governments through the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). The funds for the programme are provided by Centre as well as States on 50:50 basis.

Statement

Statement showing Total Allocation, Utilisation and Physical Coverage for the Years 1997-98 & 1998-99 in Respect of Bihar

Year	Allocation		Total	Utilisation	No. of families assisted
	Centre	State			
1997-98	8377.40	8377.40	16754.81	12422.08	196849
1998-99	13345.81	13345.81	26691.63	5087.28*	67046*

* upto October, 1998.

Development Schemes

1840. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the schemes for the development of various cities of Rajasthan received by the Union Government during the current year and the total amount allocated therefor;
 (b) whether world Bank has agreed to provide any financial assistance in this regard; and
 (c) if so, the details thereof, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) During the current year (as on 31.10.98), HUDCO has sanctioned three urban infrastructure schemes in Rajasthan for a project costing Rs. 57.79 crore with a loan amount of Rs. 31.64 crore. Out of this an amount of Rs. 19.04 crore has been released so far by HUDCO.

Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) which is meant for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census, 25 schemes at an estimated project cost of Rs. 2513.17 lakh have been sanctioned. Out of these 25 schemes sanctioned till 1.12.98, five schemes have been sanctioned at an estimated project cost of Rs. 720.53 lakh during 1998-99. The budget allocation during 1998-99 for the State of Rajasthan under AUWSP is Rs. 265.96 lakh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of reply at (b) above, question does not arise.

[English]

Purchase by CPWD

1841. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Unstarred Question No. 259 dated November 20, 1997 regarding purchase by CPWD and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the exceptional circumstances under which CPWD has to purchase electrical items directly from the manufactures on rates other than rate contract agreed upon the DGS&D after November 20, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The requisite information has been collected and already furnished to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in fulfilment of assurance given in reply to part (c) and (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 259 on 20.11.1997.

(c) No such purchase has been made after November 20, 1997.

Flights on Calicut Gulf Sector

1842. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Airlines flights are on the Calicut-Gulf sector;

(b) the details of income generated at Calicut Airport from these flights during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any new station in the Gulf are proposed to be connected to Calicut Airport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Indian Airlines operates 18 flights a week from Calicut to Doha, Bahrain, Fujairah, Ras-al-Khaimah and Sharjah in the Gulf Region.

(b) Details of revenue and surplus/(deficit) earned on flights between Calicut and Gulf for the last three years i.e., from 1995-96 to 1997-98 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) At present, Indian Airlines has no proposal to connect any new station in the Gulf with Calicut.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Revenue and Surplus/Deficit Earned on Flights between Calicut and Gulf for Three Years from 1995-96 to 1997-98

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Route	SVC No.	Traffic Revenue	Surplus/ (Deficit) Over Total Cost
1	2	3	4	5
1995-96				
1.	Bombay-Calicut-Ra'khaima-Sharjah	993/994	12.62	0.33
2.	Bombay-Calicut-Sharjah	989/990	56.82	11.52
3.	Bombay-Calicut-Fujairah-Sharjah	991/992	10.75	(1.68)
4.	Calicut-Goa-Kuwait	995-996	17.92	(1.19)
5.	Calicut-Doha-Bahrain	997/998	1.11	(0.50)
1996-97				
1.	Bombay-Calicut-Fujairah-Sharjah	991/992	16.76	0.16
2.	Calicut-Goa-Kuwait	995-996	34.18	0.66

1	2	3	4	5
3. Calicut-Doha-Bahrain		997/998	36.61	1.60
4. Bombay-Calicut-Ra'khaima-Sharjah		996/994	21.79	2.42
5. Bombay-Calicut-Sharjah		989/990	76.13	12.15
1997-98 (Provisional)				
1. Bombay-Calicut-Fujairah-Sharjah		991/992	14.71	0.85
2. Calicut-Doha-Bahrain		997/998	52.61	7.47
3. Bombay-Calicut-Ra'khaima-993/994-Sharjah			17.08	0.12
4. Bombay-Calicut-Sharjah		989/990	85.17	18.18
5. Bombay-Calicut-Sharjah		677/678	2.19	(1.04)
6. Calicut-Goa-Kuwait		995/996	26.12	(5.02)

Provident Fund Scheme in Air India

1843. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees' contribution towards Provident Fund is revised from time to time as per Government guidelines; and

(b) if so, details thereof alongwith the contributions made by the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The minimum rate of Provident Fund under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 has been enhanced from 8.33% to 10% and the maximum from 10% to 12% with effect from 22.09.1997. However, this Act is not applicable to Air India. The employees contribution towards provident fund in Air India is 10%.

Manufacturing of Coaches

1844. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the coach manufacturing capacity in the country and the details of coaches manufactured during each of the last three years and current year, factory-wise;

(b) whether this is too short from the actual demand;

(c) if so, the shortage of passenger coaches, zone/division-wise; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The coach manufacturing capacity in the country and the details of coaches manufactured during each of the last three years and current year :

Year	Installed Capacity	Coaches manufactured
1995-96	2848	1752
1996-97	do	2168
1997-98	do	2278
1998-99	do	1324
(Upto Oct. '98)		

(b) No, Sir. The orders for manufacture of coaches are placed according to requirement of coaches based on traffic projections.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Civil Aviation in Bihar

1845. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sanctioned projects for the development of Civil Aviation in Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the projects on which work has since been started and whether the progress of these work is according to the schedule; and

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to get these projects completed timely?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The following airport projects in Bihar have been sanctioned during the 9th Five Year Plan :

(i) Extension/modification of the terminal building complex at Patna at an estimated cost of Rs. 9 crores.

(ii) Expansion of Apron and construction of new link taxiway at Patna Airport.

(b) Expansion/modification of terminal building work at Patna was awarded in December, 1993 and was

scheduled to be completed in August, 1998. Due to non-availability of some portion of the site for the construction work owing to continuance of passenger movements the work is expected to be completed in January, 1999. Expansion of Apron work has been completed as per schedule.

(c) A close monitoring of the project is being carried out with Project Management Agency for timely completion of the project.

Life of Abdulwari Rail Bridge

1846. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Abdulwari rail bridge falling between Patna and Arah has out lived its life;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any scheme to replace it; and

(c) if so, the time by which new bridge is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. The existing Abdulwari Railway Bridge is a double line Rail-cum-Road Bridge. The condition of bridge is good and there is no need for renovation/rebuilding of the same.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Scheme for Development of Civil Aviation Works

1847. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes for the development of Civil Aviation network in the country during 1998-99, State-wise; and

(b) the amount earmarked therefor, Scheme-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The allocation of funds by the national carriers is mainly on aircraft projects and various support services required for operations of their services on the network. State-wise details of Airport Development Works, taken up during 1998-99 are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of Airport Development works, State-wise, during 1998-99

Domestic Airports :		Rs. in Crores
State	Name of the Airport where Development Works being undertaken	1998-99 Revised Estimates
1	2	3
Andhra Pr.	Hyderabad Vijayawada Tirupathi	15.10
Assam	Dibrugarh Guwahati Lilabari Silchar Tezpur Jorhat	21.12
Bihar	Patna Ranchi	2.65
Goa	Dabolim	0.93
Gujarat	Ahmedabad Vadodara Bhuj Jam Nagar Porbandar Rajkot	8.93
Himachal Pr.	Bhuntar (Kullu) Shimla	2.05
J & K	Jammu Kargil Srinagar	1.21
Karnataka	Bangalore Hassan Mangalore	10.48
Kerala	Calicut	25.73
Madhya Pr.	Bhopal Indore Jabalpur Khajuraho Raipur	9.73
Maharashtra	Aurangabad Nagpur	2.40

1	2	3
Manipur	Imphal	5.52
Nagaland	Dimapur	0.33
Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	8.42
Punjab	Amritsar Ludhiana	1.53
Rajasthan	Jaipur Ajmer Jodhpur Udaipur	0.55
Tripura	Agartala	8.80
Tamil Nadu	Chennai Madurai Trichy	1.00
Uttar Pradesh	Agra Lucknow Pantnagar Varanasi	12.08
West Bengal	Bagdogra Calcutta	3.56

International Airports :

Mumbai Airport, Maharashtra	64.18
IGI Airport, Delhi	42.41
Chennai Airport, Tamil Nadu	37.07
Calcutta Airport, West Bengal	16.74
Trivandrum Airport, Kerala	13.29

Air Accidents by Bird Hits

1848. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether threatened by bird hits, the Indian Air Force has abandoned Hindon as a strategic air base, closest to the capital;

(b) the total number of Indian Air Force aircrafts involved in bird hits during the last three years;

(c) whether the civil administration has since responded to the request of IAF to shift slaughter house and tanneries beyond a distance of 10 km of the lease; and

(d) the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Fighter aircraft flying from Air Force Station Hindon has been stopped because of bird hit accidents.

(b) There have been four aircraft losses due to bird hits since 1995-96.

(c) and (d) Steps have been taken by the Ministers of Agriculture and Urban Affairs & Employment and the concerned State Governments for modernisation of Slaughter Houses/Carcass utilisation Centres and for sanitisation of areas around the bird prone airfields to reduce bird activities.

Threat from Gauri Missile of Pak

1849. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is more worried about Pakistan's Gauri Missile than its Nuclear Bomb;

(b) whether the architect of Pakistan's Nuclear Programme has stated that Indian cities, from Bangalore to Calcutta, come within the range of Gauri Missile;

(c) whether Pakistan can hit any Indian city in 15 minutes time;

(d) whether Gauri Missile which was launched from Jhelum covered about 1,100 km in 9 minutes 58 seconds to hit its target at Noukundi in Baluchistan; and

(e) if so, the steps Indian Government have taken to meet this challenge of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Pakistan's nuclear weapons as well as their means of delivery have always been a matter of concern to India.

(b) Government have seen media reports to this effect.

(c) and (d) Government are aware of Pakistani claims about the payload capacity and range of Pakistani missiles as well as the varying estimates of these parameters by independent experts.

(e) India's nuclear weapons policy and Integrated Guided Missile Programme are designed to establish a credible, effective and secure deterrent against the use or the threat of use of weapons of mass destruction against the country.

Appointments for Group 'D' Posts

1850. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether unauthorised appointments are taking place for various Group 'D' posts under the divisions of South Central Railway;

(b) whether CBI has initiated action against officers involved in this issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action proposed by the Government against the officers responsible for such unauthorised appointments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) The CBI is investigating one case of Hubli Division pertaining to appointment of candidates on compassionate grounds. Another case of Hubli Division regarding fake appointments of casual labours/substitutes during year 1994 to 1997 has been handed over to CBI in August 1998.

The CBI is also investigating another case of alleged irregular appointment in Group 'D' posts relating to Vijaywada Division. Penal action against Officers/Staff has, therefore, to await CBI's final reports.

Diphu-Karong Rail Line

1851. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed Diphu-Karong Rail Line shall pass through Dhansiri Reserve forest;

(b) if so, whether necessary clearance from concerned authorities and departments has been obtained;

(c) the places through which the proposed line shall cross through;

(d) whether Government has received any memorandum from Autonomous Hill Council of Karbi Auglong Assam demanding modification of Diphu-Karong Rail Line project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The Final Location Survey of the project is yet to be done and therefore exact ground alignment is not yet finalised. As per initial feasibility survey conducted by M/s RITES, two take off points were considered i.e. Diphu and the second Dhansiri which is 18 kms. east of Diphu station. After studying all the factors, Railways decided the take off points as Dhansiri station. By selecting this point, the alignment avoids Dhansiri reserve forest for a length of 16 kms.

(b) The clearances shall be obtained after completing the final location survey during which final ground alignment shall be decided.

(c) The same will be finalised after final location survey. The stations as per feasibility study report are :

- (1) Dhansiri, (2) Hajadisa, (3) Jaluke,
- (4) Dungki, (5) Tejungla, (6) Peren,
- (7) Thuyeng, (8) Kanjang, (9) Sangkhome,
- (10) Maramkhullen, (11) Khunou, (12) Karong.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) A memorandum has been received from Karbi Auglong Autonomous Council Secretariat in Nov., 1998. The issues raised will be given due consideration as per extant rules.

Construction of Over-Bridge at Basanti Colony

1852. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to construct road over bridge at Basanti Colony (Rourkela) as well as other places of Sundergarh district in Orissa under South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. No formal proposal has been received from the State Govt.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Acquisition of Land on Bhopal-Sanchi Road for Defence Use

1853. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence had acquired huge piece of land located on Bhopal-Sanchi Road about 6-7 years ago.

(b) whether the said land is not being utilised by the Ministry of Defence; and

(c) the purpose for acquiring this land?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. A total of 346.94 acres of private land and 1043.88 acres of State Government land was acquired and taken possession of by the Ministry.

(b) and (c) The land is being used by the Army for training purposes at present.

Laying of Rail Line between Gurgaon and Rewari

1854. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme in regard to lay railway line between Gurgaon and Rewari via Sohana is under consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Rail Service between Vasco and Londa

1855. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government discontinue the rail service between Vasco and Londa;

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

(c) the time by which this line is likely to be re-opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The passenger train services on Vasco-Londa section are temporarily suspended. Freight trains are operating normally.

(b) The Commissioner of Railway Safety while inspecting the line after conversion had desired provision of catch sidings on the section before passenger services could be introduced. Since the catch sidings were not found feasible, the section has been opened for freight traffic and trials of proposed measures to be adopted for ensuring the safety of passenger trains are being conducted by the South Central Railway in consultation with the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

(c) Will be known after completion of the trials indicated in reply to para (b) above.

Construction of Over Bridges in Andhra Pradesh

1856. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several representations have been made to the Railways for the construction of ROB's at Nellimarla and Bobbili in Vijayanagram district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has conveyed its willingness to contribute 50% of cost of these two ROB's;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in the sanction of these two works; and

(d) the time by which these works likely to be included in the list of works to be undertaken by Railways in the near future?

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

(c) According to the existing traffic density available at the level crossings of Nellimarla and Bobbili, these do not qualify for replacement with road over bridges on cost-sharing basis as the traffic density is 71.118 and 35.336 Train Vehicle Units respectively against prescribed norms of 1 lakhs TVUs.

(d) It is not possible to indicate any time frame for construction of these road over bridges (ROB) on cost sharing basis. However, Railway could construct them on 'deposit terms' if proposals is made by the State Government.

Water Blockage in Greater Kailash-I

1857. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the residents of Greater Kailash-I, particularly Blocks 'B' and 'N' have to face huge financial losses because of rainy water flooding their houses;

(b) if so, whether any representation from the residents Welfare Associations regarding survey of the area has been received; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to redress the grievances of the residents and provide proper civic amenities in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) MCD has reported that underground storm water drainage do exist in the area and no such instance of flooding have been noticed during the rainy season.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During the inspection of the area, the residents demanded replacement of the drainage system which would involve substantial amount of investment and is not possible at present due to paucity of funds. However, MCD is keeping the drainage system functional by doing regular cleaning of drain, Bell Mouths, etc.

Expansion and Upgradation of Technology in Hubli Railway Workshop

1858. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion and upgradation of technology in Hubli Railway workshop (SCR); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The workshop is being converted for overhauling of broad gauge (BG) coaches. The workshop was previously dealing with overhauling of metre gauge (MG) coaches and wagons. Modern machinery and plants are being inducted to replace overaged and obsolete machinery and plants as part of the conversion. BG coach periodic

overhaul (POH) capacity is to be built up in two stages (1st stage for 150 units and 11nd stage for augmentation from 150 units to 190 units). The workshop is presently carrying out POH of BG coaches @ 120 units per month.

[Translation]

Salaries to DRDA Workers

1859. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether amount of salaries etc. of the employees of DRDA are provided by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether they are entitled for the facilities as are admissible to the Central Government employees;

(c) whether new pay-scales have been given to the officers/employees of DRDA;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (e) DRDAs are registered societies constituted by the State Government under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860. Their employees are the employees of the Society. They are not the employees of the Government of India. DRDAs have their own Governing Bodies and bye-laws for day to day administration/governance. Being registered societies, the service conditions of their employees are to be framed by the concerned DRDAs in accordance with the bye-laws, with the concurrence of the State Government and subject to availability of funds to meet the administrative expenses. For meeting the administrative expenditure, the DRDAs are allowed to utilize certain percentage of allocation under each scheme, which is shared by the Central Government and the State Government. There is no separate provision to meet such expenditure other than the prescribed ceilings under the programmes.

[English]

Water Supply in Andhra Pradesh

1860. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have sanctioned funds for improving water supply in Hyderabad and Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the work on these schemes are likely to start; and
- (d) the extent to which water supply in twin cities is likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme for infrastructural Development in Mega-cities, which is being implemented in Hyderabad Mega-city, an amount of Rs. 73.43 crores has been sanctioned for development of various infrastructural facilities in the city. Improvement of water supply is one of the components which can be taken up under the Mega City Scheme.

(b) to (d) Under the Mega Cities Scheme, a composite scheme of water supply and sewerage with an estimated project cost of Rs. 112.00 crores has been approved. As per information available, an expenditure of Rs. 10.00 crores has already been incurred for implementation of the said scheme. This is likely to improve the distribution system of the water supply in the twin cities of Hyderabad-Secunderabad.

Construction of Permanent Defence Structure on Indo-Pak Border

1861. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :
SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to build permanent defence structures on Indo-Pak border to contain terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Defence structures including permanent ones, on borders are made based on threat perception and tactical requirements. These are periodically reviewed and modified. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details.

Appointment of Luggage Booking Agency

1862. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of norms/guidelines to appoint outdoor Railway Agency for booking of parcels/luggages under the liberalised schemes; and

- (b) the commission/service charges to be paid to the agent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) City Booking Agencies/Out Agencies are opened on public demand subject to traffic and financial justification and availability of a suitable contractor to run the Agency. The contractor is selected after inviting tender applications through Press Notifications.

The Agent is paid cartage charges for road transportation of packages from the Agency premises to the serving Railway Station. Commission is paid on the sale of railway tickets. These charges are paid as per rates quoted by the contractor in his tender application and accepted by the Railway Administration.

HUDCO

1863. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether large number of cases being contested by HUDCO and other agencies under the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment are pending in the various courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, Court-wise;
- (c) whether there is a plan to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Solicitor General to examine them; and
- (d) the steps taken/are proposed to be taken to mitigate the sufferings of the people and to ensue that in future, these agencies do not get involved in frivolous litigation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) Directions have been issued to all our agencies not to get involved in frivolous litigation with citizen.

[Translation]

Helicopter Service-

1864. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Helicopter Service for the 'Darshan' of holy shrines of Badrinath and Kedarnath;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the helicopter service is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited has sent a proposal to Garhwal Vikas Nigam Limited (GVNL) offering a 5-seater helicopter for running service to/from Badrinath and Kedarnath. The helicopter service would be based at Rudraprayag and operated on Rudraprayag-Kedarnath-Badrinath-Rudraprayag sector. On receipt of the acceptance of the proposal by GVNL, the helicopter service could be started.

[English]

Establishment of Mahila Sainik School

1865. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for opening of Mahila Sainik School in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) In a letter to the Union Home Minister, the Minister of State for Education, Government of Gujarat has suggested the opening of Sainik School for girls and permitting their entry into the National Defence Academy (NDA).

(b) The existing Sainik Schools are primarily meant to prepare boys academically, physically and mentally for entry into the NDA. At present it is not proposed to open Sainik School for girls or permit their entry into the NDA.

[Translation]

Land Reforms

1866. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some land in the country is not fit for agriculture due to being alkaline;

(b) if so, details thereof, statewise;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any time bound scheme to make such land fit for agriculture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the report of the National Commission on Agriculture (1976), there is an area of 35.81 lakhs ha. of alkali soil in the country. State-wise details are enclosed.

(c) and (d) A centrally sponsored scheme for Reclamation of Alkali Soil was launched during the VII Five Year Plan (1985-86) in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, During the VIII Five Year Plan, the scheme was further extended to the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The pattern of central financial assistance is on 50:50 sharing basis between the Central and State Governments on identified components. Till 1997-98, an area of 5.05 lakhs ha. has been reclaimed at a central investment of Rs. 65.67 crores. Besides an externally aided project funded by European Union for Reclamation and Development of Alkali Land is under implementation in the States of Bihar and U.P. since October, 1993. The project aims at reclamation of 15,000 ha. at an estimated cost of Rs. 85.80 crores of which Rs. 78.92 crores is European Union assistance. The project will end on March, 2001.

Statement

Statewise Distribution of Estimated Area under Alkali Soil

(Area in lakh ha.)		
S.No.	Name of State	Alkali Soils Area
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.64
2.	Bihar	0.04
3.	Gujarat	**9.42
4.	Haryana	4.50
5.	Karnataka	0.76
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.64
7.	Maharashtra	0.59
8.	Punjab	7.18

1	2	3
9.	Tamil Nadu	0.04
10.	Uttar Pradesh	11.00
	Total	35.81

**Includes the areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat.
Source : National Commission on Agriculture, 1976.

[English]

Personnel Policy of Navy

1867. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- whether the Government propose to bring some radical changes in the personnel policy of Navy;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the number of posts lying vacant in the Navy at present or filled on adhoc basis during the last one year; and
- the steps taken for filling-up of these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No posts below Flag Rank are lying vacant in the Navy. In respect of three posts of Flag Rank, for which the appointing authority is the Central Government, proposals of Naval Headquarters are under consideration of Government.

Waste Land

1868. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- details of waste land areas brought under cultivation, year-wise during the last three years;
- number of proposals pending before the Government for waste land development;
- details of projects cleared during each of the last three years;
- whether the Government of Rajasthan have sent any proposals in this regard especially pertaining to Desert district of Rajasthan i.e. Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Mandate of the Department of Wastelands Development is to develop wastelands in non-forest areas aimed at checking degradation of lands which are deteriorating on account of natural causes and putting such wastelands in non-forest areas to sustainable use for increasing bio-mass availability, specially fuelwood and fodder.

Because of poor soil health and adverse natural factors even after treatment of such lands, planting of fodder, fuel and fruit trees rather than agricultural operations are advisable on developed wastelands. As such, the programmes of the Department of Wastelands Development seek to prevent further degradation of land and to improve wastelands to grow appropriate biomass rather than to converting wastelands into cultivable lands. However, the details of area brought under cultivation use under the Usar Bhoomi Sudhar Yojana of the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and cooperation during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Presently, 58 proposals under Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) scheme are pending for consideration before the Government.

(c) During the last three years, 72 projects for IWDP schemes have been cleared by the Department. The details of the projects cleared by the Department are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) to (f) The Government of Rajasthan has not sent any proposal for the development of wastelands under IWDP scheme pertaining to Desert districts of Rajasthan i.e. Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts during the last three years.

		Statement-I		(Area in '000 ha.)	
S.No.	Name of State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1.	Haryana	9.92	6.67	5.56	22.15
2.	Punjab	17.90	17.83	4.88	40.61
3.	Uttar Pradesh	18.66	26.91	7.99	53.56
4.	Gujarat	0.00	0.09	0.69	0.78
5.	Madhya Pr.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.65	2.05	2.70
	Total	46.48	52.15	21.17	119.80

Statement-II

Name of the District	Project Period	Total Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Total Area (in ha.)	Rele 1995-96 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Rele 1996-97 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Rele 1997-98 (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
** State : AP						
Chittoor-I	96-97 to 99-00	323.40	8085	0.00	48.51	97.02
Kurnool	95-96 to 98-99	293.20	7330	49.80	82.14	102.64
Chittoor-II	96-97 to 99-00	331.20	8280	0.00	49.68	98.74
Chittoor-IV	97-98 to 20-01	450.00	11250	0.00	0.00	67.50
Medak	97-98 to 20-01	496.48	12412	0.00	0.00	124.12
Nizamabad-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Srikakulam	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Cuddapah-II	97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Chittoor-III	95-96 to 98-99	20.00	500	3.00	0.00	6.00
** Subtotal **		3414.3	85357	52.80	180.33	721.02
** State : ARP						
West Kameng	97-98 to 2001	60.00	1500	0.00	0.00	9.00
** Subtotal **		60.00	1500	0.00	0.00	9.00
** State : ASS						
Karbi Anglong	97-98 to 2001	245.20	6130	0.00	0.00	36.78
** Subtotal **		245.20	6130	0.00	0.00	36.78
** State : BH						
Vaishali	95-96 to 98-99	40.00	1000	6.00	0.00	0.00
** Subtotal **		40.00	1000	6.00	0.00	0.00
** State : GJ						
Kheda	96-97 to 99-00	32.48	812	0.00	4.87	0.00
Junagadh	97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00
** Subtotal **		512.48	12812	0.00	4.87	72.00
** State : HP						
Solan-II	97-98 to 20-01	499.52	12488	0.00	0.00	74.92
Sirmour	97-98 to 20-01	499.00	12500	0.00	0.00	74.85
** Subtotal **		998.52	24988	0.00	0.00	149.77
** State : HR						
Gurgaon	95-96 to 98-99	218.92	5473	14.50	0.00	40.23
Panipat	97-98 to 20-01	478.88	11972	0.00	0.00	71.83
** Subtotal **		697.80	17445	14.50	0.00	112.06

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
** State : JK							
Udhampur-II		97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
** Subtotal **			500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
** State : KA							
Mandya-II		97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Gulbarga		97-98 to 20-01	474.00	11847	0.00	0.00	71.08
Chitradurga		97-98 to 20-01	500.00	12500	0.00	0.00	75.00
Bellary		97-98 to 20-01	485.60	12140	0.00	0.00	72.84
** Subtotal **			1959.6	48987	0.00	0.00	293.92
** State : KE							
Idukki		95-96 to 98-99	403.20	10080	60.48	0.00	40.32
** Subtotal **			403.20	10080	60.48	0.00	40.32
** State : MA							
Parbhani		97-98 to 20-01	381.60	9540	0.00	0.00	57.24
** Subtotal **			381.60	9540	0.00	0.00	57.24
** State : MN							
Imphal (West)		97-98 to 20-01	267.00	6675	0.00	0.00	66.75
Senapati		97-98 to 20-01	55.72	1393	0.00	0.00	8.35
Senapati-II		97-98 to 20-01	400.00	10000	0.00	0.00	60.00
** Subtotal **			722.72	18068	0.00	0.00	135.10
** State : MP							
Rajnandgaon		95-96 to 98-99	444.00	11100	23.98	42.62	0.00
Datia-II		96-97 to 99-00	21.28	532	0.00	3.19	0.00
Guna		97-98 to 20-01	243.60	6090	0.00	0.00	36.54
Seoni		97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
Narasingspur		97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
Mandsaur		97-98 to 20-01	280.00	7000	0.00	0.00	42.00
Guna-II		97-98 to 20-01	337.96	8449	0.00	0.00	50.69
** Subtotal **			1886.8	47171	23.98	45.81	213.23
** State : NG							
Wokha		96-97 to 99-00	480.00	12000	0.00	72.00	48.00
Mokochung		97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00
Zunobuto		95-96 to 98-99	100.00	2500	15.00	30.00	0.00
** Subtotal **			1060.00	26500	15.00	102.00	120.00

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
** State : OR							
Koraput-III	96-97 to 99-00	7.29	300	0.00	1.09	0.00	
Jhasurguda	97-98 to 20-01	288.64	7216	0.00	0.00	43.30	
Kalahandi-III	97-98 to 20-01	493.48	12337	0.00	0.00	74.02	
Balangir-II	97-98 to 20-01	496.00	12400	0.00	0.00	74.40	
Koraput-IV	97-98 to 20-01	481.80	12045	0.00	0.00	72.27	
Mayurbhanj	97-98 to 20-01	496.00	12400	0.00	0.00	29.35	
Dhenkanal-III	97-98 to 20-01	244.64	6100	0.00	0.00	36.69	
Dhenkanal-II	96-97 to 99-00	100.60	2515	0.00	15.09	0.00	
** Subtotal **		2608.4	65313	0.00	16.18	330.03	
** State : PB							
Patiala	96-97 to 99-00	22.00	550	0.00	3.30	0.00	
** Subtotal **		22.00	550	0.00	3.30	0.00	
** State : RJ							
Bundi	96-97 to 99-00	27.30	686	0.00	4.10	0.00	
Jhunjhunu	97-98 to 20-01	168.00	4200	0.00	0.00	25.20	
Jhalawar-II	97-98 to 20-01	394.24	9856	0.00	0.00	59.14	
Ajmer-II	95-96 to 98-99	26.00	650	3.90	0.00	7.80	
** Subtotal **		615.54	15392	3.90	4.10	92.14	
** State : SK							
W. Sikkim	96-97 to 99-00	220.00	5500	0.00	20.82	0.00	
East Sikkim-III	97-98 to 20-01	222.76	5669	0.00	0.00	33.41	
North Sikkim-II	97-98 to 20-01	480.00	12000	0.00	0.00	72.00	
** Subtotal **		922.76	23169	0.00	20.82	105.41	
** State : TN							
Coimbatore	96-97 to 99-00	19.20	480	0.00	2.89	0.00	
Dindigul	97-98 to 20-01	200.00	5090	0.00	0.00	30.00	
** Subtotal **		219.20	5570	0.00	2.89	30.00	
** State : UP							
Ferozabad	96-97 to 99-00	459.16	11479	0.00	68.87	0.00	
Fatehpur	96-97 to 99-00	395.20	9880	0.00	59.28	0.00	
Jaunpur	96-97 to 99-00	468.72	11718	0.00	70.30	46.87	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Varanasi	96-97 to 99-00	385.80	9645	0.00	57.87	77.16
Etawah	96-97 to 99-00	406.00	10150	0.00	60.90	0.00
Azamgarh	96-97 to 99-00	319.28	7982	0.00	47.89	0.00
Kanpur (C)	96-97 to 99-00	220.40	5510	0.00	33.06	0.00
Unnao	97-98 to 20-01	481.64	12041	0.00	0.00	72.25
Tehri Garhwal	97-98 to 20-01	484.76	12119	0.00	0.00	72.71
Sonbhadra	97-98 to 20-01	404.26	10106	0.00	0.00	60.63
Raibareli-II	97-98 to 20-01	484.00	12100	0.00	0.00	72.60
Unnao-II	97-98 to 20-01	482.16	12054	0.00	0.00	72.32
Sultanpur	97-98 to 20-01	481.56	12039	0.00	0.00	72.23
Jhansi-II	97-98 to 20-01	495.00	12379	0.00	0.00	74.25
Jhansi-III	97-98 to 20-01	400.00	10000	0.00	0.00	60.00
Agra	96-97 to 99-00	491.80	12295	0.00	73.77	49.18
** Subtotal **		6859.7	171497	0.00	471.94	730.20
*** Total ***		24130	603569	176.66	852.24	3323.22

Militarymen Missing from the Line of Control

1869. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of militarymen with their designations reported to have been missing during October, 1998 from the Line of Control in North Kashmir;

(b) the steps taken to trace them; and

(c) the outcome of the efforts so made?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) One JCO and two OR are missing from Uri Sector since 21 October 1998 and one OR from Kargil Sector since 17 October 1998. Extensive search of the area has been carried out. However, the missing militarymen could not be traced.

[Translation]

Doubling of Jhansi-Kanpur Railway Line

1870. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for doubling of the rail lines;

(b) whether there is any proposal to double the Jhansi-Kanpur railway line in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Doubling of single line sections is taken up when their carrying capacity is saturated, freight intensive sections being given priority.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The traffic on the section has not yet reached the level to justify doubling. As and when the traffic warrants its doubling, the same would be considered.

Deraiment of Goods Train at Harda

1871. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some bogies of a goods train derailed at Harda, near Charkhera station in Jabalpur on September 11, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Government property damaged thereby;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings of the inquiry; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 11.9.1998, 8 wagons of LMNR special Goods train derailed between Harda & Charkhera stations of Bhopal division, Central Railway. Loss to the Government property in this accident is Rs. 2.5 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per findings of the Enquiry Committee this accident occurred due to breakage of top plate of spring.

(e) To prevent such accidents in future instructions have been reiterated to all workshop & Head Train Examiner (HTXR) posted in workshop for not allowing any spring without stamping marks on buckle.

[English]

Assistance under Rural Development Schemes

1872. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide 75% assistance to Karnataka under the Rural Development Programmes; and

(b) if so, the amount released so far under these programmes to Karnataka during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Mysore Airport

1873. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has agreed to hand over the land required for the Mysore Airport project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, Airports Authority of India has requested the State Government for acquiring 350 acres of land for upgradation of Mysore airport.

[Translation]

Water Augmentation Schemes

1874. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of water augmentation schemes lying with the Government for approval alongwith time since when these are pending; State-wise;

(b) the schemes approved and funds allocated during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the names of the States which have executed the works utilising the amount in accordance with the sanctioned schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) 150 water augmentation schemes have not yet been approved under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP), which is meant for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census. The details are given at Statement-I. It has not been possible to approve the schemes due to various reasons like non-submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), technical deficiencies in the projects submitted by the State Governments and resource constraints.

(b) and (c) The schemes approved under the AUWS Programme, the funds allocated and the works executed by the State during the last three years, State-wise may be seen at the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I**Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) Statement Showing State-wise
No. of Pending DPRs (As on 7.12.98)**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Pending Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)				Total
		Received in 1995-96	Received in 1996-97	Received in 1997-98	Received in 1998-99	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	11	-	11
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	2	1	-	-	3
4.	Bihar	3	2	-	-	5
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Haryana	-	1	-	-	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8	3	-	-	11
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	3	-	1	11
10.	Karnataka	-	3	-	-	3
11.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	42	-	3	5	49
13.	Maharashtra	-	18	-	-	18
14.	Manipur	-	-	3	-	3
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	2	-	2
17.	Nagaland	-	-	3	-	3
18.	Orissa	3	-	4	-	7
19.	Punjab	-	-	-	3	3
20.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	3	3
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	8	8
23.	Tripura	-	1	-	-	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	8	8
25.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-
Total		65	32	25	28	150

DPR - Detailed Project Report

Statement-II

Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) Details of Schemes Approved and Financial Progress Made Since 1995-96

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	1995-96			1996-97			1997-98			1998-99			Funds Released (Central Share)				State Share	Expenditure Reported	Month up to which progress report has been received
		Nos.	Estt. Cost	Nos.	Estt. Cost	Nos.	Estt. Cost	Nos.	Estt. Cost	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	2	2467.00	-	-	-	-	0.00	83.29	21.16	-	NR	NR	NR				
3.	Assam	-	-	2	366.54	3	365.50	-	-	0.00	168.05	140.00	-	26.06	62.00	12/97				
4.	Bihar	3	233.14	1	82.68	-	-	-	-	94.50	0.00	0.00	-	45.00	22.06	7/98				
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	9.20	0.00	-	25.85	51.41	9/97				
6.	Gujarat	2	109.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.30	70.00	0.00	-	508.32	277.48	6/98				
7.	Haryana	1	203.90	1	223.54	9	122.91	3	310.17	77.65	86.20	87.03	-	253.20	434.68	6/95				
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	247.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.83	16.60	44.95	-	236.38	380.24	9/98				
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	113.70	1	312.51	-	-	-	-	28.45	10.20	41.61	20.75	73.26	122.97	3/97				
10.	Karnataka	-	-	1	36.80	4	737.56	-	-	0.00	47.58	179.96	4.43	531.37	584.37	9/98				
11.	Kerala	-	-	1	137.10	1	342.00	-	-	25.00	48.00	64.39	-	115.00	165.42	6/98				
12.	Madhya Pradesh	21	1930.40	-	-	3	282.59	-	-	380.53	156.12	417.98	370.08	1294.40	2458.32	9/98				
13.	Maharashtra	1	145.10	4	855.99	-	-	1	435.90	36.30	172.75	271.80	26.84	320.00	1052.57	6/98				
14.	Manipur	2	104.39	1	108.57	1	173.40	1	118.55	39.00	76.04	90.99	-	118.15	271.93	6/98				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
15. Meghalaya	1	195.63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48.90	10.00	38.92	-	84.01	151.00	6/98
16. Mizoram	1	40.18	-	-	-	-	1	103.35	1	154.94	7.10	11.88	51.68	-	55.00	136.76	9/98
17. Nagaland	-	-	-	-	1	219.70	-	-	-	-	0.00	52.33	34.36	17.51	50.00	111.53	6/98
18. Orissa	-	-	-	-	5	954.09	-	-	1	162.70	0.90	187.47	156.62	132.96	476.67	792.84	3/98
19. Punjab	1	79.24	-	-	-	-	6	363.21	-	-	77.76	44.00	0.00	-	-	-	6/98
20. Rajasthan	6	895.50	-	-	-	-	2	185.26	5	720.53	237.00	306.75	171.52	-	1090.17	1827.18	12/97
21. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	2	9.93	4	465.10	-	-	0.00	104.12	205.46	-	195.95	585.15	7/98
23. Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	-
24. Uttar Pradesh	27	2310.83	2	202.70	2	202.70	10	717.16	26	2204.21	764.87	352.42	776.57	402.07	2502.91	3905.50	9/98
25. West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	87.40	71.56	0.00	0.00	-	162.94	328.00	6/98
Total	71	7215.05	24	5977.15	35	3764.34	39	4194.40	1999.65	2013.00	2795.00	974.64	8164.64	13721.39			

Construction Work of School Building

1875. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of a two rooms school building was undertaken at Tirmuhani Ghat Village in Benipur block of Darbhanga district under a Centrally sponsored Scheme is incomplete;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Village-wise construction of school buildings under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme is not monitored at the Central level.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Award of Contract to BHEL by Railways

1876. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI VAIKE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any contract for manufacture and supply of three phase dual voltage EMU Traction Drives for Western Railways has been awarded to a Multinational Company instead of BHEL; and

(b) if so, the full facts thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. The contract was awarded to both M/s BHEL as well as a multinational company and not to a multinational company only instead of BHEL.

(b) Does not arise.

Electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon Railway Tracks

1877. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon Railway Tracks under Eastern Railway; and

(b) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Both are approved works. Detailed estimate for Ranaghat-Gede section has been sanctioned and that for Ranaghat-Bongaon is in process.

(b) The projects are likely to be completed by December, 2000 subject to availability of funds.

[Translation]

Coaches Reserved for Women

1878. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against the encroachment of ladies compartments by men;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Committee for Women has sent any representation to the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Some instances of persons, who are mostly short distance passengers entering reserved compartments including ladies compartments unauthorisedly have come to notice. In order to curb this menace, checks are conducted regularly as a result of which 1.62 lakhs persons were prosecuted during the year 1998 (upto September'98) for such irregular travelling in trains.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Completion of New Railway Lines

1879. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new Railway lines for which foundation stone has been laid during the last three years and current year so far alongwith estimated cost thereof;

(b) the number of Railway lines completed out of them alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the present position of remaining lines alongwith the reasons for their non-completion; and

(d) the time by which the work relating to these lines likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Advertisement Support by Air India

1880. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some monthly magazines on tourism, aviation and hospitality industry had requested Air India for release of advertisements during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Air India have denied certain magazines for advertisements support;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Air India would reconsider giving advertisement support during the current financial year to monthly magazines promoting tourism, aviation and hospitality industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The list of magazines given advertisement support during 1997-98 is shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (f) Advertising support is extended to various magazines promoting tourism subject to their fulfilling the

circulation/readership requirements laid down by the airline. However, because of budgetary constraints, it is not feasible to extend advertising support to all the magazines promoting tourism.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Magazine
1	2
1.	Welcome Group of Hotels
2.	The Advent
3.	School Magazine, Holy Angels Convent
4.	Udbodhan
5.	Janasattya
6.	Bhraman
7.	Golfingly Yours
8.	Punjabi Digest
9.	The Sher-I-Punjab
10.	The Link
11.	Cargo Times
12.	Stat Trade Times
13.	Malayalee Publications
14.	Travel World News
15.	Indo Canada Advisory Group
16.	Travellers India
17.	The International Indian
18.	Middle East Aviation Magazine
19.	Paradise Magazine
20.	Travel Magazine by Mointosh Communication
21.	Kelab Bharat Kuala Lumpur
22.	Sin Changi Airport
23.	Air Transport Executive
24.	Golf Vacations
25.	The Business Times
26.	Asia 21 Special issue on India
27.	Living in Thailand

1	2
28.	Where
29.	Travel Magazine
30.	India Magazine
31.	Quotidien Du Tourisme
32.	Mundo Joven Magazine
33.	Aviacion Y. Turismo
34.	Indian Ladies Association AED.

**Railway Link to Gola with Farrukhabad
via Shahjahanpur**

1881. SHRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railways has conducted any survey for connecting Gola District in Uttar Pradesh with Farrukhabad via Shahjahanpur;

(b) if so, the results of the survey and the decision taken by the Government to execute the above project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Updating survey for construction of a new broad gauge line between Farrukhabad and Gola-Gokarannath via Shahjahanpur has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

**Gauge Conversion between Madurai
and Rameshwaram**

1882. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the requisite clearances have been obtained by the Government for the conversion of Madurai-Rameshwaram from metre Gauge line into Broad Gauge;

(b) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be started and completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work. The work is likely to be started by Jan., 1999 and will be progressed as per availability of resources. No target date has been fixed.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Bookings by Air India Agents

1883. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India allows some of its selective travel agents using SABRE Galileo and multi excess system to have direct access to its reservation system which fully confirms the seats in the flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether cases of excess booking has come to the notice of the Air India authority;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the losses incurred on the ground; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, Air India's present level of participation in the Computerised Reservation System (CRS) results in overbookings on some occasion. To overcome this problem, Air India proposes to upgrade its level of participation in the CRS.

Racket of Fake Railway Tickets

1884. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vigilance Department of Railway busted a racket of fake railway tickets by raiding at Bhatani Railway station in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the steps being contemplated by the Government to check the recurrence of such events in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. However, Printed Card Tickets were found missing at Bhatani Railway Station.

(b) During a Preventive check on 9.8.1998, 2500 numbers of Printed Card Tickets for different destinations valuing Rs. 3,50,750/- were found missing from the ticket stock at Bhatani Railway Station. The concerned staff have been placed under suspension.

(c) Preventive/Surprise checks are regularly conducted to prevent such irregularities.

[English]

Supply of Pipes to IOC

1885. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of pipes supplied by SAIL to IOC for its 304.1 crore Salaya Vivamagam Koyali Crude Pipe Line project;

(b) whether Indian Oil Corporation has expressed concern over quality slippage and delay in supply of pipes by Steel Authority of India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) A quantity of about 13,400 metric tonnes has been supplied to M/s IOC by SAIL till 4.12.1998 for their Salaya Vivamagam Koyali crude pipe line project against a total order of 20,041 metric tonnes, and for the supply of balance quantity schedules have been worked out in consultation with IOC. M/s IOC has expressed concern about delay in supplies. However, no complaint with regard to quality of pipes supplied has been received by SAIL.

[Translation]

Cut in Strength of Army

1886. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, 'Thal Sena Mein Aath Aur Divisione Kam Ki Jayangee' appeared in the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated October 4, 1998; and

(b) if so, the reasons of reducing forces in Army alongwith its impacts on our defence power and preparedness?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to reduce the strength of the Army by eight divisions, as reported in the news-item.

Iron Stock in Steel Plants

1887. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the iron stock in tonnes in the stock of various steel plants and their yards alongwith cost thereof;

(b) whether the amount being mobilised by selling the shares;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of loan secured by the steel plants from various banks and other sources and the liabilities to be paid by September, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The pig iron stock at public sector steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and their stockyards were 219,000 tonnes (as on 30.9.98) and 115673 tonnes (as on 1.12.98) valued at Rs. 127 crores and Rs. 62.1 crores respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

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

(d) The total loans outstanding as on 31.3.98 for SAIL were Rs. 20014.61 crores out of which Rs. 386.05 crores were due for repayment by September, 1998 as per the terms and conditions agreed for the long terms loans. In respect of RINL the total loans outstanding as on 31.3.98 were Rs. 1375.50 crores. The liabilities to be paid to the domestic banks and financial institutions and inter corporate borrowings by September, 1998 stood at Rs. 438.23 crores.

TRYSEM

1888. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the youths received training under the Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) programme are still in search of employment;

(b) if so, the number of such youths in the country, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The objective of the TRYSEM programme is to provide basic technical and entrepreneurial skills to rural youth below poverty line to enable them to take up self/wage employment. A quick evaluation of TRYSEM (June-Aug., 93) carried out through reputed research institutions to assess the efficacy of the programme has revealed that 47.19% of the trained youth were unemployed.

(b) The progress towards employment of youth trained under TRYSEM is not being monitored on a continuing basis, however, it is monitored on yearly basis by this Ministry. A statement showing the total number of youth trained and trained youth self/wage employed during the 8th Plan period and the year 1997-98 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) To promote better linkage of TRYSEM with IRDP, it has been made incumbent on the part of the DRDAs and the training institutions to complete all the formalities for the sanction of loans during the training period itself. Government are contemplating further measures to improve the linkages between training of the rural youth and their self-employment opportunities.

Statement

State-Wise Number of Youth trained under TRYSEM and No. of trained youth Self/Wage employed during VIIIth Plan period and 1997-98

S. No.	State/UTs	VIIIth Plan		1997-98	
		Total No. of Youth Trained	No. of Trained Youth Self/Wage employed	Total No. of Youth Trained	No. of trained Youth Self/Wage employed
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	159279	85621	20850	9708
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4061	2574	698	436
3.	Assam	43839	12597	7302	1370
4.	Bihar	146483	40572	33337	8462
5.	Goa	13177	9881	1769	602
6.	Gujarat	55369	23985	7284	4460
7.	Haryana	24437	14224	1541	852
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5209	7051	857	723
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13591	996	2252	499
10.	Karnataka	80318	30333	15914	5455
11.	Kerala	29218	23504	3846	2892
12.	Madhya Pradesh	206596	122002	14125	13017
13.	Maharashtra	83097	39864	13843	7458
14.	Manipur	2711	586	836	330
15.	Maghalaya	1368	546	361	117
16.	Mizoram	4618	2154	552	295
17.	Nagaland	2533	1297	832	226

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Orissa	66179	50438	14951	8846
19.	Punjab	15925	10885	1656	729
20.	Rajasthan	48227	14384	7381	1454
21.	Sikkim	1569	0	216	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	75255	28641	10972	1307
23.	Tripura	13306	6309	3603	965
24.	Uttar Pradesh	316881	164024	65875	32947
25.	West Bengal	100111	53709	19970	9534
26.	A & N Islands	2050	327	293	13
27.	Daman & Diu	250	17	151	0
28.	D & N Haveli	388	0	82	0
29.	Lakshadweep	58	22	0	0
30.	Pondicherry	1173	855	138	45
	All India	1517475	747398	251387	112742

[English]

**Linking of District Headquarters with Capital
by Doubled Rail Line in U.P.**

1889. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Districts in U.P. particularly in backward areas linked with the State Capital by single/double railway lines till date, separately;

(b) the names of districts not linked by rail with the State Capital;

(c) whether the Government propose to link these districts by rail with the State Capital;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Pithoragarh, Almora, Chamoli, Garhwal, Tehriharhwal, Uttarkashi.

(c) There is no proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Constraint of resources.

**Rail Link between Madanappally and
Chikkaballapura**

1890. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide a link railway line to Madanapally from Chikkaballapura (Yelahanka-Bangarpet line); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Progress of Barwadhi-Peermiti Rail Line

1891. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the survey report of new railway line between Barwadih and Chhirmiri/Peermiti;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Survey for a New Broad Gauge Line between Barwadih and Chhirmiri is in progress and expected to be completed by 30.6.1999. Further consideration on the Project will be possible once the Survey Report becomes available.

[English]

Construction of Over Bridges at Railway Stations in Bihar

1892. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR 'BIJOY' :
SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Bihar for construction of road over-bridges;

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

(c) the present position of road over-bridges under construction in Bihar;

(d) the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed;

(e) whether there is any proposal to construct road over bridges at Jumai, Beryarpur and Purav Sarai railway stations in Munger and at Chukat (Mansi); and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

1. Bihita
2. Gaya

3. Pakur

4. Sonnagar (Bagha-Bishnupur)

5. Dehri-on-Sone

6. Bhagalpur

7. Between Kishanganj-Hatwar Stations on NH. 31

(b) For road over bridges (ROB) in Bihita, Sonnagar, Dehri-on-Sone and Gaya – State Govt. has assigned low priority due to paucity of funds. For ROB at Pakur acceptance of layout plan is still awaited from State Govt. Bhagalpur ROB is under examination for inclusion in the Works Programme of 1999-2000 whereas the work of ROB between stations Kishanganj and Hatwar has been approved during the Works Programme of 1998-99.

(c) Position of ROB under construction in Bihar is as under :

1. Arrah – Railway's portion of work completed in Jan'98.
2. Yarpur – Rly's portion completed in Aug.'89 and one lane on South end approach opened for traffic in Nov'92. Work on 2nd lane has not been started by State Govt.
3. Parasnath – State Govt. has dropped the work from their annual plan.
4. Deedarganj – Estimate for approaches awaited from State Govt. State Govt. is yet to acquire the land. Railway already has invited tenders for bridge proper.
5. Mithapur – General Arrangement Drawing and estimate are being prepared.
6. Fatuha – Work of bridge proper is in progress. State Govt. is yet to acquire land for approaches.
7. Motihari – For Road Over Bridge near Motihari, Railway has completed its portion in 1990 but State Govt. has not taken up the work on approaches so far.
8. Saharsa – Sanctioned in 1997-98. General Arrangement Drawing is being finalised.
9. Chakradharpur – Railway will start work of Bridge proper after adequate progress on approaches is achieved by the State Govt.
10. Chas and Ispatnagar – Diversion on outside Railway land completed. Level Crossing yet to be diverted for taking up work.

11. Kishanganj-Hatwar ROB – Plan under preparation.

(d) Firm schedule cannot be fixed as approaches are to be done by State Govt. However, work of Bridge proper will be completed by Railways simultaneously alongwith the work of approaches.

(e) and (f) Work of ROB at Jamui was sanctioned in 1979-80 but had to be dropped in 1986-87 due to non-acceptance of estimate by State Govt. Regarding Chukti (Mansi) Road Over Bridge the same has been processed for inclusion in the Supplementary Budget of 1998-99.

[Translation]

Allocation for Lalitpur-Singrauli Rail Line

1893. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has laid the foundation stone of Lalitpur-Singrauli Rail Line on September 20, 1998;

(b) if so, the allocation made during 1998-99 for the said rail line; and

(c) the time fixed for the completion thereof?

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

(b) Rupees one crore.

(c) The target date has not been fixed. The work will be progressed and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

[English]

Separate Pool of Accommodation for Secretaries

1894. SHRI SIRIRAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have created a separate pool of accommodation for Secretaries to Government and officials of equivalent ranks;

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

(c) whether the Government have allotted land for a Central Civil Service Institute and Club; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) A pool of accommodation consisting of 70 units (10 Type-VIII, 20 Type-VII and 40 Type-VI(B)) has been created for allotment to Secretaries and Secretary level officers. However, at present, the pool consist only of 36 units (3 Type-VIII, 12 Type-VII and 21 Type-VI(B)) and the shortfall would be made up by making allotments to Secretaries/Secretary level officers till the total number of earmarked accommodation in the pool is achieved.

(c) and (d) A plot of land measuring an area of 3.52 acres in Vinay Marg, New Delhi has been allotted on 7.9.98 to the Civil Services Officers Institute for setting up of a Civil Services Officers Club.

Gauge Conversion of Bhuj-Nalla Rail Line

1895. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gauge conversion of Bhuj-Nalla Section has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The gauge conversion of Bhuj-Nalla is not yet sanctioned. However, a survey has been taken up for conversion of this line. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

[Translation]

Railway Projects received from Bihar

1896. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the railway projects received from Bihar during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken on each of the proposals;

(c) the details of the survey undertaken during the said period;

(d) the details of the works undertaken for improvement and expansion of railway network in Bihar during this period;

(e) the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period; and

(f) the reasons for slow progress in completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Construction of New Over-Bridge at Ghatkopar Railway Station

1897. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai has requested to the Central Railway authorities in Mumbai about the necessity of construction of a new Foot over bridge (FOB) at Ghatkopar Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) Deputy City Engineer (Bridges) Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai wrote to General Manager (Works)/Central Railway in September 1998 to check up feasibility of the proposal.

(c) Deputy City Engineer (Bridges) Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai has been advised by the Railway on 2.12.1998 that work can be taken up on "deposit terms" for which entire cost of construction and recurring maintenance has to be borne by the Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai.

[Translation]

Quota for SC/ST

1898. SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has fixed any quota for allotment of houses/plots/shops etc. to the applicants belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Communities, handicapped people, heart patients and T.B. patients; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that the details of quota fixed for allotment of flats, plots & shops to the applicants/registrants belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes & Physically handicapped people is as under :

Category	Flats	Plots	Shops
Scheduled Castes	17½%	17½%	17½%
Scheduled Tribes	7½%	7½%	7½%
Phy. Handicapped	1%	1%	1%

However, no quota is fixed for allotment of flats/plots/shops to Heart Patients, T.B. Patients and Other Backward Communities.

[English]

Reserved Fund of JRY for SC/ST .

1899. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 328 dated July 9, 1998 and state :

(a) whether the requisite informations has since been collected from the State Government of Orissa regarding the violation of the guidelines of the Million Well Scheme, while implementing the Community-Irrigation tanks and water harvesting structures in lieu of Million Well Scheme and not getting recorded these plots of land in the name of such beneficiaries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per information received from Government of Orissa 759 Community-Irrigation Projects (CIPs), Water Harvesting Structures (WHS), creek etc. have been constructed in Balasore district and 353 such structures have been constructed in Bhadrak district in lieu of Million Well Scheme and 22.5% of funds from JRY. The State Government have also reported that in so far as individual wells are concerned they are being taken up in the lands of the beneficiaries. As regard CIPs and WHS etc. the structures are being constructed in Government lands. The irrigation sources so created are not being

transferred to the beneficiaries since the rules do not permit transfer of possession of irrigation sources constructed on government lands.

The above information is under examination.

Air Traffic Control Tower

1900. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3047 on 13.03.97 and state :

(a) whether Plan with 190 ft. height of ATC Towers at Mumbai and Delhi was cleared despite objections of some of Members of Committee set up to modernise ATCs;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which the said plan of ATC Tower Project with so much height was cleared;

(c) if so, whether it was under investigations;

(d) if so, whether the investigations have since been completed, if so, results of investigations made—persons held guilty—action taken against each of them, including the loss suffered by the Government; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to make recovery of the loss?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. The decision was made by the Airports Authority of India (then National Airports Authority) in 1991 taking into consideration all the operational exigencies and land constraints obtaining at the airports.

(b) International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) stipulates that the Air Traffic Control (ATC) Tower is constructed at a selected place to a height sufficient enough to ensure unobstructed view of the airfield all around including take-off and approach path of the aircraft in order to exercise total control over the operational area. The Control Tower at the present location was cleared under special dispensation by the Airports Authority of India (then NAA) in 1991.

(c) It was decided to carry out technical investigation and the aeronautical study about the height related issues of the Control Tower. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) was approached to provide the services of an expert for the said technical investigation and the aeronautical study.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The report of the ICAO expert has been received and is under examination.

[Translation]

Kada Gola Station

1901. SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kada Gola Station and railway line has been endangered due to erosion caused by the river Ganga; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect said railway properties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Strategic Defence Review

1902. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an internal Navy document titled 'Strategic Defence Review : the Maritime Dimension' has emphasised the need for a revamp of the intelligence set up of the armed forces, and its coordination with other intelligence outfits as reported in the "Times of India" of September 29, 1998;

(b) if so, the main recommendations contained in this report; and

(c) the steps being taken for revamping the intelligence set up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Indian Navy recently concluded an in-house review of the maritime dimensions, which examined all factors that impinge on national security. It has made some recommendations about coordination of various intelligence agencies.

(b) and (c) The Government has already announced that a Strategic Defence Review shall be done through the National Security Council. All relevant recommendations shall be considered at the time of the said review.

*[Translation]***Suspension of Flights by Private Operators**

1903. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of daily flights of private air taxis operated for Bhunter, Shimla and Gagal in Himachal Pradesh during the last three months separately;

(b) whether all the air taxis, except 'Jaigson' air taxi have kept suspended their flights for the last one month;

(c) if so, the reasons of suspending the flights of these air taxis; and

(d) the alternate arrangements made by the Government to provide facilities to the passengers and tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Details of flights operated by various operators to/from Shimla and Kullu during September to November, 1998 are given in the enclosed statement. No operator is operating any flight to/from Gaggal airport.

(b), (c) and (d) M/s Archana Airways could not operate its scheduled flights during November, 1998 due to non-availability of operational aircraft. However, its operations are likely to be resumed during the current month. Flights of M/s Jagson Airlines have remained suspended from 29th November, 1998 due to non-availability of pilots.

Statement

Details of flights operated to/from Shimla and Kullu during September to November, 1998

Sector	Archana Airways			Jagson Airlines		
	Sept. 98	Oct. 98	Nov. 98	Sept. 98	Oct. 98	Nov. 98
Delhi/Kullu	22	21	-	20	48	23
Kullu/Delhi	23	21	-	20	48	23
Delhi/Shimla	1	-	-	14	12	7
Shimla/Delhi	-	-	-	-	12	7
Shimla/Kullu	1	-	-	14	-	-

*[English]***Construction of Chennai-Kanniyakumari Rail Line**

1904. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the expeditious steps taken by the Government to operate the important broad gauge railway service operation from Chennai to Kanniyakumari via Villupuram, Tiruchirapalli and Madurai; and

(b) the time by which the said line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Broad Gauge trains from Chennai to Tiruchirapalli (via Villupuram) and to Kanniyakumari (via Erode-Karur) are already available. At present, passengers bound for Kanniyakumari can also avail of connecting trains from Madurai. Broad Gauge trains from Chennai to Madurai/Tuticorin/Tirunelveli can be introduced only after the gauge conversion works on Tiruchirapalli-Manapara-Dindigul section are over. The line is due for completion by Jan., 1999.

Night Landing Facility at Trivandrum Airport

1905. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided day-and-night landing facilities at the Trivandrum International Airport;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shopping Complex, Vasant Vihar

1906. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Estates have started charging heavy licence fee from allottees of shops in shopping complex of Central Government Housing

Complex, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, knowing well that the main cable for electricity connection had not been laid by Delhi Vidyut Board till date;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which the licence fee is being charged without providing this basic amenity; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to award relief to such shopkeepers who are being compelled to pay licence fee without this basic amenity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Basic amenities like internal electrical installation, water supply at common place like toilets have been provided by CPWD. It is a fact that the main cable has not been laid by DVB but a substation of DVB is in operation just adjacement to the shopping complex and shopkeepers have to apply to DVB individually for electricity connection. Further assistance as required will be extended by CPWD as per prevailing Rules and Regulations. The shops were allotted through open tender and it is presumed that the tenderers had visited the site and become aware of the amenities provided therein, before sending their bids.

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

Transfer of Railway Lines

1907. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received by the Government for transfer of Railway lines in Marathwada Region from the South Central Railway to Central Railway; and

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

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

(b) Government has decided to set up a Divisional Office at Pune. The territorial re-adjustments between Zones and Divisions have not yet been finalised.

[Translation]

Construction of Over-Bridges in UP

1908. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of road over-bridges which are under construction in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to construct more such bridges in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The following Road Over Bridges (ROB) are under construction on cost sharing basis.

Name of Work	Present Status
1	2
1. ROB at Sultanpur in lieu of level crossing (LC) No. 34-B at Km. 58/15-16.	The progress of work in Railway's portion is 30% and that of approaches is 90%. Work held up as State Govt. has not acquired land since there is a Court case.
2. ROB at Subedarganj in lieu of LC No. 12/Spl at Km. 827/26-27.	The progress in Railway's portion is 88% and State Government portion is 5%.
3. ROB at Hardoi in lieu of LC No. 279-B at Km. 171.	Railway's portion of work completed. Progress on approaches is 65%.
4. ROB at Etawah in lieu of LC No. 29-A at Km. 1158/9-11.	The progress in Railway's portion is 93% and in State Government's portion is 5%.
5. ROB at Partapur in lieu of LC No. 21-A at Km. 59/6-7.	The progress in Railway's portion is 50% and in State Government's portion is 35%.

1	2
6. ROB at Aligarh in lieu of LC No. 109/A at Km. 1325/35-37.	The progress in State Government's portion is 20%. The tender for Railway's portion is under finalisation.
7. ROB at Sakotitanda in lieu of LC No. 40-B at Km. 91/8-9.	Profile sketch for Railway's portion approved. The work on approaches has not been started by State Govt. as land acquisition is in progress.
8. ROB at Hathras in lieu of LC No. 95-A at Km. 1296/29-31.	Estimate sanctioned. Profile sketch for Railway's portion is under approval. The work on approaches is started by State Govt.
9. Road Under Bridge at Ghaziabad in lieu of LC No. 154-C at Km. 18/12-14.	The progress in Railway's portion is 5% and progress on approaches is 10%.
10. ROB at Kanpur in lieu of LC No. 79-D at Km. 1016/10-11.	The work has been included in Railway's Works Programme 98-99. The profile sketch is under approval.
11. ROB between Badshah Nagar-Malhaur station	Estimate under process.
12. ROB at Kanpur near Eye Hospital.	State Govt. yet to accept Detailed Estimate and plan for approaches.
13. ROB between stations Daliganj and Badhsah Nagar.	General Arrangement Drawing is being prepared.
14. ROB in Mohibulla Yard.	General Arrangement Drawing finalised from Railway side.
15. ROB near Rampur on NH.	Revised General Arrangement under preparation with State PWD.
16. ROB in lieu of LC. 1 (Spl) at Km. 188 near Rampur.	Revised General Arrangement drawing under preparation.
17. ROB at Iradatganj in lieu of LC No. 430/A at Km. 1341/4-5 on Jabalpur-Allahabad section approved in Works Programme of 1998-99.	Ministry of Surface Transport to approve General Arrangement Drawing and State Govt. to complete certain formalities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) These works have been processed for approval in the Supplementary Budget of 1998-1999.

1. ROB at Bareilly on Bareilly-Badaun Road in lieu of LC No. 358 Spl and 250A
2. ROB at Sirsa Mandi-Allahabad in lieu of LC No. 25-B
3. ROB at Devaria Sadar City between Devaria Sadar and Noonkhar stations in lieu of LC No. 129-A.

ROBs at following places are being examined for inclusion in the ensuing Works Programmes.

- (i) ROB at Hapur
- (ii) ROB at Najibabad

(iii) ROB at Rampur – on Moradabad-Lucknow section at LC No. 484-A

(iv) ROB at Rampur – on Moradabad-Lucknow section on LC No. 403-A

(v) ROB at Barabanki on Lucknow-Faizabad route in lieu of LC No. 180-A

(vi) ROB between Gazipur and Gazipur Ghat stations in lieu of LC No. 24-A

(vii) ROB at Maduahadih station of Varanasi in lieu of LC No. 3

(viii) ROB at Jajua on Jhansi-Delhi section at Km. 1321/1-2

(ix) ROB at Orai in lieu of LC No. 182/B at Km. 1240/13-14 State Govt. yet to fulfil certain preliminary pre-requisites.

Handing Over of Water Supply Operation to Gram Panchayats

1909. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to handover the work of operation and maintenance of water supply sources of Gram Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be handed over;

(c) whether Panchayats are capable to undertake the said works; and

(d) if not, the measures taken by the Government to provide resources to Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Rural Water Supply is a State subject, State Governments have been implementing Rural Water Supply Programmes under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). To sustain the Rural Water Supply system created, the State Governments have been requested to hand over the responsibility for operation and maintenance of rural water supply schemes to the Panchayats. The State Governments have also been requested to establish water user committees at the Panchayat level to manage the system. However, no specific timeframe for this has been fixed.

(c) and (d) The Panchayats require financial and technical resources to carry out the operation and maintenance responsibilities of rural water supply schemes. The State Governments have been requested to take up with the respective State Finance Commissions the issue of providing sufficient financial resources to the Panchayats to enable them to ensure proper operation and maintenance of the rural water supply schemes. Besides beneficiary contribution will also be raised. Central assistance is also provided to the State Governments under the human resource development programme to impart the necessary skills at the grass root level to carry out operation and maintenance responsibilities.

Calcutta Metro Railway

1910. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calcutta Metro Railway has been running in loss;

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

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

(d) if so, the outcome of the enquiry and the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) The losses in running of Calcutta Metro Railway, are mainly on account of increase in the fixed and the variable components of the cost of Metro operations, less materialisation of traffic due to availability of parallel services by other modes of transport, higher electrical energy cost, and low fare structure. The details of total revenue earnings and net working expenses of Calcutta Metro during the last three years are as under :

Year	Earnings	Net working expenses
	(Figures in crore of Rupees)	
1995-96	11.70	22.25
1996-97	17.42	33.04
1997-98	19.64	48.24

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Rural Development Schemes in Maharashtra

1911. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a request for additional funds for ongoing rural development schemes in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the time by which the funds will be made available; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Cost Reduction Measures by SAIL

1912. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SAIL have initiated cost reduction measures to overcome its financial burden and to mobilise additional resources for modernisation of its plants;

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

(c) whether the SAIL propose to enter joint ventures with MNCs to bring down losses of such plants; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Since 1997-98, SAIL had put greater thrust on cost control by bringing operational efficiency and reducing administrative expenses, resulting in saving of about Rs. 700 crores in 1997-98 in areas like use of coking coal, stores and spares, power and fuel, improvement in techno-economic and productivity parameters and administrative expenses etc. Plans have been drawn for further cost saving during 1998-99.

(c) and (d) SAIL plans to formulate subsidiary companies/joint ventures for non-core areas. However, this is in preliminary stage.

Airport Projects by Private Airlines

1913. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some private airlines have applied to set up their airport projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such private airlines alongwith the airports they propose to construct and aircrafts they propose to introduce and the routes identified?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Self-Employment Scheme

1914. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the self-employment schemes are financed by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details regarding participation and responsibility of local Members of Parliament in implementation of the schemes by the District Rural Development Agency;

(c) the details of the major works and objectives and the nature of implementation of the said schemes; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government for effecting control over its implementation, maintaining its accounts and conducting a review of the progress of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Self Employment programmes of this Ministry viz., Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) are financed by the Union and State Government on a 50:50 sharing basis. Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA) is another self employment programme which is funded entirely by Central Government to the tune of 90% of the costs of toolkits, the beneficiary contributing 10%.

(b) The self employment programmes of IRDP, DWCRA, TRYSEM and SITRA are implemented at district level by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). The Members of Parliament are the members of the Governing Body of the DRDAs, which is charged with the responsibility of Planning, Monitoring, and Supervision of the schemes. Instructions also exist for constitution of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at District and Block level in which Member of Parliament is one of the members.

(c) IRDP aims at providing productive assets to the rural poor in the shape of term credit from the financial institutions and Government subsidy for the sustainable income generation. DWCRA is a sub-scheme of IRDP, under which rural poor women are organized into self-help groups to undertake income generating activity. One time grant in the form of revolving fund is provided for such groups. TRYSEM aims at providing basic technical and entrepreneurial skills to the rural poor youth to enable them to take up self/wage employment. The objective of SITRA is to enable rural artisans to enhance the quality of their products, increase their production and income with the use of improved tools.

The financial achievement under self employment programmes for the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows:

S. No.	Prog-rammes	(Rs. in Lakhs)			
		1996-97		1997-98	
		Alloca-tion	Expendi-ture	Alloca-tion	Expendi-ture
1.	IRDP	109721.16	113949.28	113351.23	110954.01*
2.	DWCRA	6500.00	5696.00	6500.00	4145.43
3.	TRYSEM	9025.00	10027.01	9025.00	8074.14
4.	SITRA	4000.00	3602.00	3500.00	3427.00

*Provisional

(d) Self Employment programmes are being monitored from the Central level down to grass root level. At the State level, a State Level Coordination Committee monitors the programme. At the Central level, the Central Level Co-ordination Committee monitors and reviews the implementation of the scheme and lays down policy guidelines. A High Level Co-ordination Committee on credit support to IRDP also functions at the Central level to monitor and review all aspects relating to credit linkage for IRDP. The progress under IRDP is being monitored on a monthly, quarterly, half yearly and annual basis through reports and returns submitted by DRDAs/States. Accounts for the self employment schemes are properly maintained and duly audited. Under the Area Officer's Scheme, the officers of this Ministry undertake periodical visit to the States for on the spot monitoring of the implementation of the programme and take corrective measures, if any. The Ministry undertakes regular Concurrent Evaluation Surveys and impact studies to assess the strengths and the weaknesses of the Programme and to take corrective action thereon.

[English]

Modernisation of Integral Coach Factory at Chennai

1915. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Integral Coach Factory, Chennai had requested for a grant of Rs. 100 crore for the modernisation of their existing old plants; and

(b) if so, the quantum of amount given to ICF modernisation during each of the last three years and current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. However a modernisation project was sanctioned for ICF in 1984-85 which was completed on 31-3-1994 at a total cost of Rs. 67.90 crores out of which Rs. 54.45 crores were spent on procurement of Machinery and Plant items.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Unauthorised Sale of Railway Tickets

1916. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted various teams in each zone to check the unauthorised ticket reservation by unlicensed travel agents/agencies particularly in the Allahabad division of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of raids conducted in each zone during the last six months, zone-wise;

(d) the details of the illegal items seized therefrom particularly in Allahabad division; and

(e) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Doubling of Railway Lines

1917. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether doubling of rail line between Kapilash Road and Barang in East Coast Zone in Orissa is under progress;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for this project during the current financial year;

(c) the amount sanctioned specifically for the construction of railway bridges over river Birupa, Mahanadi and Kathjori for the purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) From Kapilash Road to Nergundi, the doubling work has not yet been sanctioned. From Nergundi to Cuttack, the doubling work has been sanctioned as part of the Nergundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur Doubling, where the work is in progress between Nergundi and Kendrapara including Kendrapara Yard. From Cuttack to Barang, the field survey for doubling has since been completed and the Report is under finalisation. Further consideration will be possible only after the Survey Report becomes available and the results examined.

(b) For Nergundi-Cuttack doubling work, Rs. 9.00 crore have been allotted for the year 1998-99.

(c) Rs. 17.18 crore have been sanctioned for the year 1998-99 for the work on the 2nd Railway Bridges over the rivers Birupa and Mahanadi. No amount has, however, been sanctioned as yet for the Bridge-work on the river Kathjori.

(d) No target date of completion has been fixed up.

[Translation]

Anti-Dumping Duty of Foreign Steel

1918. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an anti-dumping petition filed by M/s SAIL and others with the designated Authority in Ministry of Commerce has been decided;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether increase in the customs duties has helped in the decrease of dumping of Steel;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) further steps being contemplated to check the dumping of Steel by foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An anti-dumping petition was filed by M/s SAIL and M/s Essar Steel Ltd., on behalf of the domestic steel producers with the Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce under the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, alleging dumping of HR Coils/Sheets/Plates from Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. The petition is supported by other major steel producers like TISCO and Lloyd Steel. Government has imposed anti-dumping duties vide Notification dated 27.11.98 in respect of Hot Rolled Coils, Hot Rolled Strips/Sheets/Plates and Boiler Quality Plates on imports from Russia and Ukraine, which shall be the

difference between the amount mentioned in column (3) below and the landed price of imports per MT.

S. No.	Item Description	Amount (Rs. per MT)
1	2	3
1.	Hot Rolled Coils	14300
2.	Hot Rolled Strips/Sheets/Plates	15000
3.	Boiler Quality Plates	22000

(c) to (e) Levy of anti-dumping duty is expected to help the indigenous steel industry.

A Working Group had been set up by Government to study the present slow down in the steel sector. The Group has since submitted its report. The recommendations of the Working Group, inter-alia includes :

- (i) To consider feasibility of converting advalorem rate of import duty into fixed duties on certain finished steel items.
- (ii) To consider a combination of measures comprising levy of special import duty on imports of seconds and defectives alongwith raising duties for certain types of steel upto World Trade Organisation bound rates.
- (iii) To consider of removal of imports of Seconds and Defectives below a specific floor price from OGL.
- (iv) Establishing a fast track mechanism, to deal with cases of dumping under the Customs Tariff Act.

The above measures, when implemented, are likely to check the dumping of steel from other countries.

[English]

Financial Condition of H.S.C.L.

1919. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an acute financial crisis has overtaken the Hindustan Steel works Constructions Limited since the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) if so, the outcome of the enquiry alongwith the action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to salvage the company from financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) HSCL has been undergoing financial difficulty for sometime. The chief reasons for the unsatisfactory financial condition include inter-alia excessive manpower, growing burden of wages and salaries, declining turnover on account of reduced work orders owing to slow down in the economy and the steel industry, and stiff competition.

(c) to (e) SBI Caps were entrusted with carrying out a study of prospects of revival. A Financial Restructuring-cum-Financial Assistance package for HSCL's revival is presently under consideration.

[Translation]

Employment Generation in Defence Services

1920. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employment opportunities generated in the defence services during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of employment opportunities generated in each of the three services, separately and the names of States, wherefrom these opportunities have been generated;

(c) whether the defence services have not achieved the desired success in attracting the youths; and

(d) if so, the action plan formulated to generate employment opportunities in the armed forces and to make it more popular?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The recruitment during the said 5 year period in the Army, the Air Force and the Navy was about three lacs, twenty three thousand and fifteen thousand, respectively.

2. The recruitment of officers in all the three wings of the Armed Forces and that of Airmen and Sailors in Air Force and Navy respectively is carried out on an All-India merit basis depending on the availability of the vacancies. However, in respect of the recruitment of Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) in the Army, the vacancies are allotted to various States in proportion to their respective Recruitable Male Population (RMP) figures. Considering the various modes of selection in the Defence Services, an estimation of state-wise share is not feasible.

3. There have been some shortages in certain categories of Officers cadre in the Army. Lately, however, significant improvement has been noticed in this regard.

Government have substantially increased the pay scales and the allowances of the officers and the PBORs. A sustained public campaign high lighting the opportunities awaiting the youth in the Armed Forces has been launched to attract a still better response from the eligible youth.

[English]

Railway Police Commissionerate

1921. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government and Railways have agreed to set up an independent railway police commissionerate jointly to deal with crime in trains;

(b) if so, whether the modalities in this regard have been worked out by the Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of crimes on trains held in the country during the past one year, zone-wise; and

(e) the other effective steps the Government propose to take to curb the crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. However, in a recent meeting held with Government of Maharashtra (GOM), the Deputy Chief Minister has assured to formulate the proposal and send it for consideration of Railway.

(b) and (c) Do not arise since the proposal is yet to be received from GOM.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected from the State Government concerned as maintenance of law and order is the responsibility of the State Governments.

Cancellation of Lease Deed of Institutional Plots

1922. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA has recently cancelled the lease deeds of institutional land plots;

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

(c) whether a large number of residential plots or flats allotted by DDA are being used for commercial purposes; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that the lease deeds of following institutional land plots have been cancelled on the ground of misuse for commercial purposes during the year 1998:-

- (i) Hari Chand Prakash Wanti Charitable Trust
- (ii) Bharonji Mandir Samiti at East Patel Nagar
- (iii) Guru Nanak Foundation
- (iv) Vaitalik Society
- (v) Delhi Arya Pratinidhi Sabha

(c) and (d) As and when the misuse is detected/ reported to DDA, a show cause notice to the misuser is issued under the provision of Delhi Development Act 1957 and if no satisfactory reply is received and the allottee fails to stop the misuse, prosecution proceedings are initiated.

Development of Freight Electric Locomotives at Chittranjan Locomotive Workshop

1923. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chittranjan Locomotive Works has developed Indigenous 6000 HP freight electric locomotive recently;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be in operation ; and

(c) the extent to which this locomotive is likely to help the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. Chittranjan Locomotive Works has manufactured the first indigenous 6000 HP freight locomotive christened as 'Navyug' which was dedicated to the nation on 14.11.1998.

(b) The locomotive has been handed over to Eastern Railway where it is undergoing commissioning/trial runs. It is likely to be deployed for regular operation after commissioning/trial runs are completed.

(c) This locomotive is likely to help Indian Railway by way of achieving higher speeds, higher acceleration, increased throughput, higher energy efficiency due to regenerative braking, reduced maintenance cost etc.

[Translation]

Train from Gorakhpur to Delhi

1924. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation from some Members of Parliament from Eastern Uttar Pradesh in regard to start a new train from Gorakhpur to Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) Some representations have been received in this regard. The proposal for introduction of an additional train between Delhi and Gorakhpur has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

International Flight from Trivandrum

1925. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of international flights operating from Trivandrum at present;

(b) whether there is any demand for increasing the flights to Gulf countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) At present 55 direct international services are operated from Thiruvananthapuram airport.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The airlines of Gulf States namely Gulf Air, Emirates, Oman Air and Qatar Airways have proposed for introduction of more/new flights from Thiruvananthapuram.

(d) Demands for additional traffic rights received from foreign airlines are considered in bilateral meetings with respective countries from time to time based on traffic trends and reciprocity of benefits to national carriers. The

proposals of Qatar, Oman, UAE and Bahrain are yet to be discussed at Government level.

[Translation]

Dangers of Pokhran Tests

1926. DR. PRABHA THAKUR :
SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the dangers likely to be posed by the nuclear tests at Pokhran in Rajasthan with open mind; and

(b) if so, the precautionary measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Before conducting the 5 nuclear tests in the Pokhran Range under the Shakti-98 campaign in May, 1998, a detailed scientific analysis of the likely effects was undertaken by Government. As expected, there was no release of radio-activity into the atmosphere while surface cracks, at and near the sites, alone were observed. A post-short survey of villages beyond the perimeter of the Range indicated that only very minor and inconsequential effects on a few village structures were observed. In addition, air borne surveys were undertaken soon after the events which conclusively indicated that no radiation was released into the atmosphere.

A number of precautionary measures were taken by the Government in the course of conducting the tests. These included proper depth of shafts, safety features and margins in the nuclear devices and an array of instruments to measure radiation and ground motion.

The Government had indeed taken all necessary precautionary measures in the Shakti-98 campaign. And, would continue to conduct scientific measurements at these sites keeping all necessary precautions in mind.

[English]

Use of Correct Names of Airports

1927. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directions to all the domestic and international airlines have been issued by the Airport Authority of India to use the proper names of the airports (e.g. Indira Gandhi Airport at Delhi or Netaji Subhas Airport at Calcutta) at the time of take-off and landing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any system of monitoring to see that the directions are being followed by the airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Director General of Civil Aviation has recently issued directions to all domestic and international airlines to use the correct names of the airports in the announcements before take-off and touch-down.

(c) and (d) Although there is no regular monitoring mechanism, the airlines have been asked to confirm compliance of the directions issued by the DGCA.

[Translation]

Rural Development

1928. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government have submitted several schemes of rural development to the Union Government for their approval during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the projects among them given clearance;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated or proposed to be formulated for the rural development during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of projects given clearance under various schemes during last three years is given below:

S.No.	Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Integrated Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (IJRY)	28	5	NIL
2.	Integrated Wasteland Development Projects (IWDP)	8	18	45

(c) and (d) A National Action Plan for construction of 13 lakh additional houses annually in the rural areas has been prepared by the Planning Commission.

[English]

Induction of Armymen in Subversive Activities by I.S.I.

1929. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item appeared in the Statesman of October 24, 1998 entitled "I.S.I. Indicting Armymen";

- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
 (c) the remedial steps taken in regard thereto?

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

(b) and (c) The involvement of Pakistan ISI and the Army in supporting the militants activities in J&K is well known. The State Government, in coordination with the security forces, is taking all measures to combat militancy in J&K. The successful operations carried out by our armed forces have brought the situation under reasonable control. The public in J&K has been weaned away from militancy, as is clear from the successful holding of Parliament & Assembly elections in the state.

Revival of Defence Intelligence Agency

1930. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
 SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
 SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive the Defence Intelligence Agency to guard against pre-emptive enemy strikes and recent US missile attacks on targets in Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Land Record

1931. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to up date the land records and for their maintenance;

(b) the progress made in this regard in each State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The Government of India have been executing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. (1) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening of Revenue Administration & Updating of Land Records (SRA & ULR) since 1987-88 and (2) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records since 1988-89 for updation and maintenance of land records in the country.

(b) and (c) The legal system as well as the administrative arrangement for land revenue and land records maintenance differ in various States of the Country.

The land records are available in fairly updated position in the States. The State of West Bengal has completed the revisional survey settlement operations a few years back. The States of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala have completed survey settlement operations in major parts and the States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc. are planning to take up revisional survey settlement operations afresh.

Updation of land records is a continuous process. However, online management of land records ensuring instant service under the programme of Computerisation of Land Records is expected to be completed within the 9th Plan period.

Electric Sheet Mills in R.S.P.

1932. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Electric Sheet Mill of Rourkela Steel Plant has been closed down;

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

(c) whether alternative steps are being taken to replace the E.S.M. Plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) The Electrical Sheet Mill (ESM) of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) was closed down in 1996 due to high cost of production and low demand, leading to its economic unviability. Hot Rolled Electrical Sheets face competition from Cold Rolled Electrical Sheets which offer much superior quality and attractive techno-economics to electrical equipment manufacturers. Since RSP is already producing Cold Rolled Electrical Sheets from 1984 in Silicon Steel Mill, which is a replacement product, hence there is no proposal to replace the ESM plant.

Gauge Conversion of Darbhanga-Jayanagar Rail Line

1933. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJIHARPUR) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question no. 193 given on May 28, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the necessary clearances have been obtained for the conversion of Darbhanga-Jayanagar rail line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the conversion work on said line is likely to be started and completed?

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

(b) The details are as under:-

Length 260 kms.
Approximate Cost : Rs. 233.00 crs.
Rate of Return : 4.15%.

(c) Preliminary arrangements for taking up the work are on hand and the work will be started shortly and progressed as per availability of resources. No target date has been fixed.

Building Centres

1934. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned new building centres for State-owned housing and Urban Development Corporation all over the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) As per the scheme of Building Centres, grant-in-aid is released to HUDCO by the Union Government for establishment of Building Centres. During the current financial year i.e. from 1.4.98 upto 26.11.98, HUDCO has sanctioned 10 Building Centres in 7 States. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Approved Building Centres between 01.4.98 and 26.11.98

S. No.	Name of the Building Centre	State/UTs	Name of the Agency/ Promoted by	Administrative approval on* date	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Supaul	Bihar	Distt. Rural Development Agency	21.07.98	5.00
2.	Bhabua	Bihar	Distt. Rural Development Agency	14.09.98	5.00
3.	Madhubani	Bihar	Shakri Mahila Vikas Samiti	26.10.98	5.00
4.	The lime Centre	Haryana	The lime Centre	14.10.98	5.00
5.	Mandsaur	Madhya Pradesh	Distt. Rural Development Authority	26.06.98	5.00
6.	Mankhurd (sparc)	Maharashtra	Society for Promotion of Area Resources Centre	28.08.98	5.00
7.	Ukhrul	Manipur	Volunteers for Vill. Development	16.08.98	5.00
8.	Balrampur	Uttar Pradesh	Shramik Bandhu (NGO)	23.05.98	5.00
9.	Sriniketan	West Bengal	Centre for Applied Rural Edu., Extn. and Research	22.07.98	5.00
10.	Cooch Behar	West Bengal	Cooch Behar Municipality	25.08.98	50.00

International Airport

1935. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up of an International Airport at the air field of Ambari within the District of Jalpaiguri (West Bengal);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The airport at Ambari in Jalpaiguri is under the control of the State Government. Airport Authority of India has no plans at present for developing this airport.

Linking of Tonk with Railway Network

1936. SHRI DWARKA PRASAD BAIRWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey for linking Tonk with rail network has been conducted by the Government as announced in the Budget for 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked and expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said survey is likely to be conducted?

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

(b) and (c) The funds as required for completing the survey will be reappropriated to this survey which is likely to be completed by 30.06.1999.

Departure Time of Saurashtra Janata Express

1937. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation regarding the early departure of Saurashtra Janata Express from Bandra and Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Several representations have been received for change in departure time of 9017 Bandra-Jamnagar Saurashtra Janata Express from Bandra.

(c) They were examined but it was not found operationally feasible.

[Translation]

Expansion of Airports in Himachal Pradesh

1938. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme for the expansion of Bhuntar, Shimla and Gugal airstrips in Himachal Pradesh so as to facilitate the arrival and departure of big aeroplanes and promote tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Upgradation of Bhunter & Shimla airports is not feasible as adequate levelled land is not available. The cost of cutting the hills and filling up the gorges is prohibitive and commercially unviable.

Conversion of Industrial Plots

1939. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to convert lease hold industrial plots into free hold in Delhi;

(b) if so, the term and conditions thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, the scheme of conversion is applicable in respect of all residential built-up properties/ flats having area upto 500 sq.mts.

[English]

Tata's Airlines Project

1940. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee of Civil Aviation Ministry on sickness in private airlines has backed the Tata Airlines proposal wholeheartedly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main reasons advanced by committee in support of Tata Airlines project; and

(d) the present status of proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) On 1st September, 1998, M/s Tata Industries have withdrawn their proposal for operation of domestic scheduled airlines services by Tata Airlines Pvt. Ltd.

HUDCO Package for Assam

1941. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has forwarded a package of Rs. 335 crores to Assam for flood affected people; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The package of Rs. 335 crores announced for Assam by HUDCO on 19.10.98 at Guwahati includes a proposal for housing of flood affected victims of that State. The proposed number of houses indicated to be assisted by the State Government is 50,000 dwelling units. At a proposed cost of Rs. 50.00 crores. This lone amounting to Rs. 50.00 crores was assured subject to submission of the proposal formally as required by the State Government.

(b) The scheme alongwith details has not been received from the State Department concerned.

Tourism Counter at IGIA

1942. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the Hindu dated November 9, 1998 under the caption "Tourism Counter at Indira Gandhi International Airport run by the touts";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has issued license to M/s Punjab Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC), a State Government Undertaking for the tourism counter at IGI airport. A complaint has been received by AAI that PTDC has leased it out to a Patiala based private transport company. The matter is under investigation. If it is found that there is any violation of the terms and conditions of licence agreement by the PTDC, necessary action will be taken against PTDC.

Promotion of SCs/STs of A.I.

1943. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received by Air India from its SC/ST employees belonging to Department of Information Technology regarding discrimination in promotion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these complaints were got investigated;

(d) if so, the extent to which their complaint have been attended to; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (e) Five (5) complaints have been received by Air India from its employees of the Department of Information Technology. The complaints pertain to promotion, transfer, foreign posting, etc. One complaint was not substantiated. Necessary corrective action has been taken/ is being taken in the remaining four (4) cases.

Employment Assurance Scheme

1944. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Government for providing additional funds under Employment Assurance Scheme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana on account of successive cyclones and heavy rains in the coastal Andhra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the additional amount is likely to be allotted;

(c) whether the Government would provide funds for construction of 50,000 houses under Indira Awaas Yojana since more than 75,000 houses were either partly or fully damaged due to recent cyclones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for release of Rs. 100 crore under EAS and Rs. 50 crore under JRY as the additional funds. The matter is under examination in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) The proposal for providing additional funds for construction of 50,000 houses under Indira Awaas Yojana to rehabilitate the victims of flood/cyclone in Andhra Pradesh is under consideration of this Ministry.

[Translation]

Interactive Voice Response System

1945. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway stations have been provided with the facility of Interactive Voice Response System in the country, zone/State-wise; and

(b) the number of railway stations proposed to be covered under the new norms of IVRS in the country, zone/State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Petition from Discharged Armymen

1946. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any petitions from the discharged Armymen for compensation in the light of the judgement of Kerala High Court directing the Government to take decision in the matter; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) Most of the petitions have been disposed of and replies have been sent to the petitioners. None of the petitioners in question was found eligible for any compensation.

Development of Jharsuguda Air Strips

1947. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have got the proposal for development of Jharsuguda Air Strips in Western Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Employment in Railway Coach Factory, Bhopal

1948. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the villagers whose land was acquired for setting up of a Railway Coach Factory in Bhopal were given an assurance that at least one person of their family would be given employment in the Coach Factory;

(b) if so, the number of applications received from villagers in this regard and the number of persons appointed so far;

(c) the number of existing posts in the said Railway Coach Factory and the number out of them which could be offered to the local villagers; and

(d) the time by which remaining applicants are likely to be given employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The extant instructions on the Railways provide for consideration for preferential employment of one member each of the families whose land has been acquired by the Railways for Railway Projects. Such dispensation is, however, restricted to the "first recruitment or the recruitments made during the first two years after acquisition of land", whichever is later. The preferential employment of land losers in the case of Coach Repair Workshop, Bhopal, is also governed by the said instructions.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Withdrawal of Case

1949. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken any action to withdraw the case which was recorded during strike for the stoppage of 1017 and 1018 trains in Ranibennur (SR) (KARNATAKA);

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) In this regard, a proposal from Shri T.D. Battal, President, Merchants, Association, Ranibennur and another from Shri B.M. Mansinkai, Hon'ble Member of Parliament have been received but the proposal to withdraw the case has not been acceded to as the case was registered and prosecuted by the Government Railway Police, which functions under the State Government of Karnataka. As per procedure, the proposal for withdrawal of such cases has to be processed only by the State Government concerned who, while processing it, will also obtain concurrence of the Ministry of Railways through Ministry of Home Affairs.

Guidelines for Allotment of DDA Flats

1950. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any guideline has been prescribed for the allotment of houses/plots by Delhi Development Authority (DDA);
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) whether DDA proposes to announce any new scheme for allotment of houses/plots in Delhi; and
 (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that the allotment of flats is governed by rules of the DDA (Mangement and Disposal of Housing Estates) Regulations -1968. Allotment of plots is made in accordance with the DDA (Disposal of Developed Nazul Land) Rule-1981.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal to announce any new scheme.

Collectors in States

1951. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the poverty alleviation programmes in some of the districts have not been undertaken due to the vacant posts of collectors;

(b) if so, the names of the districts, state-wise where posts of collectors are lying vacant at present;

(c) whether the amount allocated under the poverty alleviation programmes are being misappropriated;

(d) if so, the number of such cases have come to the notice of Union/State Governments during the last three years;

(e) the number of people died due to poverty and starvation in the country during 1998; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGAUDA PATIL) : (a) No such instances have been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) One case of misappropriation of funds and a few cases of alleged slippages in the implementation of the Employment Assurance (EAS) have been brought to the notice of the Union Government. In addition three complaints were received from the members of Parliament/former Members of Parliament regarding irregularities in implementation/non utilisation/misappropriation of funds under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Million Wells Scheme (MWS).

(e) Poverty and starvation have not been recognised as causes of death and therefore no data are available.

(f) The Government is implementing various schemes throughout the country in rural areas viz. (i) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), (ii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), (iii) Million Wells Scheme (MWS), (iv) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (v) Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), (vi) Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), (vii) Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural artisans (SITRA) for employment generation and poverty eradication. These schemes provide wage employment and self employment to the people living below the poverty line in rural areas of the country.

Guidelines for Reducing Air Fares

1952. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to formulate detailed guidelines to keep a check on fare wars; and

(b) if so, be details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are being finalised.

Connecting of 'Shirdi' Pilgrimage Centre by Air Services

1953. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for connecting 'Shirdi' Pilgrimage Centre by Air Services in order to boost tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) There is no civil airstrip / airport available at Shirdi. However, the needs of the air traffic are being met by Aurangabad Airport.

Hindustan Copper Ltd.

1954. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Copper Limited has been incurring losses during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the unit profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The financial performance of Hindustan Copper Ltd. during the last three years is as under :

Year	Profit(+)/Loss(-) (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	(+)075.84
1996-97	(-)130.62
1997-98	(-)169.72 (Prov.*)

*Accounting year 1997-98 has been extended by six months i.e. upto September, 1998.

(c) As a part of the turnaround strategy, the following are some of the important steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Company for improving its financial viability:

- (i) Capital Restructuring of the Company.
- (ii) Technological upgradation of Smelter & Refinery at Khetri Copper Complex in Rajasthan from 31,000 TPA to 45,000 TPA.

(iii) Gradual closure of uneconomic mines and unviable operations* with consequential separation of employees under Voluntary Retirement scheme with the funds from National Renewal Fund, Non-Plan loan etc.

(iv) The Company has also taken and initiated a number of innovative measures to effect cost reduction in the existing expenditure on its operations and also in personnel related areas.

U.N. Aid for Poverty Alleviation

1955. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have received some U.N. aid for the development of poverty alleviation projects in Mehboobnagar, Kurnool and Anantapur districts;

(b) if so, the total amount UNDP has been invested for these projects during the last three years; and

(c) to what extent this has reduced the poverty in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is supporting a Poverty Alleviation Project in three districts of Mahaboobnagar, Kurnool and Anantapur since 1996. The basic objective of the project is to demonstrate sustainable and replicable initiatives in social mobilisation for poverty alleviation.

(b) An amount of Rs. 47.68 millions has been invested by UNDP in the three districts.

(c) The poverty reduction in the project area on account of the ongoing UNDP assisted Poverty Alleviation Project has not yet been estimated.

[Translation]

Smoking In Trains

1956. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any action so far to check the smoking in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Smoking is prohibited in all Air-conditioned coaches except in First AC coaches where one four-berther in each coach is earmarked separately as a smoking compartment on an experimental basis. Notices have, however, been displayed on all Sleeper Class/unreserved coaches, advising the travelling public not to smoke if objected to by fellow passengers.

Marketing for Agriculture Products

1957. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by the Government to improve the market network of agriculture produce;

(b) the progress made in the marketing network during the last two years;

(c) whether the P.H.D. Chamber of Commerce has given certain suggestions for the success of marketing network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) The reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Agricultural marketing being a State subject, measures to improve the marketing network of agricultural produce have to be taken by the respective State Governments. At Government of India level, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection renders technical guidance and advice to the State/UTs on various aspects of agricultural marketing. It is proposed to take up 9th Plan schemes for implementation during the 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) to improve the agricultural marketing network in the country.

At the State/UT level, the activities of Agricultural Marketing are being looked after by the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing and the State Agricultural Marketing Boards through Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees as per provisions of their respective State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Acts. 26 States/UTs have enacted their own Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Acts till date. Six States/UTs are yet to enact their own acts. Under these Acts, the States/UTs have regulated the agricultural produce markets as principal and sub-market yards. 21 States/Union Territories have established State Agricultural Marketing Boards in their respective

States for development of agricultural marketing. The number of regulated markets in the country as on 31.3.1998 is 7062.

(b) Due to continuous persuasion with the States/UTs, the Government has been able to achieve the following progress during last two years in the field of agricultural marketing :

(i) Government of Mizoram has enacted "The Mizoram State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1996 (Act No. 11 of 1996)".

(ii) Government of Jammu & Kashmir has already passed legislation on regulation of markets in their Legislative Assembly and is in the process of the issue of its notification.

(iii) Number of regulated markets in the country has increased from 6968 as on 31.3.1996 to 7062 as on 31.3.1998.

(c) to (e) The relevant information is being collected from P.H.D. Chamber of Commerce and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Interception of Thai Vessel in Indian Waters

1958. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian armed forces in the recent past intercepted a Thai Vessel near Narcandam Island and seized 50 kilograms of heroin alongwith large shipment of arms;

(b) whether Drug Enforcement Agency of United States has approached the Indian Authorities for getting more details on drug trafficking along this route; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) In May 1998, in a joint operation of the Coast Guard and the Indian Navy, two Thai Trawlers were intercepted off Narcandam Island. 26 members of the crew of the trawlers who had jumped into the sea were apprehended. The interrogations of apprehended crew revealed that they had dumped the entire consignment of arms and ammunitions into the sea. The trawlers were not carrying any narcotic drugs.

(b) and (c) The Drug Enforcement Agency of the United States had sought relevant information pertaining to the specific incident mentioned in part (a) above. The Government of India have an agreement with Government of United States of America on reducing demand, preventing illicit use of and trafficking and for matters relating to licit trade in opiates etc.

*[Translation]***Shortage of Funds**

1959. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
 DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
 SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the current year's target for earnings could fall short by several crores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any steps are being worked out by the Railways in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether due to this shortage, modernisation and development plans are likely to be affected; and
- (f) if so, the extent to which the new expansion proposals are to be shelved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Freight traffic to end of October, 1998 is short of target by 16.34 million tonnes; as a result the goods earnings are also down by Rs. 852 crores. This shortfall is mainly seen in the core sector areas of Coal, Steel, Cement, Foodgrains and Fertilizers. There is, however, some buoyancy in passenger traffic and this has to a small extent offset the shortfall in freight earnings.

(c) and (d) Zonal railways have been directed to make special efforts to capture additional freight traffic in core sectors as also in other areas so as to make good the shortfall to the extent possible. They have also been directed to enhance passenger earnings, intensify ticket checking, pursue recovery of outstanding dues and also control expenditure.

(e) and (f) Some reduction in outlays on Plan schemes appears inevitable due to shortfall in earnings. However, the attempt will be to adequately fund safety related and other urgent and important works.

*[English]***Striking Power of IAF**

1960. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
 SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
 SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force ranked the fourth largest air force in the world but its striking power has been declining in comparison to China and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The ranking is based on the strength of the aircraft an Air Force holds, which, however, does not reflect the striking power of that Air Force. The striking power of IAF has not been declining, however, Air Forces of China and Pakistan have undertaken rapid modernisation.

(c) In order to maintain and enhance the air strike capability of the IAF a number of steps have been taken to modernise/strengthen the IAF in view of the current, as well as, futuristic threat perceptions. These steps include mid life upgradation of some of the existing aircraft/weapon systems, acquisition of additional air defence/air superiority aircraft and induction of multi-role state of the art aircraft. Steps have also been taken to strengthen the electronic warfare armour of the IAF, as well as for provision of precision guided munitions to enhance accuracy and lethality of its strike power. Combat aircraft and attack helicopters in the IAF inventory are also being equipped with night attack capability to enable them to operate in both day and night conditions.

Drinking Water Supply and Sewerage Projects

1961. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Government of Assam for obtaining foreign or HUDCO assistance for drinking water supply and sewerage project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; district-wise; and
- (c) the amount earmarked for the propose and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Assam had

submitted the Water Supply Scheme of Greater Guwahati at an estimated cost of Rs. 444.61 crores for obtaining assistance from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan. However, the proposal was not approved by the OECF. The proposal has been subsequently taken up with the World Bank for consideration, as desired by the State Government. The World Bank's response is awaited.

The State Government/Urban Local Bodies of Assam have directly obtained loan assistance from HUDCO for the water supply projects given in the Statement enclosed, HUDCO has informed that two water supply projects at Guwahati have already been completed and the remaining are at various stages of progress, which are likely to be completed in two year's time.

Statement

HUDCO Financed Water Supply Schemes in Assam

Sl. No.	Water Supply Schemes	(Rs. in lakhs)	
		Project Cost	Loan Amount
1.	Improvement of Water Supply network in Guwahati.	1146.38	773.00
2.	Zoo Road Drinking Water Supply Project (Phase-1) for Guwahati.	1349.80	944.80
3.	Water Supply Scheme to Jorhat.	1067.71	716.00
4.	Water Supply Scheme for Gauripur.	347.71	241.30
5.	Water Supply Scheme for Barpeta.	422.95	293.50
6.	Water Supply Scheme for Goalpara.	428.34	297.25
7.	Implementation of drinking water supply scheme in Moriani town.	426.20	295.75
8.	Water Supply Scheme at Tezpur.	1145.62	795.00
9.	Augmentation of Water Supply Dergaon.	290.91	203.00
10.	Dhing Water Supply Scheme.	307.02	215.00
11.	Water Supply Scheme at Dhubri town.	890.53	623.00
12.	Water Supply Scheme for Golaghat town.	1012.00	702.00
13.	Water Supply at Tinsukia town.	1912.61	1266.85

Mayors Conference

1962. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conference of Mayors was recently held at Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details of agenda discussed and resolutions passed therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) As per the information available, 33rd conference of the All India Council of Mayors (AICM), was held at Bhopal on 26th and 27th September 1998.

(b) The Agenda discussed and resolution passed in the above Conference mainly relate to confirmation of the minutes of the 31st General Body Meeting of AICM, adoption of Audited Statements of accounts for the year 1996-97 and review of position with respect to the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992. The participants asked for more financial and functional powers from the State Governments to enable them to function in a more democratic way as enshrined in the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act.

(C) As per Entry 5 of the State list of Constitution, Municipal Administration is a State subject. Therefore, it is for the State Governments to devolve requisite financial and functional powers to their Urban Local Bodies as envisaged in the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act.

Construction of Over-Bridge Near Nanjangud Railway Station

1963. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of railway over bridge on Gundlupet-Mysore route near Nanjangud railway station has been taken up during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the amount allocated therefor during 1998-99 and the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) the total amount required to completed the said work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Leasing of Aircrafts by I.A.

1964. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed leasing of aircrafts by Indian Airlines on dry / wet leasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of leasing companies with which the leasing agreements have been signed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The approval of the Government is not required in cases of aircraft leasing by Indian Airlines since the Board of the Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) is competent to take such financial decisions.

During 1998-99, Indian Airlines has taken two A-300 B-4 on dry lease for a period of three years from M/s. GE Capital Aviations Services Limited (GECAS), on a monthly rental of US\$ 135000 per aircraft.

[Translation]

Manufacturing of War Ships

1965. SHRI K.L. SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delay caused in building of requisite war-ships has affected the functioning of navy badly in the recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delay;

(c) the time to be taken in building these war-ships; and

(d) the estimated cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) There has been time and cost overruns in respect of indigenous construction of war-ships. These are mainly due to delay in receipt of military hardware by Shipyards as a result of breakdown of Soviet Union and consequent dilution of their military industry, delay in the creation of necessary infrastructure in shipyards due to scarcity of resources, changes in specifications due to technological advancements in Avionics and Armaments, labour unrest etc.

Suitable measures are taken to prevent the fleet from technological obsolescence and numerical reduction by undertaking additions to the fleet through indigenous construction/acquisition from abroad.

[English]

Development of Mineral Sector

1966. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to change existing policies and procedures for the development of mineral sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring forward any legislation for offshore mining; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The Central Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of then Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India with Mining Secretaries of State Governments, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Mineral Industries and Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines etc. as members. The terms of reference of the Committee, inter-alia, included review of the existing laws and procedures governing regulation and development of minerals and to recommend steps to make them compatible with the policy changes and to suggest steps to reduce delays in grant/renewal of prospecting licences/mining leases. The Committee was also to consider and suggest further delegation of power to the State Governments regarding grant / renewal of prospecting licences/mining leases and measures to be taken to prevent illegal mining. The Committee has submitted its report to the government and further necessary action for amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, and Rules made thereunder has already been initiated.

(c) and (d) The Central Government constituted a Working Group to draft legislation for regulation and development of mineral resources in the territorial waters/ continental shelf/exclusive economic zone and other maritime zones in India in May, 1993 under the chairmanship of the then Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Mines concerned with policy and legislation. The Working Group submitted its Report alongwith draft Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Bill in December, 1995. The report of the Working Group has been processed and further follow-up action in the matter has been initiated.

Passenger Train to Bangladesh

1967. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to run passenger train to Bangladesh;

(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 RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cargo Complex at Calicut

1968. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cargo complex at Calicut airport is being run by private sector;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether any cargo flights from Calicut to the Gulf countries are being operated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No Sir. At present M/s. Kerala State Industrial Enterprise (KSIE), a State Government Undertaking is the custodian of cargo at Calicut airport. KSIE operates from an off-airport location about 30 k.m. away from the airport. They are handling export cargo also.

(c) and (d) There is no exclusive cargo flight from Calicut to the Gulf countries. However, scheduled passenger flights carry cargo also to destination in Gulf.

[Translation]

Development of Roads

1969. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to States for the development of connecting roads during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any State Government have sent any proposals for World Bank assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) A statement indicating State-wise allocations made by the Planning Commission is enclosed.

(b) and (c) This Ministry received a proposal only from the State of Maharashtra entitled, "Strengthening and Black Topping of Roads in Maharashtra" at an estimated cost of Rs. 1000 Crores for World Bank assistance. The proposal has been forwarded to the Department of Economic Affairs with the recommendations and comments of the Ministry for consideration on September 4, 1998.

Statement

(Rs. in Crore)

State/UTs		Revised Outlays		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.00	5.00	99.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.01	43.59	45.91
3.	Assam	3.58	27.27	28.60
4.	Bihar	16.10	77.00	76.76
5.	Goa			8.00
6.	Gujarat	7.00	11.00	12.00
7.	Haryana	0.10	2.15	2.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.00	40.27	44.74
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.90	80.60	122.64
10.	Karnataka	16.93	67.67	58.35
11.	Kerala		23.00	31.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18.50	20.18	31.75
13.	Maharashtra	37.80	56.28	29.89
14.	Manipur	9.50	43.50	41.67
15.	Meghalaya	10.73	12.40	15.90
16.	Mizoram	-	12.00	17.40
17.	Nagaland	4.50	13.78	13.78

1	2	3	4	5
18	Orissa	38.22	44.77	54.50
19	Punjab	-	-	-
20	Rajasthan	95.07	115.48	200.00
21	Sikkim	12.26	5.13	10.78
22	Tamilnadu	18.50	50.00	94.43
23	Tripura	7.93	17.93	16.20
24	Uttar Pradesh	50.91	66.30	686.05
25	West Bangal	21.00	86.25	76.11
Total State		413.54	921.55	1820.46

Outlays for Roads of Rural Areas

Union Territories

26	A & N Island	-	7.50	12.10
27	Chandigarh	0.45	0.48	0.40
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.70	2.46	2.55
29	Daman & Diu	0.34	0.35	1.04
30	Delhi	-	20.72	-
31	Lakshadweep	0.82	0.85	1.56
32	pondicherry	-	-	5.31
Total Union Territories		3.31	32.36	22.96
(Total States+UTs)		416.85	953.91	1843.42

[English]

GSI's Survey to Assess Iron-Ore Deposits

1970. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted any survey to assess the availability of iron-ore deposits in Madhya Pradesh during 1996-1997 and 1998;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to extract iron-ore from the selected sites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Geological Survey of India (GSI) carried out Thematic Mapping of area around Sehora, District of

Jabalpur in 1997-98. The iron-ore reported from this area is low grade and pockety.

(c) The area is already leased out for mining.

Running of Engine without Driver

1971. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a railway engine started running without driver at Salem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when it was detected and how it was stopped; and

(d) the persons found responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 9.10.1998 at about 14.28 hrs. Electric locomotive of incoming Erode/Shoranur goods train in deenergised condition escaped from Salem Yard Road 8 and entered Virapandy-Salem Up line in Down direction and stopped after travelling about 7 kms.

(c) Deputy Station Superintendent, Salem detected escaping of above locomotive. Over head Power supply was switched off immediately and instructions given to Virapandy station to set the points for Road 2. The locomotive subsequently stopped on its own.

(d) Driver of incoming Erode/Shoranur goods train has been held responsible for this incident.

[Translation]

Unused Airports

1972. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN :
SHRI, RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the airports in the country which are not being used for aviation purposes;

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

(c) whether any measures are being contemplated for development of these airports; and

(d) if so, the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India have identified that following airports as unused airports :

Cuddappah, Donakonda and Warangal in Andhra Pradesh; Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh; Rupsi in Assam and Shella in Meghalaya; Chakulia, Gaya, Jogbani, Muzzaffarpur and Raxaul in Bihar; Deesa in Gujarat; Mysore and Hassan in Karnataka; Bilaspur, Khandwa, Panna and Satna in Madhya Pradesh; Akola in Maharashtra; Jharsuguda in Orissa; Vellore in Tamil Nadu; Khowai, Kailashahar and Kamalpur in Tripura; Jhansi and Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh and Balurghat and Malda in West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Hassan, Mysore, Pasighat and Rupsi Aerodromes have been identified for upgradation of facilities for civil operations subject to firm commitment from scheduled airlines to operate services through these airports and availability of full budgetary support. For development of Hassan & Mysore airports, a sum of Rs. 5 Crores and Rs. 15 lakhs respectively has been earmarked during the IX Five Year Plan and full Budgetary Support has been sought for the development of these airports. As regards other unused, and idle airports, AAI has made a proposal to hand over these airports to the respective State Governments.

Government Accomodation

1973. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of VIPs unauthorisedly occupying the Government accommodation, location-wise, type-wise;

(b) the amount of arrears due from each of them; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the arrears and to get the Government accomodation vacated from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha,

Derailment of 200 Dn. Passenger Train

1974. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 200 Down Passenger train was derailed on September 16, 1998 at Mailani Gonda Railway Division;

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

(c) the total loss of life and Government property thereby;

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

(e) If so, the outcome of the enquiry and the action proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such accident in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 16.9.1998, 8 coaches of 200 Down Mailani-Gonda passenger train derailed between Sonaripur and Belraya stations of Lucknow Division, North Eastern Railway. This accident occurred due to track defects.

(c) There was no casualty and loss to Government property due to this accident is Rs. 41,700.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Enquiry Committee has concluded that this accident occurred due to missing of dog spikes, irregular versine and slack gauge. Following steps have been taken to prevent such accidents :-

(i) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being progressively used.

(ii) There has been porgressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance.

(iii) Deterrent action is being taken against defaulting staff held responsible for accidents.

[English]

Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation

1975. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to pre-condition of World Bank to constitute Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC) to obtain World Bank loan for Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II, a MOU has been signed between State Government and the Union Government;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has brought the proposal before the Cabinet for the approval of the Union Government to Constitute the MRVC;

(d) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. However, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Indian Railways and Government of Maharashtra to set up Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC) in connection with development of suburban rail infrastructure in Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

(b) The features of the MOU are :-

(i) Develop co-ordinated plans for the rail components to be included in Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II (MUTPII) and other planned investments in Mumbai's rail services and execute the resulting infrastructure projects relating to Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Signalling & Telecommunication (S&T) etc.

(ii) Integrate urban development plans for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region with rail capacity plans and proposed investments.

(iii) Co-ordinate and ensure improvement of track drainage and the removal of encroachments and trespassers from the railway right-of-way and station approaches and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of PAP (Project Affected Persons) with the R&R cost of projects being included in MUTP-II and being shared on a 50:50 basis.

(vi) Approve and execute specific projects for the commercial development of railway land and airspace for mobilisation of resources for executing rail projects in Mumbai.

(c) to (e) A Cabinet note has been sent to the Cabinet Secretariat on 13.11.1998 to obtain approval for establishment of MRVC. The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion of Raipur-Ghamtari Rail Line

1976. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding conversion of Raipur-Ghamtari Metre Gauge rail line into Broad Gauge; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) A Survey carried out in 1996-97 revealed that the cost of Conversion of the existing Raipur-Rajim-Dhamtari Narrow Gauge Line into the Broad Gauge would be around Rs. 68.77 crore with a negative Rate of Return of investment. In view of acute resource constraints as well as extremely unremunerative nature of the Line, it has not been found possible to consider taking up this work at present.

Appointment on Compassionate Ground

1977. SHRI H.P. SINGH :

SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the cases of appointment on compassionate grounds are pending since 1990 with the Railway, zone/division-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in providing employment to the eligible persons; and

(c) the time by which all the cases of appointment on compassionate grounds are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Delays in making compassionate appointment occur due to the various reasons like wards being minor, non-availability of suitable vacancies, legal cases pending in Courts, time barred cases etc.

(c) Instructions have been issued and reiterated from time to time to make all out efforts to provide compassionate appointments to the eligible candidates as early as possible within the guidelines laid down for the purpose. It is, however, difficult to fix any time limit for the appointment on compassionate grounds as there are many factors not attributable to the Railway administration which may cause delays.

**Investment made by
Steel Sector**

1978. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made by the Public/Private Steel Sector during the last three years separately, plantwise;

(b) the percentage of profit earned therefrom during the last three years, separately, plantwise;

(c) the reasons for the wide gap between the Public and Private Sectors in earning the profit: and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES : (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) Total investment made and total profits earned by the Public Sector Steel Plants under Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) during the last three years are as follows :

(In Rs. Crores)

Plant	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
	Investment	Profit	Investment	Profit	Investment	Profit
SAIL Plants:						
Bhilai Steel Plant	284	819	419	684	402	701
Durgapur Steel Plant	422	(-)174	180	(-)236	111	(-)509
Rourkela Steel Plant	1213	(-)57	679	(-)316	753	(-)374
Bokaro Steel Ltd	600	806	1052	357	630	367
Alloy Steel Plant	9	1	16	(-)67	12	(-)88
Salem Steel Plant	141	4	6	(-)38	6	(-)120
IISCO, Burnpur	48	(-)49	48	(-)213	12	(-)395
VISL, Bhadravati	41	(-)37	-	(-)102	6	(-)84
RINL:						
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant	209	(-)204.27	Nil	(-)245.94	Nil	(-)176.73

Note: Figures with (-) signs indicate loss

In respect of the Private Sector Steel Plants, Government do not monitor the investment made by the individual units or profit earned by them.

Pending Railway Projects in U.P.

1979. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects lying pending with the Union Government for laying new rail lines in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the period of their pendency, project-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in according sanction to these projects; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite process of according sanction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Only one project for laying new railway lines in Uttar Pradesh is pending at present.

(b) The work is construction of new line from Etawah to Mainpuri which was included in the Supplementary budget 1997-98. The period of pendency is from Supplementary budget in July 1997 till date.

(c) and (d) The survey had not been done before including the project in the budget and this has since been completed and survey report is being sent to the Planning Commission for their consideration. The work will be taken up after the clearance is obtained.

Induction of Small Aeroplanes

1980. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
DR. AHSOK PATEL :
SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce flights of small aeroplanes as taxi for promoting the regional contact in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) With a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services and taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country, route dispersal guidelines have been framed. These guidelines stipulates all scheduled operators to deploy in the North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep (Category-II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk routes (category-I routes); 1% capacity deployed on Category-II routes is to be deployed exclusively within Category-II stations; and 50% of the capacity provided on Category-I routes is to be provided on routes other than Category-II routes (category-III routes).

However, with a view to making the services viable on short/unremunerative sectors, proposal to provide incentives/concessions to operators of smaller aircraft (upto 55 seater) is under consideration.

[English]

Extraction of Gold from the Dumps

1981. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to recycle the waste dumps of gold ore in Kolar Gold fields;

(b) if so, whether the gold can be extracted from these dumps; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) The report submitted in October, 1996 by M/s Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI)

which was appointed as Operating Agency (OA) by Board. For Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), envisaged that about 12 tonnes of gold could be extracted from the 33 million tonnes of tailings by setting up a metallurgical plant estimated to cost about Rs. 77.00 crores. The project was a part of rehabilitation scheme submitted by the OA. The report of OA has not been accepted by the Government. Government decided in June, 1997 to explore the possibility of rehabilitating the Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) through Joint Venture route by induction of a private co-promoter(s). Accordingly, a Committee was constituted which has since given its report. The future of the BGML will be decided as per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

[Translation]

Investment of Public Sector Under-taking in Mining

1982. DR. ASHOK PATEL :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to privatise public sector units in the mining sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for privatisation; and

(c) the details of the procedure followed for privatisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) In case of Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, a public sector unit under this Department, the Disinvestment Commission had recommended disinvestment in phases i.e. immediate sale of 40% equity to a strategic partner, then bringing down Government equity to 26% within two years and to zero over a period of time by offloading the same in the domestic market. This had been considered by the Government. But subsequently the Disinvestment Commission has recommended that 51% of the Government equity or more may be offered to strategic buyer alongwith transfer of management at the initial stage itself. This is under examination in the Government.

In case of Hindustan Copper Limited, the Disinvestment Commission have recommended offering of 51% Government equity to a strategic partner alongwith certain restructuring. This is under examination in the Government.

**Withdrawal of 2 AC Sleeper Coach
from Palamau Express**

1993. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2 AC-Sleeper Coach from 3347/3348 Palamau Express between Barakakana-Patna has recently been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said coach is likely to be reintroduced?

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

(b) Due to poor occupancy.

(c) Restoration of AC 2nd sleeper on Palamau Express is not commercially viable at present.

[English]

Construction of Individual Latrine

1984. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have not paid its full share to the State Government of Maharashtra for the construction of individuals latrines under the centrally sponsored scheme during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing the full share; and

(c) the time by which balance amount of share is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Helicopter Service to Vaishno Devi Sharine

1985. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report in the Pioneer dated September, 10, 1998 under the caption "Pawan Hans waits in the Wings-Despute over flights to Vaishno Devi yet to be settled";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on the observations made therein and facts of the matter;

(c) the details of action/proposed to resolve the issue; and

(d) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The existing helipad at Katra is under litigation in the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir at present. Consequently, Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) approached Mata Vaishno Devi Sharine Board (MVDSB) for development of an alternate site at Katra as per their specification. Once the helipad is made available, PHHL plans to operate daily flights, dependant on passenger load, on Katra-Sanjichhat-Katra and one daily flight on Jammu-Sanjichhat-Jammu.

Landslides on Konkan Railways

1986. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether landslides on several areas of Konkan and other lines including Trivandrum and Kanyakumari have caused disruption of traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of loss of life and property on this account?

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

(b) There were a total of 135 landslides and boulder falling incidents this year on the Konkan Railway, 43 of which were actual landslides and the remaining 92 isolated boulder falls. The necessary repairs have been carried out and train services restored.

On Southern Railway also there were major land slips on Trivandrum-Nagercoil sections which have caused disruption to traffic. The land slips took place on 5.11.1998. The restoration work on this section is in progress and traffic is expected to be restored by the middle of December, 1998.

(c) On the Konkan Railway there was no loss of life. However, there was damage to property estimated at Rs. 42 lakhs. On the Southern Railway there was neither loss of life nor loss of property. However, the cost of restoration and remedial works is about Rs. 5 crores.

S.D.F. Loan

1987. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited asked the Government to write off Steel Development Fund loan irrespective of revival of its sick subsidiary Indian Iron and Steel Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the present debt equity;

(c) whether there is any plan to operational restructuring at Durgapur Steel Plant, IISCO, and Alloy Steel Plant;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total amount of money SAIL is going to invest in IISCO for operation restructuring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) on financial restructuring, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has approached the Government for its financial restructuring which primarily envisages relief from Steel Development Fund (SDF) loan/ Government of India loan towards writing down of fixed assets to the extent of interest capitalized, writing-off of loans and advances given by SAIL to IISCO, etc. As on 31st March, 1998, a sum of Rs. 6069 crore was outstanding in the books of SAIL on account of SDF dues. The above proposal envisages that balance sheet of IISCO will get cleaned up facilitating its revival.

SAIL had a debt equity ratio of 2.34 : 1 as on 31st March, 1998.

(c) to (e) (i) **Planned operational restructuring at Durgapur Steel Plant** : DSP has planned to run the plant completely through BOF route and also to achieve full capacity utilisation of continuous casting facility.

(ii) **Planned operational restructuring at Alloy Steel Plant** : ASP has planned production in accordance with the market requirement and existing inventory.

(iii) As IISCO has been referred to the BIFR, any scheme to be taken up for its modernisation will have to be in accordance with the orders of the BIFR in this regard.

Land for Salem-Karur Rail Line

1988. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has handed-over the land required for the Salem-Karur new broad gauge line under the Southern Region;

(b) if not, whether the Southern Railway has requested the Government of Tamil Nadu to expedite handing-over of the land required for the said project; and

(c) if so, the response of Southern Railway in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Southern Railway are pursuing the matter with the State Government.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Patna and Gaya Airports

1989. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is not even a single International Airport in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government will take necessary action to make Patna and Gaya airports as International Airports; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Patna airport has already been developed as a model airport with all modern facilities for limited international operations. Gaya airport is an operational airport. Since no airline has shown any interest in operating flights to Gaya airport, Airports Authority of India has no plans to develop this airport for the present.

[English]

Direct Train between Delhi-Madurai

1990. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government received any representations for introduction of a direct train between New Delhi and Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Some representations have been received in this regard. These were examined but introduction of a complete train between Delhi and Madurai has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints at present.

[Translation]

Gold from Kunder Kocha Gold Mine

1991. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether gold worth crores of rupees has been or is being illegally extracted from the Kunder Kocha gold mines in Bihar;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per the scheme of Mines & Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1997 and Rules framed there under the main responsibility for checking illegal mining rests with the State Governments. The Government of India after receiving reports from various sources about illegal gold mining from the Kunder Kocha area in Bihar had sought a report from the Government of Bihar on the matter. The report of the enquiry team constituted by the Government of Bihar jointly under the Additional Director, Mining (Headquarters) and Additional Director, Geology, Ranchi revealed that no mining activity was detected in the area and that there has not been any mining activity at that place since a long time. The enquiry team had stated that there was evidence of very old working of the mine, perhaps, prior to 1948. A separate report furnished by the Deputy Commissioner, East Singhbhum District also revealed that there was no illegal mining in the area.

Recruitment of Youths in Army from H.P.

1992. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the youths from Himachal Pradesh are being recruited comparatively in less number in Defence forces ever since the size of population was made the basis for the purpose;

(b) if so, whether he had given assurance sometime back that the shortage in the number of Himachali youths in defence forces would be made up by recruiting youths from Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the number of jawans recruited in the Armed Forces during the last three years, State-wise with particular reference to Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) the number of youths likely to be recruited in near future from the State?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The recruitment of the Sailors in the Navy and the Airmen in the Air Force carried out on the basis of all-India merit and no specific quota is allotted to States. However the recruitment of Jawans in the Army is based on the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) ratio of each State, which was introduced in 1972. The Recruitable Male Population is that proportion of the male population, which meets the Qualitative Requirement (QR) of the laid down age limits and minimum standards of education for enrolment into the Army. This is expressed as a percentage of the Total Male Population (TMP). The RMP of Himachal Pradesh is 0.60%.

2. The details of jawans recruited into the Army from various States during the last three recruitment years are given in the enclosed Statement. The following numbers were recruited into the Army from Himachal Pradesh during this period :

Year	No. of persons recruited	% of total recruitment
1995-96	3356	3.85
1996-97	2481	4.32
1997-98	1811	4.42

3. It may be seen that as against the RMP of 0.60% the actual intake of the recruitment in Himachal Pradesh for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are 3.85%, 4.32% and 4.42% respectively.

4. During 1998-99, the Army has released 1388 vacancies to Himachal Pradesh as its RMP share.

Statement

Statewise Intake for Last Three Years

S. No.	Name of State and UTs	Rtg year 1995-96	Rtg year 1996-97	Rtg year 1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	2157	1187	762
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3276	2862	1809

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	42	66	101
4.	Bihar	5807	4069	2721
5.	Goa	12	17	08
6.	Gujarat	1841	890	700
7.	Haryana	5381	2945	2468
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3356	2481	1811
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6097	2144	1967
10.	Kerala	2322	1816	1135
11.	Karnataka	2712	2135	1278
12.	Maharashtra	8198	4262	2920
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2137	1754	1519
14.	Manipur	578	286	368
15.	Meghalaya	215	164	125
16.	Mizoram	131	95	117
17.	Nagaland	129	183	370
18.	Orissa	2110	1294	889
19.	Punjab	6456	4394	3740
20.	Rajasthan	6052	4601	2835
21.	Sikkim	13	21	16
22.	Tamil Nadu	4315	2845	1936
23.	Tripura	129	137	82
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15402	11926	8155
25.	West Bengal	5838	3292	1900
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	81	92	64
27.	Chandigarh	07	26	04
28.	Delhi	327	157	191
29.	Dadra & Nagar Havelli	-	-	-
30.	Lakshadweep	-	-	49
31.	Pondicherry	11	03	-
32.	Nepal	2126	1201	919
33.	Lahul Spiti	-	49	-
Total		87258	57394	40959

[English]

Gauge Conversion of Luni-Barmer-Munabao Railway Line

1993. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the time by which the Gauge conversion of Luni-Barmer-Munabao metre gauge rail line is likely to be started and open for Traffic?

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) : The work has already been started and is expected to be completed by the end of the Ninth plan subject to availability of resources.

Scandals in DDA

1994. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report published in the 'The Hindustan Times' dated August 22, 1998 under the caption "DDA vigilance Chief in eye of fresh scandal"; and

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On receipt of certain complaints against the officer, a preliminary enquiry was made by the CBI and based on the report of CBI, the officer has been placed under suspension w.e.f. 18.8.1998.

Losses In National Aluminium Company

1995. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Aluminium Company has incurred heavy losses due to malfunctioning of a number of pots at its smelter plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount of loss incurred;

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

(d) the steps being taken by the Government against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The loss of production due to failure of pots upto 31st October 1998 was 50539 Tonnes of Aluminium and the estimated post tax profit foregone was Rs. 95.40 crores.

(c) and (d) Government constituted an Enquiry Committee to inquire into the pot failure in NALCO's smelter plant at Angul. On the basis of the report of the Enquiry Committee, erring officials have been identified and action has been initiated against them as per procedure.

Pak Hand In Hijacking Defence Website

1996. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that ISI activities have hijacked our Defence's Website and tried to propagate their activities;

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent ISI activists from entering our Computer software; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNADES) : (a) There are no confirmed reports about ISI activists having attempted to hi-jack the site. However, their involvement in the incident cannot be ruled out.

(b) and (c) With a view to ensure that such anomalies do not recur the INTERNIC has been advised not to change the parameters without verifying the bonafides. In addition a security lock has been installed on the site as a special measure. The site has been fully restored and is functioning.

[Translation]

Hijacking of Aircrafts

1997. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the cases of Hijacking of aircrafts reported to the Government from 1994 to 1997; and

(b) the action taken by the Government against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There was only one incident of hijacking of aircraft during the period from 1994 to 1997. Indian Airlines flight IC-995 from Chennai, enroute to Calicut-Muscat, was hijacked on 13.1.94 by a passenger Shri M. Anantha Kumar after the flight took off at 1530 hours with 65

persons comprising 56 passengers and 9 cabin/cockpit crew. The aircraft landed at Bangalore airport.

(b) A case was registered against Shri M. Anantha Kumar under Sections 281/448/506 IPC and Sections 3 and of the Anti-Hijacking Act, 1982. At present, the matter is sub-judice.

[English]

Request of Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. for Waiving

1998. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received request for waiving of loan and interest of Rs. 200 crore from Pawan Hans Helicopter Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) has approached the Government for writing off Government dues claimed by Ministry of Finance in respect of Westland helicopters viz. Principal amount of Rs. 130.91 crores and accumulated liability towards interest and other charges, i.e. Rs. 265.23 crores upto 31.03.1998.

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Use of Basements

1999. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhure Lal Committee has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made therein;

(c) the details of high rise buildings in the Capital using basements for commercial purpose; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) and (b) On the directions of the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Environment and Forests through a notification constituted an Authority, namely, Environmental (Prevention and Pollution Control) Authority for the National Capital Region under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhure Lal. No report on the use of basements has been submitted by this Authority.

(c) and (d) Action against misuses of basements is taken by the local authorities under the provisions of the Master Plan and the relevant Acts.

Demurrage Charges for Cargo

2000. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently revised the demurrage charges for Cargo;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to make it more competitive;

(d) whether identification of Cargo takes long hours; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the delays in the Cargo identification?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The rates of demurrage charges were revised and notified by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) w.e.f. 1.6.98. details of which are given in the enclosed Statement. However, keeping in view the representations received from the Export-Import Trade, the free time for clearance of import cargo has, from 1.11.1998, been

increased to 5 working days, including the date of arrival of the flight. The next two days demurrage will be charged at the normal rate i.e. at Rs. 1/- per kg. per day on non-cumulative basis; but after the seven days period (including the date of landing) demurrage will accrue for the entire period from the date of arrival of the flight at the rate already notified earlier and currently in force.

(c) 'In principle' approval has been given to set up a parallel Cargo Complex at Delhi Airport as a joint venture to introduce competition. Both the AAI Cargo Complex and the new joint venture Cargo Complex will work side by side offering their services to exporters/importers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

IMPORT

1. Terminal, Storage and Processing Charges :

Type of Cargo	Rate
General Cargo	Rs. 3.50 per kg (minimum Rs. 100/-)
Special Cargo	Rs. 7.0 per kg (minimum Rs. 200/-)

2. Demurrage Charges :

Type of cargo	Period	Rate
General Cargo	Upto 7 days including free period	Rs.1 per kg per day
	Between 8 and 30 days	Rs. 2 per kg per day
	Beyond 30 days	Rs. 3 per kg per day
Special Cargo	Upto 7 days including free period.	Rs. 2 per kg per day
	Between 8 and 30 days	Rs. 4 per kg per day
	Beyond 30 days	Rs. 6 per kg per day
Valuable Cargo	Upto 7 days including free period	Rs. 4 per kg per day
	Between 8 and 30 days	Rs. 8 per kg per day
	Beyond 30 days	Rs. 12 per kg per day

NOTES:

- Free period with no demurrage in respect of General Cargo shall be 03 calendar days or 02 working days. Free period in case of accompanied baggage shall be 05 calendar days.
- Consignments of human remains, coffin including baggage of deceased and Human eyes will be exempted from the purview of "TSP and demurrage charges".

3. No separate Forklift charges will be levied.

4. Charges will be levied on the gross weight or the actual weight of the consignment whichever is higher.

5. Special cargo consists of cold storage, perishable, live animals and hazardous goods.

6. Valuable cargo consists of cold, bullion, currency notes, securities, shares, share coupons, traveller cheques, diamonds (including diamonds for industrial

use), diamond jewellery, jewellery and watches made of silver, gold, platinum and items valued at USD 1000 per kg (gross Wt.) and above.

7. Free period mentioned above is available if cargo is cleared within the free period. If cargo is not cleared within free period, then full period shall be charged as per tariff.

EXPORT

1. Terminal, Storage and Processing Charges:

Type of Cargo	Rate
General/Perishable Cargo	Rs. 0.55 per kg (minimum Rs.100/-)
Special Cargo	Rs. 1.10 per kg (minimum Rs. 200/-)

2. Demurrage Charges :

Type of Cargo	Rate
General/Perishable Cargo	Rs. 0.55 per kg per day (min. Rs.100/-) or Rs. 550/- per MT per day.

NOTES :

- The Exporters / Customs Clearance Agents shall be permitted to bring in their own manpower for unloading their export cargo at Truck-Dock and to bring the same into the examination area. The movement of unloading cargo from examination area to bonded area shall be undertaken by AAI. A 10% discount in TSP charges shall be allowed to such Exporters / CHAs who will opt to employ their own manpower for handling the cargo upto examination area. AAI shall, however, provide manpower at Truck-Dock gates for this activity for the Shippers / CHAs not bringing in their own manpower.
- 50% concession in all charges applicable in respect of Newspaper and TV reel consignments.
- Consignments of human remains, coffin including baggage of deceased and Human eyes will be exempted from the purview of "TSP and demurrage charges".
- No separate Fork Lift charges will be levied.
- Charges will be levied on the gross weight or the actual weight of the consignment, whichever is higher.
- The free period in both examination area and bonded area shall be 01 working day each (i.e. 24 hours). This revised free period shall come into effect after exemption from cooling-off period under known

shipper notification is implemented. Until then status quo shall be maintained.

Urban Infrastructure Projects.

2001. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal to the Union Government for World Bank Assistance for the Urban infrastructure projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal was received from Government of Maharashtra for setting up of a financial intermediary at the State Level in the form of a Trust Fund with an initial corpus of Rs. 150 crore for financing Urban infrastructure. The Trust Fund was to be managed by an Asset Management Company with an equity of Rs. 1 crore. The Financing Institutions viz. HDFC, ICICI and IL&FS were together to contribute 51% of the corpus and 51% of the equity of the Asset Management Company. The balance contribution of 49% was to be made by the Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Development Authority (MMRDA) and Government of Maharashtra.

The proposal was recommended to World Bank in December, 1996. However, in April, 1997 the World Bank had advised all concerned agencies to hold off the project preparation work until agreements on institutional arrangements are finalised.

In addition, the following two proposals were submitted by Government of Maharashtra for World Bank assistance:-

- Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project—Stage II at an estimated cost of Rs. 891 crore; and
- Bombay IV (Middle Vaitarna) Water Supply Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 570 crore.

The above mentioned proposals were recommended to the World Bank. The World Bank has not yet approved the loan assistance for the above mentioned projects. Meanwhile the State Government has been advised to obtain the requisite clearances of the Ministries of Environment and Forests, Central Water Commission, Planning Commission, Central Public Health Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) etc.

Upgradation of Golden Rock Railway Workshop

2002. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the Golden Rock Railway Workshop at Trichy to a fullfledged wagon building factory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of supply and demand of wagons by Railways at present, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) Demand for rail transport is assessed in million tonnes for every financial year to set freight loading targets and this estimate is not made in terms of number of wagons.

Zone-wise target of loading for the year 1998-99 and loading achieved upto April-October, 1998 is as under :

Railway	Target (1998-99)	Target (Upto Oct. 98)	Actual Loading (Upto Oct. 98)
Central	46.00	25.70	24.96
Eastern	81.50	46.10	42.32
Northern	26.50	15.60	14.90
North Eastern	2.50	1.20	1.21
Northeast Frontier	6.50	3.25	3.19
Southern	30.50	16.90	16.48
South Central	46.50	25.40	23.04
South Eastern	178.00	101.20	93.01
Western	32.00	17.30	17.20
Total :	450.00	252.65	236.31

The shortfall in loading vis-a-vis target has been mainly due to drop in demand from the originally assessed level by the core sectors of the economy which includes power, coal, foodgrains, cement, fertiliser and steel.

Accident of East Coast Express

2003. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the East-Coast Express met with an accident near Barang in Orissa in the month of October 1998;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the total loss of life and Government property therein; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such type of accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Work Orders to H.S.C.L.

2004. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the value of work orders received by the Hindustan Steelworks Constructions Limited during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the assignment-wise details of orders received by the H.S.C.L. which were got executed through other agencies alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The value of work orders received by Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited during last three years is given below :

(Rs. in crores)	
Year	Value of work orders
1995-96	295
1996-97	340
1997-98	339
Total :	974

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Land Reform

2005. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken a review at the national level of implementation of land reforms in States recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the implementation of land reform is still far below the expected level; and

(d) if so, the details of the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Revenue Minister's conference held on 17th September, 1998 inter-alia reviewed various land reforms programmes, including distribution of ceiling surplus land, Bhoodan land and Government wasteland, and recommended action plans for completing the distribution process of the above mentioned lands which are free from all encumbrances. The Conference also emphasised the need for launching a special drive for restoration of alienated tribal land and involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions and other non Governmental organisations in the process.

(c) and (d) The land reform programme is not a singular programme. It includes a wide spectrum of land reforms activities, therefore, the achievements of different land reforms activities vary from programme to programme and between State to State.

Since the inception of the programme an area of about 75.0 lakh acres have been declared surplus of which 66.25 lakh acres have been taken possession of and 52.85 lakh acres have been distributed to 54.60 lakh beneficiaries, 50 per cent of which belong to SC/ST categories. Besides 144.96 lakh acres of Government Wasteland and 25.61 lakh acres of Bhoodan Land have also been distributed to eligible rural poor. Further, 124.22 lakh tenants have been conferred ownership rights or their rights are protected over an area of 163.51 lakh acres. An area of 1782.70 lakh acres have so far been consolidated. Out of an area of 91.58 lakh acres of tribal land alienated an area of 63.57 lakh acres have been restored to them.

Air India Fare on Gulf-Trivandrum-Bombay Sector

2006. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India fare for Gulf-Trivandrum-Bombay sector is much higher than the fare of Europe and USA sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of the respective fare; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the fare more competitive?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Publication of White Paper and Status Paper

2007. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the main objectives of publishing the 'White Paper' and 'Status Paper' by his Ministry;

(b) the measures undertaken on the basis of these two important documents so far;

(c) the policy adopted by his Ministry for construction of new broad gauge lines, conversion of metre gauge and narrow gauge into broad gauge lines, uneconomic lines into economical lines; and

(d) the names of the metre gauge and narrow gauge railway lines already included or to be included for conversion into broad gauge lines in the Ninth Plan zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The main objective of publishing the 'White Paper' is to clearly bring out problems being faced by the Railways in funding of projects and the real reasons for slow progress of certain projects, in order that these problems can be understood by one and all.

The 'Status Paper' on Indian Railways has sought to raise some important issues exercising the minds not only of rail-users, transport experts, economist, representatives of the Fourth Estate, Legislators and people from all walks of life but also of practising Railway managers concerning the role and performance of Indian Railways. Keeping in view the people's expectations from the Indian Railways, a strategy for a sustainable high growth profile for the system, alongwith the areas of support from sources external to the Railways has been presented. Certain basic issues having a vital bearing on the health and well being of the Indian Railways and requiring consensus through a national debate are discussed in detail in this paper. It is an attempt to generate a national debate on the problems facing the railways and steps to mitigate them.

(b) Prioritisation of new lines, gauge conversion projects has been done and got approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs so that the available resources can be rationally distributed for progressing projects in different categories at a desirable pace so as to prevent the thin spread of resources over the entire shelf of projects which is likely to delay all projects with consequent time and cost over-runs. The projects will be funded and completed as per this priority.

The Status Paper has been widely distributed and a debate on the issues brought out in the Status Paper has been generated through numerous discussions, Seminars, presentations and press conferences.

(c) 1. The policy for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy Committee in 1980. This Policy states that new lines would be taken up on the following criteria :

- (i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources;
- (ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing saturated routes;
- (iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and
- (iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centres or giving access to remote areas.

2. The policy followed for selection of routes to be taken up for Gauge conversion under project 'Unigauge' has been as under :

- (i) To take up conversion of lines to develop alternative BG routes obviating the need for Doubling existing BG lines on these routes.
- (ii) To establish new BG links between stations connected by other BG lines.
- (iii) To establish new BG connection to ports, industrial centres and locations having potential for growth.
- (iv) To take up conversion of lines required on strategic considerations.
- (v) To minimise transshipment and to improve wagon turn around by avoiding delays at transshipment points.

3. In order to reduce the losses on the uneconomic branch lines, various steps are taken by the ways. Some of these are :

3.1 Reduction in staff :

- (i) Down gradation of stations into contractor-operated halts.
- (ii) Introduction of 'One engine Only' system whereby only one train can be in the section at any time. This obviates the need for block working and hence reduces the staff requirement.
- (iii) Curtailment of train services including running of trains only during day time, cancellation of trains on Sundays and other holidays etc.
- (iv) Issue of passenger tickets by travelling Ticket Checker/booking Clerks on the trains running on the section.

3.2 Reduction in infrastructure through :

- (i) Dismantling of sidings.
- (ii) Dismantling of signalling equipments.

Despite adoption of these measures, however, the likelihood of these lines becoming viable is remote since the density of traffic on these lines is extremely low.

3.3 In addition to the above, following steps have also been taken :-

- (i) Conversion of selected MG/NG lines to Broad Gauge.
- (ii) Introduction of Rail Bus Service.
- (iii) Special steps to boost tourist traffic on certain lines where there is potential for the same.
- (iv) Withdrawal of inflation in distance for charge for passenger fares in the following hill sections in order to boost passenger traffic :

- Kalka-Shimla
- Pathankot-Jogindernagar
- Mettupalayam-Udhagamandalam
- Siliguri-Darjeeling.

(d) The details of the lines already included for conversion into broad gauge have been furnished in the White Paper. Lines to be taken in the remaining years of the 9th Plan have not been decided so far.

One Rank One Pension for Armed Forces

2008. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the retired personnel of the Defence forces have been demanding "One Rank-One Pension" for quite a long time;

(b) if so, the stand of the Government on this issue and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the living conditions and other pensionary benefits to all such retired employees?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The demand for granting "One Rank One Pension" is being considered afresh.

(c) In acceptance of the recommendations of Vth Central Pay Commission, the Government have issued orders revising the pension, family pension and ex-gratia payment to the families of those who die in action.

[Translation]

Grievances of Ex-Servicemen

2009. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from Ex-servicemen regarding canteen, pension, hospitals and other welfare and retirement facilities;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints particularly those received from Orissa; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for their redressal?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) A number of complaints/representations are received from ex-Servicemen. These complaints/representations generally relate to pension, canteen facilities, medical care and other issues relevant to ex-Servicemen. From the State of Orissa, 57 complaints relating to pension and 77 complaints relating to other welfare measures have been received.

(c) Action as warranted in each case is taken to redress the grievance of ex-Servicemen.

[English]

Closing of Booking Offices of Indian Airlines

2010. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines is going with a slow space for the austerity measures including curtailment of uneconomical flights and closure of bookings offices in States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps that have been taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Indian Airlines continuously monitors the load and economic performance of all flights on its network, and takes remedial action to improve the economics by either re-routing, rationalising and on occasion curtailment of flights altogether.

So far as closure of Booking Offices is concerned, as a part of cost cutting measures, Indian Airlines has closed down some of its Booking Offices.

The Company is continuously making all out efforts to cut down the expenditure wherever feasible. The cost control/economy measures undertaken by the Company are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Cost Control/Economy Measures

1. Total ban on overtime except for work relating to delays/disruption of flights/snag rectification.
2. Freeze on direct recruitment.
3. Reduction in Engineering expenditure.
4. Ban on unplanned SOD hours of pilots.
5. Prohibition of late sitting/attendance on weekly off days/holidays in offices.
6. Freeze on capital expenditure for the next six months except for ongoing projects.
7. Closure of booking offices wherever more than one booking office exists in a city and appointing handling agents at these places.
8. Complete ban on participation in domestic conferences/seminars/training organised by outside agencies.
9. Review of hotel accommodation for crew members to reduce expenditure.
10. Reduction in Publicity and Sales Promotion expenditure.
11. Review of uneconomic flights.

12. Meals to be uplifted in boxes for flights upto one hour and reduction of add-on items.
13. Economy in aircraft fuel consumption, such as fuel tankering, monitoring of flight plans.
14. Restriction on appointment of personnel on part-time/casual/daily rated basis/contractual engagements.
15. Review of temporary posting of Engineers at outstations for 15 days.
16. Ban on sponsorship of events and provision of free tickets therefor.
17. Reduction in travelling expenses/hotel accommodation to ensure that officials avail of day return flights.
18. Ban on holding conferences/seminars organised departmentally.
19. Stoppage of loans (housing/vehicle/miscellaneous loan).
20. No further issue of uniforms to non front line employees for the next six months.

Progress of Electrifications

2011. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the progress of the electrification of railway lines under the East Coast Railway zone;

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

(c) the steps taken for electrification of Talcher-Sambalpur, Rourkela-Sambalpur and Talcher-Paradeep railway lines;

(d) the target date fixed for the purpose; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Railway Electrification works have been sanctioned on Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar (540 Route Kilometre) and Bhubaneswar-Kottavalasa (426 Route Kilometre) sections of East Coast Railway Zone. Work on Kottavalasa-Alamanda section (21 Route Kilometre) has been completed. Rourkela-Jharsuguda section which is part of Rourkela-Sambalpur line is already electrified. There is no proposal to electrify Jharsuguda-Sambalpur and Talcher-

Sambalpur railway lines at present. However, Talcher-Paradeep section is a part of Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar electrification project and the work has since been taken up on this section also. Both the projects are likely to be completed by March, 2002.

Regularisation of Contract Labourers of A.A.I.

2012. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of contract labourers engaged in sweeping, cleaning, etc. have been regularised by Air India and Airport Authority of India as per the Supreme Court orders dated December 6, 1996; and

(b) the number of such employees out of them are Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and OBCs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A total of 2,409 contract labourers have been regularised by Air India and Airports Authority of India in compliance of the Supreme Court Order dated 6.12.1996. Of these, 1067 labourers belong to Scheduled Castes, 9 to Scheduled Tribes and 257 to OBCs.

Construction of Over Bridge Near Ramanagaram

2013. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an over bridge at level crossing near Ramanagaram Railway Station on Bangalore-Mysore section; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A work for construction of Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 36 near Ramanagaram Railway Station has been sanctioned on cost sharing basis with the State Government in the Railway Budget of 1996-97. The detailed estimate of the work is under process.

Restoration of Embankment

2014. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken up the work of restoration of the broken embankment belonging to the Railways on the Eastern side of Jaldhaka River at Dhupburi in the District of Jalpaiguri;

- (b) if so, the progress made so far; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) River Jaldhaka is flanked on both sides (Western as well as Eastern) by marginal bund. Railway cannot take up the work of repair of breached portion as the marginal bund is not located on the railway land and falls under the jurisdiction of State Government who have been requested to do the needful.

Pak attempt to Capture Indian Army Post in Siachin

2015. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRI C.D. GAMIT :
DR. RAVI MALLU :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Pakistan has tried to capture a post in Siachin Glacier recently;
(b) if so, the details of such Pakistani attempts made during the last six months;
(c) the details of casualties inflicted on both sides, incident-wise during the said period; and
(d) the steps taken to retaliate Pakistani attacks?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) In last six months, Pakistan made ten attempts at capturing our posts on the Saltora range in the west of Siachen glacier. The details, including casualties, are as follows :

	Attempts	Casualties	
		Pak	Own
	1	2	3
(a)	02 September 1998	-	-
(b)	04 September 1998 (two attempts)	-	-
(c)	18 October 1998	2-3 killed	-

	1	2	3
(d)	27 October 1998	5 killed	-
(e)	29 October 1998	2 killed	-
(f)	01 November 1998	2 killed	-
(g)	02 November 1998	-	1 OR wounded
(h)	03 November 1998 (two attempts)	2 killed	-

Our troops give befitting reply to unprovoked firing from Pakistan side.

Private Airlines

2016. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of Private Airlines functioning at present in the country alongwith their routes;
(b) the criteria being followed for granting permission to operate on different routes;
(c) the income accrued from each of the above Private Airlines during the last three years, year-wise;
(d) whether Government are considering to promote private airlines on regional basis; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) At present only two private scheduled airlines viz. M/s Jet Airways and M/s Sahara India Airlines are operating. Details of routes operated by the two private scheduled airlines are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) With a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services and taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions in the country, route dispersal guidelines have been framed. These guidelines stipulate all scheduled operators to deploy in the North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep (Category-II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk route (Category-I routes); 1% of the capacity deployed on Category-II routes is to be deployed exclusively within Category-II stations; and 50% of the capacity provided on Category-I routes is

to be deployed on routes other than Category-I and Category-II routes (Category-III routes).

(c) AAI collects various Airport charges and the Department of Revenue earns revenue by way of Inland Air Travel Tax. State Governments also collect Sales Tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel ranging from 0% to 30.55%. Details of accruals of airport charges and IATT during the last three years are given at Statement-II & III respectively.

(d) and (e) A proposal to provide incentives/concessions to operation of smaller aircraft (upto 55 seater) is under consideration.

Statement-I

Routes Operated by Private Scheduled Airlines

Sahara India Airlines

No.	Routes
1	2
1	Bangalore-Delhi
2	Bangalore-Mumbai
3	Chennai-Delhi
4	Delhi-Bangalore
5	Delhi-Chennai
6	Delhi-Mumbai
7	Mumbai-Bangalore
8	Mumbai-Delhi
9	Delhi-Guwahati
10	Guwahati-Delhi
11	Dibrugarh-Guwahati
12	Guwahati-Dibrugarh
13	Delhi-Goa
14	Delhi-Lucknow
15	Delhi-Patna
16	Goa-Delhi
17	Goa-Mumbai
18	Lucknow-Delhi
19	Lucknow-Mumbai
20	Mumbai-Goa
21	Mumbai-Patna
22	Mumbai-Varanasi

1	2
23	Patna-Lucknow
24	Patna-Varanasi
25	Varanasi-Delhi
26	Varanasi-Lucknow
Jet Airways	
1	Bangalore-Calcutta
2	Bangalore-Delhi
3	Bangalore-Mumbai
4	Calcutta-Bangalore
5	Calcutta-Chennai
6	Calcutta-Delhi
7	Calcutta-Mumbai
8	Chennai-Calcutta
9	Chennai-Delhi
10	Chennai-Mumbai
11	Delhi-Bangalore
12	Delhi-Calcutta
13	Delhi-Chennai
14	Delhi-Hyderabad
15	Delhi-Mumbai
16	Hyderabad-Delhi
17	Hyderabad-Mumbai
18	Mumbai-Bangalore
19	Mumbai-Calcutta
20	Mumbai-Chennai
21	Mumbai-Delhi
22	Mumbai-Hyderabad
23	Mumbai-Trivandrum
24	Trivandrum-Mumbai
25	Bagdogra-Delhi
26	Calcutta-Guwahati
27	Calcutta-Jorhat
28	Delhi-Guwahati
29	Delhi-Jammu

1	2
30	Delhi-Srinagar
31	Guwahati-Calcutta
32	Jammu-Delhi
33	Jorhat-Calcutta
34	Srinagar-Delhi
35	Guwahati-Bagdogra
36	Jammu-Srinagar
37	Srinagar-Jammu
38	Ahmedabad-Mumbai
39	Ahmedabad-Delhi
40	Aurangabad-Mumbai
41	Bangalore-Chennai
42	Bangalore-Hyderabad
43	Bangalore-Mangalore
44	Bangalore-Pune
45	Bhuj-Mumbai
46	Calcutta-Hyderabad
47	Calicut-Mumbai
48	Chennai-Bangalore
49	Chennai-Coimbatore
50	Chennai-Hyderabad
51	Chennai-Trivandrum
52	Cochin-Mumbai
53	Coimbatore-Chennai
54	Coimbatore-Mumbai
55	Delhi-Ahmedabad
56	Delhi-Jaipur
57	Delhi-Lucknow
58	Delhi-Pune
59	Goa-Mumbai
60	Hyderabad-Bangalore
61	Hyderabad-Calcutta
62	Hyderabad-Chennai
63	Indore-Mumbai
64	Jaipur-Delhi

1	2
65	Jaipur-Mumbai
66	Lucknow-Delhi
67	Mangalore-Bangalore
68	Mangalore-Mumbai
69	Mumbai-Ahmedabad
70	Mumbai-Aurangabad
71	Mumbai-Bhuj
72	Mumbai-Calicut
73	Mumbai-Cochin
74	Mumbai-Coimbatore
75	Mumbai-Goa
76	Mumbai-Indore
77	Mumbai-Jaipur
78	Mumbai-Mangalore
79	Mumbai-Pune
80	Mumbai-Rajkot
81	Mumbai-Vadodara
82	Pune-Mumbai
83	Pune-Bangalore
84	Pune-Delhi
85	Rajkot-Mumbai
86	Trivandrum-Chennai
87	Vadodara-Mumbai

Statement-II

Amount of Income Eamed from Private Airlines during the Years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 by Airports Authority of India

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of Airlines	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Aerial Airways	3.09	2.24	2.85
2.	Archana Airways	99.66	37.72	63.33
3.	East West Airlines	1559.37	140.35	161.22
4.	Jet Airways	4401.96	6350.12	9462.14
5.	Jagson Airlines	19.18	11.42	10.00

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Megapode Airlines	4.90	4.89	3.57
7.	Modiluft Ltd.	1720.90	1070.71	246.79
8.	NEPC Airlines	1079.96	1125.45	202.85
9.	Raj Airways	1.40	0.00	0.00
10.	Sahara India Airlines	1236.69	1074.85	1965.93
11.	Skyline- NEPC Airlines	1791.27	1529.26	233.66
12.	U.P. Airways	120.43	246.46	210.29
13.	VIF Airways	23.43	5.73	3.75
14.	Elbee Airways	40.52	73.00	84.37
15.	Gujarat Airways	28.82	106.28	127.44
16.	Blue Dart Aviation	78.59	167.38	171.10
17.	Span Aviation	5.24	22.64	72.82
18.	Trans Bharat Aviation P. Ltd.	11.07	11.86	25.74
19.	Ace Airways	5.18	6.91	8.91
20.	City Link Airways	0.03	0.00	0.20
21.	Continental AirlinK Pvt. Ltd.	0.82	0.00	0.00
22.	Eastern Airways	4.38	5.48	6.46
23.	India International Airways	12.38	13.77	14.40
24.	KCV Airlines	2.20	2.61	2.08
25.	Mals Deoghar Airlines	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Mesco	0.54	0.41	6.79
27.	Saraya Aviation	11.64	12.68	13.27
28.	Bengal Air	0.00	0.00	6.36
Total		12263.65	12022.28	13106.32

Statement-III*IATT Accrual to Deptt. of Revenue*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of Airlines	IATT Dues		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	India International Airways	0.36	0.58	0.35

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Delhi Gulf Airways S.P. Ltd. (Now ACE Airways)	0.08	0.07	0.04
3.	Trans Bharat Aviation	0.03	0.04	0.09
4.	Saraya Aviation Pvt. Ltd.	0.03	0.04	-
5.	Archana Airways	1.33	0.49	0.84
6.	Aerial Services Pvt. Ltd.	0.03	0.02	0.05
7.	Modituft Ltd.	20.61	8.65	-
8.	Skyline NEPC	24.26	10.44	1.74
9.	NEPC Airlines	7.46	5.52	0.62
10.	Jagson Airlines	0.36	0.27	0.58
11.	Jet Airways	49.10	86.36	118.90
12.	Sahara India Airlines	15.38	15.37	27.06
13.	East West Airlines	5.10	0.66	-
14.	Megapode Airlines	0.31	0.30	0.52
15.	U.P. Airways	0.62	2.14	1.06
16.	KCV Airways	0.01	-	-
17.	Span Aviation (I) Ltd.	0.29	0.40	0.63
18.	VIF Airways	0.31	-	-
19.	Gujarat Airways	0.29	1.04	1.61
20.	Mesco Airlines	0.03	0.06	0.07
21.	Span Air	0.02	0.14	0.06
22.	Raymond Ltd.	0.02	0.33	0.95
23.	Goa Ways	0.03	-	-
24.	Delhi Flying Club	-	0.01	-
25.	East India Hotels	-	0.05	0.17
26.	Indamer Co. Pvt. Ltd.	-	-	0.01
27.	Vidyut Travel Services Ltd.	-	-	0.08
28.	Century Textiles and Inds. Ltd.	-	-	0.02
Total		126.06	132.98	155.45

[Translation]

**Loan taken by Indian Railway
Finance Corporation**

2017. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railway Finance Corporation had taken a loan at the rate of interest of 5.2 percent during 1988 from the Export-Import Bank of Japan;

(b) if so, the amount of loan taken;

(c) whether the amount of interest has been paid;

(d) if so, the total amount of loan outstanding at the end of March 1998;

(e) whether it has been decided to take further loan to pay the remaining amount of loan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. (IRFC) had signed a Loan Agreement with the Export-Import Bank of Japan, for a Loan of Japanese Yen 15 billion at the rate of interest of 5.3 percent per annum.

(b) The total amount of loan availed was Japanese Yen 11.779 billion.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The total principal amount of loan outstanding at the end of March, 1998 was Japanese Yen 9.297 billion.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to re-finance the existing outstanding loan amount of Japanese Yen 8.855 billion, by raising an equal amount, through a syndicated foreign currency loan, at a lower interest rate of 3.51 percent per annum, with a view to reducing the interest burden on the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance, who is servicing this loan.

[English]

**Replacement of 'Virat' and 'Vikrant'
Aircraft Carriers**

2018. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far in pursuance of the Government's decision to build the aircraft carriers to replace Virat and Vikrant; and

(b) the estimated cost of the contemplated aircraft carriers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) A proposal for indigenous construction of an Air Defence Ship in replacement of INS Vikrant is under consideration of the Government. INS Virat is still in service. Cost of the proposed Air Defence Ship is estimated to be about Rs. 1700 crores at 1996 prices.

[Translation]

Ban on Recruitment In GCF, Jabalpur

2019. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the staff strength of Gun Carriage Factory (GCF) at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh has come down to 60 percent, directly affecting the quality of work and putting the existence of the factory in peril;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to lift the ban on recruitment there;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be lifted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The present strength of Gun Carriage Factory (GCF) Jabalpur in M.P. is at the level of 77.5% of its sanctioned strength. The GCF has been awarded ISO 9002 certification by Bureau of Indian Standards in 1996 and the factory has been meeting laid down standards to the satisfaction of the inspecting agency and the users. There is no threat to the existence of the factory as production activities are continuing.

2. There is no ban on recruitment of manpower and the vacancies are being filled up based on functional requirements after considering all relevant factors like current workload, future targets, wastages etc.

Mining Licences on Lease Bases

2020. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of applications for mining on lease basis pertaining to various States are pending with the Government for approval for a long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) reasons for the delay in this regard; and
- (d) time by which the approval is likely to be given in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) Mineral Concessions are granted as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder, by the State Governments concerned. Proposals for approval of Mineral Concessions for minerals specified under the First Schedule of the aforesaid Act originate from the respective State Governments and are processed and disposed of by the Central Government as per provisions of law. All efforts are being made to expedite approval of Central Govt. In certain cases the proposals received from the State Government are incomplete and consequently in such cases, State Governments are asked to furnish complete information/ additional information for disposal.

102 cases pertaining to grant of mining leases were disposed of in respect of First Schedule of Mines & Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act during 1998-99 (from 1.4.98 to 30.11.98). 3 cases for grant of mining leases in case of Part A and 68 cases for grant of mining leases in respect of Parts B & C of First Schedule of the Act are pending with Central Govt. as on 30.11.98. List showing pending cases for approval for grant of mining leases with Central Govt. for minerals listed in Part A & Parts B/C of 1st Schedule of Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act 1957 as on 30.11.98 are given in Statement-I & II respectively.

Statement-I

State	Pending Cases as on 30.11.1998
Maharashtra	1
Bihar	1
Rajasthan	1
	3

Statement-II

State	Pending Cases as on 30.11.1998
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	22

1	2
Gujarat	08
Haryana	01
Himachal Pradesh	01
Karnataka	03
Madhya Pradesh	10
Maharashtra	04
Orissa	09
Rajasthan	04
Tamil Nadu	06
	68

[English]

Nikel Extraction Plant

2021. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a Nikel Extraction Plant at Sukinda Valley in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

[Translation]

Excess Staff in Air India and Indian Airlines

2022. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether excess Staff is employed in Air India and Indian Airlines;
- (b) if so, the total number of extra employees in both the organisations, separately;

(c) whether any Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been evolved by the Government to retrench the excess staff;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any Scheme has also been formulated to provide employment to these extra employees; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (f) While no category of employees has been identified as excess in Air India and Indian Airlines, the employee to aircraft ratio in both the airlines is higher in comparison with other reputed airlines. The Voluntary Retirement Scheme is yet to be finalised by either airlines. Both the airlines consider, from time to time, various alternatives for more effective utilisation of their work force.

[English]

Incidents of Air Miss

2023. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of air miss incidents took place in the Indian skies during 01.01.1996 to 31.10.1998;

(b) the loss of lives and property in each incident; and

(c) the main steps contemplated by the Government to avoid such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) A total of 42 airmiss incidents have been reported in the Indian sky during 01.01.1996 to 31.10.1998 (1996-12, 1997-14, 1998-16).

(b) There were no loss of lives or property in these incidents.

(c) The main steps taken to avoid air-miss incidents are :

(i) Refresher courses to update professional knowledge of Air Traffic Controllers; (ii) Periodical proficiency checks of Air Traffic Controllers; (iii) Monthly random analysis of ATC tape transcripts to ensure that Air Traffic Controllers use standard phraseology and follow the laid down procedure while giving instruction to aircraft; (iv) Appropriate action against Air Traffic Control Officers (ATCOs) involved in ATC incidents; (v) Modernisation of Air Traffic services at Delhi and Mumbai Airports; (vi) Proper maintenance, navigational communication and landing facilities; (vii) Installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) on aircraft and Mode 'S'

transponder; and (viii) Installation of Mono-pulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR) for radar coverage in major high density routes.

Urban Infrastructure Development Projects

2024. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether ADB has agreed to assist Urban Infrastructure Development Project of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details and present status thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance received so far;

(d) whether any proposal has been received from Karnataka seeking ADB assistance for the development of West Cost districts of the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project (KUIDP) is an integrated urban infrastructure and institutional strengthening programme which has been designed to provide and upgrade essential urban infrastructure and services in the four towns of Mysore, Tumkur, Ramanagaram and Channapatna in order to promote decentralisation of economic growth away from the rapidly expanding Bangalore city and to build up the capacity of the urban local Governments and other sector institutions to help ensure the sustainability of the investments.

The project is estimated to cost US \$ 112 million of which US \$ 85 million is financed by the Asian Development Bank and the remaining US \$ 27 million is financed by Karnataka State, the Urban Local Governments and the implementing Agencies. The loan was signed on 10.5.96. In addition, another agreement has been signed between ADB and Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC) for a loan of US \$ 20 million for a component on low income housing project.

The primary components of the project include (i) environments (ii) road improvements (iii) poverty alleviation (iv) industrial sites and services and (v) implementation assistance and institutional strengthening.

As on date an expenditure of Rs. 47.985 crores has been made in respect of various components of the project.

(c) An amount of Rs. 14.61 crore has been reimbursed by the Asian Development Bank to the Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation which is the executing agency of the project.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Karnataka Coastal Environmental Management and Urban Development Project is envisaged to provide infrastructure facilities to 10 towns along the west coast of Karnataka. The Asian Development Bank has provided US \$ 80,000 as Technical Assistance for the purpose of preparing a project suitable for ADB funding to facilitate sustainable development of ten towns along west coast of Karnataka. The consultants have identified the projects and the draft feasibility report was discussed in a tripartite meeting held between KUIDFC, State Government and ADB.

Performance of Konkan Railway Corporation

2025. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation has undertaken indepth review of its performance recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof by standard parameters;

(c) the details of short term and long term strategies worked out to improve over all performance to fetch more revenue; and

(d) the details of action plan and aggressive marketing strategies worked out for the current year and Ninth Five Year Plan period?

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

(b) The performance review in terms of budget figures and actuals for the half year ending 30th September, 1998 indicate that :-

i) Konkan Railway expected to meet its direct operational expenses from its revenues.

ii) Konkan Railway is unable to meet the financing costs.

(c) and (d) The details of short term and long term strategies worked out to improve the performance and steps up revenues are as under :-

I) Short term measures :

a) the railway took immediate action to divert passenger trains on the shorter route. Additionally 2 new trains have been started on this route which has improved the revenues of the Konkan Railways.

b) Meetings have been held with the Chambers of Commerce and specific stream of commodities like Cement, Fertilizer have been addressed even offering incentives to move the goods traffic and attract the same back from Road and Vessels.

c) Ministry of Railways has also provided cash assistance of Rupees 50 crores through a loan sanctioned in budget of 1998-99.

II) Long term measures :

It is planned to adopt aggressive marketing strategies and for this purpose assistance of Indian Institute of Management/Ahmedabad has been taken for working out the business strategies. Konkan Railway is planning to open business offices in Gujarat as well as in Cochin as a part of this marketing strategy in the next 5 years.

i) It is also proposed to restructure financial obligations and raise bonds to refinance.

ii) Attract more goods traffic.

iii) To strengthen Konkan Railway in offering customer friendly services to wean away traffic from other modes.

iv) Launch Konkan Star services.

v) Rationalise inflation for passenger/goods traffic to generate additional income.

Construction of New Building at Mysore Railway Workshop

2026. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the administrative building of Mysore Railway workshop is 40 years old;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a new building;

(c) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(d) the time by which the new building is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. This building was constructed in 1963 and is in good condition. The office accommodation available is adequate for the present staff strength.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Foreign Direct Investment

2027. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether detailed guidelines have been worked out for building airport projects through joint ventures of BOT, BOLT, BOO or LDO (lease-developed-operate);

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

(c) the manner in which the Government ensure that operations and maintenance of air traffic, which is of strategic area, would continue to be in the hands of the Government agency?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The 'Policy on Airport Infrastructure' envisages ownership of airport by Central Government, PSUs, State Governments, Urban Local Bodies, Private Companies and individuals as well as joint ventures involving one or more of the above. All options in respect of management of airports such as BOT, BOLT, BOO, LDO, are permissible. Foreign equity participation upto 74% with automatic approval and 100% in special cases will be permitted.

(c) At present, Airports Authority of India provides Air Traffic Services throughout the country. These services will normally be provided by Airports Authority of India, except for approach and aerodrome control services, which may be provided by licensed ATCs engaged by the airport operators.

Railway Projects

2028. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount likely to be incurred on the laying of Saharanpur-Dehradun, Rishikesh-Dehradun, and Rishikesh-Karnprayag railway lines on the basis of the standard costs of the year 1998, separately;

(b) the names of the railway lines out of these, on which survey has been completed; and

(c) the time by which the survey-work on the remaining railway-lines likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The survey for Dehradun-Saharanpur has been completed and its report is under finalisation in consultation with the Railway. The other two surveys are in progress. The cost of laying Saharanpur-Dehradun line is Rs. 324.80 crores. The cost of the other two lines will be known only after the Surveys are completed.

(b) Saharanpur-Dehradun.

(c) The surveys are likely to be completed by the following dates :

Survey	Expected date of completion
Rishikesh-Dehradun.	31.03.99
Rishikesh-Karanparayag.	31.03.99

Threat Perception from China

2029. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether China is building a pre-emptive military strike capability on its borders and is developing Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles with a range upto 12,000 Km;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Government have examined the reports that have been published in various Newspapers in India in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken to meet the threat posed by deploying these missiles on the borders by China?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) There are no authenticated reports to indicate that China is building pre-emptive military strike capability on its border with India. However, China is known to have Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles (IRBMs) of range varying from 600 km to 4750 km, 20 ICBMs of DF-5 (CSS-4) with range of 13000 km and Short Range Ballistic Missiles (SRBMs) of range varying from 280 km to 1700 km. Recent reports indicate

that China is developing a new generation of more mobile, longer range missiles in different categories including DF-41 ICBM of 12000 km range. These missiles are scheduled to be deployed by the year 2010.

2. All developments having bearing on the country's security are regularly monitored and reviewed. Appropriate measures are also taken to maintain our defence preparedness to face all eventualities.

[Translation]

New Airports in M.P., U.P. & Bihar

2030. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the major cities of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have been linked with the air service;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh having different political associations and public representatives have requested to construct few more airports in respective States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government are taking any constructive steps in this regard; and

(f) if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Khajuraho and Raipur in Madhya Pradesh, Agra, Lucknow and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and Patna and Ranchi in Bihar have been linked with air services.

(c) to (f) Requests have been received from various quarters including State Governments for construction of new airports/airstrip at Mubarakpur (Dist. Azamgarh), Khalyanu Khet (Distt. Pauri Garhwal), Moradabad, Chitrakoot (Distt. Banda) and for establishment of new international airport between Lucknow and Kanpur. At present, Airports Authority of India has no plans to construct any new airport/international airport at these places. However, Lucknow Airport has already been developed as a Model Airport and can sustain limited international operations.

[English]

Development of Rural Areas

2031. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether monitoring of the schemes meant for the development of rural areas is not done properly due to which people are not benefited by such schemes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal for New Airports

2032. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal regarding construction of domestic airport and an international airport in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have constituted any committee in this regard;

(d) if so, the terms of reference of the committee alongwith its composition; and

(e) the time by which the report of the committee is likely to be received ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra had sent a proposal for developing a domestic airport near Panvel in Navi Mumbai. It had also earlier forwarded a proposal for construction of a new second International airport in the Mandwa-Rewas area near Mumbai.

(c). Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman. AAI with representatives from Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Air India, Indian Airlines, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of Maharashtra, and two non-officials to examine the need for a second International airport at Mumbai, location of a suitable site and division of traffic between the existing and the new

airport. The proposal for the domestic airport at Navi Mumbai has also been referred to this Committee which is likely to give its report by June, 1999.

Import of Steel at Low Price

2033. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the unscrupulous attempts by steel users to import steel at very low prices by under invoicing imports;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to check this practice;

(c) whether the Government are considering raising customs duty on steel and fixing its floor prices;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether this rise will be within the parameter committed to World Trade Organisation;

(e) whether other proposals are under consideration to keep a balance between the interests of steel producers and users in the industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Indian steel industry is facing competition on account of import at low prices and dumping from some countries. On the recommendation of the Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce Government have imposed anti-dumping duties on imports of HR Coils, HR Strips/Sheets/Plates and Boiler Quality Plates from Russia and Ukraine.

(c) to (f) A Working Group set up by Government to study the present slow down in the steel sector has submitted its report. The recommendations of the Working Group. inter-alia includes :

- (i) To consider feasibility of converting advalorem rate of import duty into fixed duties on certain finished steel items.
- (ii) To consider a combination of measures comprising levy of special import duty on imports of seconds and defectives along with raising duties for certain types of steel upto World Trade Organisation bound rates.
- (iii) To consider removal of imports of Seconds and Defectives below a specific floor price from OGL.
- (iv) Establishing a fast track mechanism, to deal with cases of dumping under the Customs Tariff Act.

The above measures, when implemented, are likely to check the dumping of steel from other countries.

Potable Water in U.P.

2034. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for supply of potable water in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years till date;

(b) the details of the drinking water schemes of Uttar Pradesh pending under consideration of the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) meant for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 Census, the following funds were released to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years :

Year	Find released (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	764.87
1996-97	352.42
1997-98	776.57

During the year 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 1049.44 lakhs has been allocated (tentative) under the AUWSP for the State of Uttar Pradesh. Out of this, Rs. 402.07 lakhs have already been released.

Eight water supply schemes at an estimated project cost of Rs. 975.44 lakhs have not yet been approved due to resources constraint under the Programme. The details of the Schemes are as follows :

S. No.	Name of Town	District	Project Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Kharela	Mahoba	369.00
2.	Tindwari	Banda	56.30
3.	Sarila	Hamirpur	91.65
4.	Fatehganj Paschim	Bareilly	66.70

1	2	3	4
5.	Bidhuna	Auraiyya	168.60
6.	Kithore	Meerut	96.83
7.	Suriyawan	Ravidas Nagar	85.60
8.	Manakapur	Gonda	40.76
Total			975.44

Approval of these schemes would depend upon availability of funds for AUWSP, under the Central Plan.

[Translation]

Army Cantonments in Bihar

2035. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the locations where Army Cantonments/Training Centres are proposed to be set up in the near future, State-wise, with particular reference to Bihar; and

(b) the reasons for delay alongwith the time by which each of these units are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) There is no proposal for setting up Army Cantonments/Training Centres in any of the States inclusive of Bihar at present.

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

[English]

IDSMT Scheme

2036. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Central assistance provided to States under the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the towns development or likely to be developed under the scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns, Central assistance amounting to Rs. 7961.51 lakhs

has been released to various States/UTs during the last three years (i.e. during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98). The Statewise details of Central assistance released under the Scheme during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Since inception of the Scheme, 920 towns have been developed or are being developed. Details of towns are given at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Release of Central Assistance to States/UTs Under IDSMT During 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98

S.No.	State	Central Assistance Released			
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	208.21	490.18	164.62	863.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	11.00	8.50	29.00
3.	Assam	40.00	60.00	51.86	151.86
4.	Bihar	120.00	75.00	-	195.00
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	118.00	176.97	362.55	657.52
7.	Haryana	50.00	10.00	22.00	82.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	35.00	15.00	15.00	65.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	73.50	19.00	92.50
10.	Karnataka	242.00	334.45	163.89	740.34
11.	Kerala	171.09	44.75	232.41	448.25
12.	Madhya Pradesh	279.50	116.35	207.94	603.79
13.	Maharashtra	378.75	206.01	556.23	1140.99
14.	Manipur	16.00	49.50	20.00	85.50
15.	Meghalaya	-	11.00	19.60	30.60
16.	Mizoram	17.00	16.00	24.00	57.00
17.	Nagaland	17.00	13.00	9.00	39.00
18.	Orissa	84.00	25.00	48.00	157.00
19.	Punjab	45.00	50.00	39.00	134.00
20.	Rajasthan	171.50	130.00	162.50	464.00
21.	Sikkim	-	6.00	12.00	18.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	198.20	45.90	149.40	393.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Tripura	13.75	39.00	42.00	94.75
24.	Uttar Pradesh	353.00	398.00	116.00	867.00
25.	West Bengal	190.00	195.40	146.50	531.90
26.	A & N Islands	-	-	-	-
27.	D & N Haveli	5.00	-	-	5.00
28.	Daman & Diu	5.00	-	10.00	15.00
29.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
30.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-
Total		2768.00	2592.01	2601.50	7961.51

Statement-II

*State-wise details of Towns Development
or being Developed*

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Adilabad
2. Adoni
3. Amadalavalasa
4. Amalapuram
5. Anakapalle
6. Anantpur
7. Bheemunipatnam
8. Bhimavaram
9. Bhongir
10. Bobbili
11. Bodhan
12. Chilakaluripet
13. Chirala
14. Chittoor
15. Chittoor 1
16. Cuddapah
17. Dharmavaram
18. Eluru
19. Gadwal
20. Gadwal
21. Gudi Vada
22. Gudur
23. Guntakal

24. Guntur
25. Hindupur
26. Jaggayyapeta
27. Jagtial
28. Kakinada
29. Kamareddy
30. Karimnagar
31. Kavali
32. Khammam
33. Kuppam
34. Kurnool
35. Machilipatnam
36. Madanapalle
37. Mahbubnagar
38. Medak
39. Miryalaguda
40. Malgonda
41. Nandyal
42. Narayanpet
43. Narsararopet
44. Nellore
45. Nidadavole
46. Nizamabad
47. Ongole
48. Peddapuram
49. Ponnur
50. Proddatur
51. Rajamundry
52. Ramachandrapuram
53. Ramachandrapuram-I
54. Repalle
55. Sangareddy
56. Siddipet
57. Siddipet-I
58. Srikakulam
59. Srikalahasti-I
60. Takepalligudem
61. Tadipatri
62. Tandur
63. Tanuku
64. Tenali

65. Tirupati
66. Tirupati-I
67. Tuni
68. Vicarabad
69. Vizianagaram
70. Vizianagaram-I
71. Wanaparthy
72. Warangal
73. Yemmiganur
74. Zaheerabad
75. Machilipatnam

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

1. Bomdila
2. Naharlagun
3. Tawang
4. Yingkiong
5. Tezu

ASSAM

1. Bongaigaon
2. Dhubri
3. Dibrugarh
4. Barpeta
5. Goalpara
6. Golaghat
7. Haflong
8. Jorhat
9. Karimganj
10. Kokrajhar
11. Mangoldoi
12. Nagaon
13. Nalbari
14. North Lakhimpur
15. Rangia
16. Sibsagar
17. Silchar
18. Tezpur
19. Tinsukia

BIHAR

1. Arrah
2. Banka
3. Begusarai

4. Bettiah
5. Bhagalpur
6. Bihar Sharif
7. Bodh Gaya
8. Buxar
9. Chaibasa
10. Chapra
11. Chatra
12. Daltonganj
13. Darbhanga
14. Deoghar
15. Dhanbad
16. Dumka
17. Forbesganj
18. Garhwa
19. Gaya
20. Giridih
21. Godda
22. Gopalganj
23. Hajipur
24. Hazaribagh
25. Jehenabad
26. Katihar
27. Kishanganj
28. Lohardaga
29. Madhubani
30. Mumger
31. Muzaffarpur
32. Nawada
33. Purnia
34. Rajgir
35. Saharsa
36. Sahibganj
37. Sheohar
38. Sitamarhi
39. Siwan
40. Supaul

GOA

1. Curchorem-Cacora
2. Mapusa
3. Margao

4. Mormugao
5. Panaji
6. Ponda

GUJARAT

1. Amreli
2. Anand
3. Anand-I
4. Anklesvar
5. Bardoli
6. Bavla
7. Bharuch
8. Bhavnagar
9. Bhuj
10. Bilimora
11. Borsad
12. Botad
13. Dabhoi
14. Deesa
15. Dehgam
16. Dhoraji
17. Dohad
18. Dwarka
19. Godhra
20. Gondal
21. Himatnagar
22. Idar
23. Jamnagar
24. Junagadh
25. Kalol
26. Keshod
27. Khambhat
28. Mahesana
29. Mahuva
30. Mehmedabad
31. Modasa
32. Morvi
33. Nadiad
34. Navsari
35. Padra
36. Palanpur
37. Palitana

38. Patan
39. Petlad
40. Porbandar
41. Sanand
42. Savarkundla
43. Sidhpur
44. Surendranagar
45. Unjha
46. Upleta
47. Valsad
48. Veraval
49. Viramgam
50. Visnagar
51. Wadhwan
52. Ambaji
53. Mandvi

HARYANA

1. Ambala
2. Barwala
3. Bhiwani
4. Charkhi Dadri
5. Hisar
6. Jind
7. Karnal
8. Kurukshetra
9. Shahbad
10. Sirsa
11. Sohna
12. Sonipat
13. Yamuna Nagar
14. Pehowa

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1. Hamirpur
2. Kasumpti Junga
3. Mandi
4. Nahan
5. Una
6. Rampur

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

1. Anantnag
2. Doda

3. Jammu
4. Kathua
5. Leh
6. R.S. Pura
7. Samba
8. Sopore

KARNATAKA

1. Arsikere
2. Badami
3. Bailhongal
4. Bangarapet
5. Basavakalyan
6. Bellary
7. Bidar
8. Bijapur
9. Byadgi
10. Channapatna
11. Chennagiri
12. Chikballapur
13. Chikmagalur
14. Chincholi
15. Chintamani
16. Chitradurga
17. Dandeli
18. Doddaballapur
19. Gadag-Betigeri
20. Gajendragarh
21. Gauribidanur
22. Gurmatkal
23. Harihar
24. Harpanhalli
25. Hassan
26. Hassan
27. Haveri
28. Holenarsipur
29. Shiggaonipur-I
30. Homnabad
31. Hospet
32. Hunsur
33. Ilkal
34. Jamkhandi

35. K.R. Nagar
36. Kadur
37. Kanakapura
38. Udupi
39. Karkal
40. Karwar
41. Kolar
42. Kollegal
43. Koppal
44. Kotturu
45. Kundapura
46. Kushalnagar
47. Lakshmeshwar
48. Lingsugurm
49. Madhugiri
50. Magadi
51. Malavalli
52. Malur
53. Mandya
54. Mudalgi
55. Muddebahal
56. Mulbagal
57. Nippani
58. Rabkavi-Banhatt
59. Raichur
60. Ramanagaram
61. Ranibennur
62. Ron
63. Sagar
64. Saundatti
65. Savanur
66. Shahpur
67. Shiggaon
68. Shikarpur
69. Shorapur
70. Sidlaghatta
71. Sindhnur
72. Sira
73. Sirsi
74. Tiptur
75. Tumkur

76. Simoga

77. Gokak

KERALA

1. Allapuzha

2. Aluva

3. Chalakudy

4. Changanassery

5. Chavakkad

6. Chenganur

7. Cherthala

8. Guruvayoor

9. Kalpetta

10. Kannur

11. Kasaragod

12. Kayamkulam

13. Kollam

14. Kottayam

15. Kozhikode

16. Malappuram

17. Manjeri

18. Muvattupuzha

19. Nedumangad

20. Neyyattinkara

21. Palakkad

22. Pathanamthitta

23. Pathanamthitta

24. Punalur

25. Shoranur

26. Thalassery

27. Thiruvalla

28. Thodupuzha

29. Thrissur

30. Tirur

31. Vadakara

32. Varkala

MADHYA PRADESH

1. Ajaigarh

2. Amarkantak

3. Amarpatan

4. Ashok Nagar

5. Baidhan

6. Balaghat

7. Banmore

8. Berasia

9. Betul

10. Bhandar

11. Bhilai Durg

12. Bhind

13. Biaora

14. Bilaspur

15. Burhanpur

16. Champa

17. Chhatarpur

18. Chhindwara

19. Chitrakoot

20. Dalli-Rajhara

21. Damoh

22. Datia

23. Dewas

24. Dongargarh

25. Gadarwara

26. Ganj-Basoda

27. Garoth

28. Guna

29. Harda

30. Hoshangabad

31. Itarsi

32. Jagdalpur

33. Janjgeer

34. Jaora

35. Kanker

36. Kasarvad

37. Katni

38. Kawardha

39. Khajuraho

40. Khandwa

41. Khargone

42. Kota

43. Kaihar

44. Mandla

45. Mandasaur

46. Mhow

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 47. | Morena | 15. | Bhandara |
| 48. | Multai | 16. | Bhusawal |
| 49. | Narsingarh | 17. | Buldana |
| 50. | Narsinghpur | 18. | Chalisgaon |
| 51. | Neemuch | 19. | Chandrapur |
| 52. | Obedullaganj | 20. | Chiplun |
| 53. | Pachmarhi | 21. | Chopda |
| 54. | Pandhurna | 22. | Daryapur |
| 55. | Panna | 23. | Deglur |
| 56. | Pithampur | 24. | Dhule |
| 57. | Raigarh | 25. | Digras |
| 58. | Rajgarh | 26. | Dondaicha Warwade |
| 59. | Rajnandgaon | 27. | Gadchiroli |
| 60. | Ratlam | 28. | Gadhinglaj |
| 61. | Rewa | 29. | Geirai |
| 62. | Sagar | 30. | Ghatanji |
| 63. | Satna | 31. | Gondiya |
| 64. | Sausar | 32. | Hinganghat |
| 65. | Sehore | 33. | Hingoli |
| 66. | Shahdol | 34. | Ichalkarnji |
| 67. | Shivpuri | 35. | Igatpuri |
| 68. | Sidhi | 36. | Islampur |
| 69. | Sihora | 37. | Jalgaon |
| 70. | Tikamgarh | 38. | Jalna |
| 71. | Umaria | 39. | Kagal |
| 72. | Vidisha | 40. | Kalamb |
| MAHARASHTRA | | 41. | Kamptee |
| 1. | Achalpur | 42. | Karad |
| 2. | Ahmadnagar | 43. | Katol |
| 3. | Akot | 44. | Khamgaon |
| 4. | Alibagh | 45. | Kinwat |
| 5. | Amalner | 46. | Kopargaon |
| 6. | Ambad | 47. | Kurundwad |
| 7. | Ambejogai | 48. | Latur |
| 8. | Amravati | 49. | Mahad |
| 9. | Anjangaon Surji | 50. | Malkapur |
| 10. | Ausa | 51. | Manmad |
| 11. | Baramati | 52. | Manwath |
| 12. | Barshi | 53. | Mehkar |
| 13. | Basmath Nagar | 54. | Morshi |
| 14. | Beed | 55. | Mukhed |
| | | 56. | Murtijapur |

57. Nanded
58. Nandurhar
59. Narkhed
60. Navapur
61. Nilanga
62. Osmanabad
63. Pachora
64. Paithan
65. Pandharpur
66. Parbhani
67. Parli Vaijanth
68. Parola
69. Partur
70. Phaltan
71. Pulgaon
72. Pubad
73. Ramtek
74. Ratnagiri
75. Sangamner
76. Sangli
77. Sangola
78. Satara
79. Savner
80. Sawantwadi
81. Selu
82. Shahada
83. Shegaon
84. Shirpur Warwade
85. Shri Rampur
86. Tuljapur
87. Tunsar
88. Umred
89. Vaijapur
90. Vita
91. Wai
92. Wani
93. Wardha
94. Warora
95. Washim
96. Yavatmal

MANIPUR

1. Bishnupur

2. Imphal
3. Jiribam
4. Kakching
5. Lamlai
6. Lamsang
7. Mayang Imphal
8. Moreh
9. Nambol
10. Sekmai
11. Sekmai
12. Thoubal

MEGHALAYA

1. Baghmara
2. Jowai
3. Nongstoin
4. Shillong
5. Shora
6. Tura
7. William Nagar

MIZORAM

1. Aizawal
2. Aizwal-I
3. Kolasib
4. Lunglei
5. Serchhip

NAGALAND

1. Kohima
2. Mokokchung
3. Mon
4. Phek
5. Tuenasang
6. Wokha
7. Zunheboto

ORISSA

1. Anugul
2. Athagad
3. Athamallik
4. Balangir
5. Baleshwar
6. Bargarh
7. Baripada

8. Basudebpur
9. Bhadrak
10. Bhanjanagar
11. Bhawanipatna
12. Brahmaipur
13. Chhatrapur
14. Choudwar
15. Dhenkanal
16. Digapahandi
17. Gopalpur
18. Jagatsinghapur
19. Jajapur
20. Jajapur Road
21. Jeypur
22. Jharsuguda
23. Kamakshyanagar
24. Kendrapara
25. Keonjhar
26. Konark
27. Koraput
28. Nabarangapur
29. Nilgiri
30. Paradip
31. Parlakhemundi
32. Phulbani
33. Puri
34. Puri
35. Raurkela
36. Rayagada
37. Sambalpur
38. Sundargarh
39. Tarbha
40. Titlagarh
41. Umarkote

PUNJAB

1. Barnala
2. Batala
3. Bathinda
4. Faridkot
5. Firozpur
6. Gobind Garh

7. Gurdaspur
8. Hoshiarpur
9. Kapurthala
10. Khanna
11. Malerkotla
12. Mansa
13. Moga
14. Mukheria
15. Nabha
16. Pathankot
17. Patiala
18. Phagwara
19. Rajpura
20. Ropar
21. Sangrur
22. Sirhind
23. Taran Taran
24. Anandpur Sahib
25. Fatehgarh Sahib
26. Patti

RAJASTHAN

1. Banswara
2. Baran
3. Barmer
4. Beawar
5. Bharatpur
6. Bhilwara
7. Bhinmal
8. Bikaner
9. Bundi
10. Chaksu
11. Chittaurgarh
12. Churu
13. Gausa
14. Deogarh
15. Deoli
16. Dholpur
17. Dungarpur
18. Fatehnagar
19. Ganganagar
20. Jaisalmer

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 21. Jaisalmer -I | 10. Avanashi |
| 22. Jalore | 11. Bargur |
| 23. Jhunjhunu | 12. Bhavani |
| 24. Kapasan | 13. Chengalpattu |
| 25. Kishangarh | 14. Chinnamanur |
| 26. Mount Abu | 15. Coonoor |
| 27. Nagaur | 16. Cuddalore |
| 28. Nathdwara | 17. Denkanikota |
| 29. Nimbahera | 18. Dharapuram |
| 30. Nokha | 19. Kharmapuri |
| 31. Pali | 20. Gopichettipalayam |
| 32. Pratappgarh | 21. Harur |
| 33. Pushkar | 22. Hosur |
| 34. Rajsamand | 23. Idappadi |
| 35. Ratangarh | 24. Inam Karur |
| 36. Sardargarh | 25. Kallakurichi |
| 37. Sawai Madhopur | 26. Kanchipuram |
| 38. Shahpura | 27. Kangayam |
| 39. Sikar | 28. Karaikkudi |
| 40. Sirohi | 29. Karur |
| 41. Sumerpur | 30. Kasipalayam |
| 42. Udaipur | 31. Kiranur |
| 43. Vijainagar | 32. Kodaikanal |
| 44. Salumber | 33. Kotagiri |
| 45. Deshnok | 34. Kovilpatti |
| SIKKIM | 35. Krishnagiri |
| 1. Gangtok | 36. Kulittalai |
| 2. Jorethnag | 37. Kumarapalayam |
| 3. Namchi Bazar | 38. Kurichi |
| 4. Rangpo | 39. Kuttanallur |
| 5. Singtam | 40. Madurantakam |
| TAMIL NADU | 41. Mamallapuram |
| 1. Adhirampattinam | 42. Manamadurai |
| 2. Andipatti-Jarkampatti | 43. Mandapam |
| 3. Anthiyur | 44. Mannargudi |
| 4. Arakkonam | 45. Mettupalaiyam |
| 5. Arani | 46. Nagappattinam |
| 6. Arantangi | 47. Namakkal |
| 7. Ariyalur | 48. Nattarasankottai |
| 8. Aruppukkottai | 49. Omalur |
| 9. Attur | 50. Palani |

51. Palladam
52. Pallikonda
53. Pallipalayam
54. Panruti
55. Paramakkudi
56. Pattukkottai
57. Perambalur
58. Pollachi
59. Ponnamaravati
60. Ponneri
61. Poovirunthavalli
62. Pudukkottai
63. Punjai Puliamapatti
64. Ramanathapuram
65. Rameshwaram
66. Ranipettai
67. Rasipuram
68. Salem
69. Sattuvacheri
70. Satyamangalam
71. Sholinghur
72. Sivaganga
73. Sular
74. Tattayangarpettai
75. Tenkasi
76. Theniallinagaram
77. Thuraiyur
78. Tindivanam
79. Tiruchendur
80. Tiruchengodu
81. Tirunelveli
82. Tiruppattur
83. Tiruppur
84. Tiruttangal
85. Tiruttani
86. Tiruvallur
87. Tiruvannamalai
88. Tiruvettipuram
89. Tuticorin
90. Udthagamandalam
91. Udumalaipettai

92. Usilampatti
93. Vandavasi
94. Vaniyambadi
95. Veerappanchattiram
96. Villupuram
97. Viruddhachalam
98. Wallajapet

TRIPURA

1. Agartala
2. Amarpur
3. Belonia
4. Dharmanagar
5. Kailasahar
6. Khowai
7. Kumarghat
8. Udaipur
9. Sunampura

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Akbarpur
2. Almora
3. Amethi
4. Auraiya
5. Ayodhya
6. Azamgarh
7. Badaun
8. Bahraich
9. Ballia
10. Banda
11. Bansi
12. Barabanki
13. Barabanki
14. Barhalganj
15. Basti
16. Bhadohi
17. Bijnor
18. Bilaspur
19. Bilsa
20. Biswan
21. Budhana
22. Chunar
23. Panki

24. Deoria
25. Etah
26. Etawah
27. Faizabad
28. Farrukhabad-Fatehgarh
29. Fatehpur
30. Firozabad
31. Ghazipur
32. Gonda
33. Haldwani
34. Hardotar
35. Hathras
36. Jalesar
37. Jaunpur
38. Kairana
39. Kandhla
40. Kasganj
41. Kashipur
42. Khalilabad
43. Konch
44. Kosi Kalan
45. Kotdwara
46. Lakhimpur
47. Lalitpur
48. Loni
49. Gola Gokarannath
50. Maghar
51. Mahoba
53. Mainpuri
54. Malihabad
55. Manakapur
56. Maunath Bhanjan
57. Mauranipur
58. Mawana
59. Mirzapur
60. Modinagar
61. Moradabad
62. Moradanagar
63. Muzaffarnagar
64. Orai
65. Padrauna

66. Pallia Kalan
67. Phaphund
68. Pilibhit
69. Pilkhua
70. Rai Bareli
71. Rampur
72. Roorkee
73. Saharanpur
74. Sambhal
75. Sandila
76. Shamli
77. Sikandra Rao
78. Sikandrabad
79. Sirsaganj
80. Sitapur
81. Sultanpur
82. Tanda
83. Thana Bhavan
84. Tundla
85. Utraula

WEST BENGAL

1. Alipurduar
2. Arambag
3. Asansol
4. Ashoknagar Kalyangarh
5. Baduria
6. Baharampur
7. Balurghat
8. Bankura
9. Barddhaman
10. Basirhat
11. Birnagar
12. Bishnupur
13. Bolpur
14. Chakdaha
15. Chandrakon
16. Contai
17. Darjiling
18. Dhulian
19. Diamond Harbour
20. Dinhat

21. English Bazar
22. Gangarampur
23. Ghatal
24. Gobar Danga
25. Guskara
26. Habra
27. Haldia
28. Haldibari
29. Islampur
30. Jalpaiguri

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

1. Port Blair

DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI

1. Silvasa
2. Silvasa-1

DAMAN AND DIU

1. Diu

LAKSHADWEEP

1. Kavarati

PONDICHERRY

1. Ariankuppam
2. Karaikal
3. Mahe
4. Pondicherry
5. Villianur
6. Yanam

Houses for Weaker Sections

2037. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought the help of the National Housing Bank (NHB) and other Housing Financial Institutions in the housing sector in meeting the target of construction 20 lakh additional houses for the economically weaker sections (EWS) and the lower income group (LIG) every year; and

(b) if so, the response received by the Government from NHB in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Government has set a goal for construction of 20 lakh houses out of which 13 lakh dwelling units are targetted for the rural areas. Besides

several policy, institutional and structural initiatives, the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is taking necessary steps to improve the availability of housing finance in the rural areas with the assistance of organisations like NHB, HUDCO and other housing finance institutions. The National Housing Bank is implementing the Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme and under it financing construction of dwelling units in the rural areas.

Upgradation of Missile Range

2038. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to upgrade the Interim Test Range at Chandipur in Balasore district, Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details of the action Plan and the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to upgrade the Interim Test Range (ITR). However, continuous improvement of instrumentation in ITR is carried out to impart better operational features.

Guidelines for Issuing Tickets to Senior Citizens

2039. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proof of age is being asked for by the booking clerks at several Railway Stations in the country while issuing tickets to Senior Citizens despite the clear cut guidelines against it;

(b) if so, whether proof of age may be demanded by the TTE/Special Checking Squad during the course of journey from the Senior citizens; and

(c) if so, the details of documents which can be treated as proof of age?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) As per rules, no proof of age is required at the time of purchasing tickets for Senior Citizens.

(b) Senior Citizens travelling on concession tickets are required to carry some authentic document in proof of age which should be produced if demanded by railway official during journey.

(c) Any document showing date of birth or age issued by any Government Institution/Agency, like identity card, ration card, driving licence, passport, educational certificate, certificate from local bodies like Panchayat/ Corporation/Municipality or any other authentic and recognised document, is accepted as proof of age.

[Translation]

Projects Under R.S.P.

2040. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mines division in Rourkela Steel Plant have been separated from the Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Rourkela Steel Plant running into losses due to this separation; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Mines under Mines Division of Rourkela Steel Plant were brought under RMD, an umbrella organisation of SAIL for raw materials, in the year 1990. RMD was formed to improve efficiency of the mines and despatch of raw materials to the Steel Plants as per requirement, to have perspective planning in the area of raw materials, for development of new sources to meet future requirements of Steel Plant of SAIL etc.

(c) and (d) Rourkela Steel Plant is not running into losses on account of separation of its mines division.

[English]

Plan for Second Terminal at Tambaram

2041. SHRI T.R. BALU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make Tambaram as a second terminal to Chennai Egmore like Hazrat Nizamuddin in Delhi and Dadar in Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Urban Basic Services for the Poor

2042. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHATAB :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the cities developed under the Urban Basic Services for the poor in the country, State-wise;

(b) the amount allocated under the programme during each of the last three years, city-wise; and

(c) the achievements made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) The State-wise list of towns covered under the Scheme of Urban Basic Services for the poor is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) City-wise details were not monitored. The details of funds released State-wise for the UBSP programme during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) UBSP programme which has subsumed into Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) w.e.f. 1.12.97 was a continuous process; a total number of 95 lakhs urban poor were benefitted by the programme, as reported by the States.

Statement-I

List of UBSP Towns

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Guntakal
2. Hindupur
3. Ichapuram
4. Amadalavalasa
5. Vizianagarum
6. Bobbili
7. Parvathipuram
8. Salur
9. Nizamabad
10. Kamareddy
11. Adoni
12. Nindyal

13. Yemmiganoor
14. Alwal
15. Vikarabad
16. Tandur
17. Khammam
18. Palvancha
19. Kothagudem
20. Yellandu
21. Kurnool
22. Rajamundry
23. Kakinada

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

1. Itanagar
2. Nhaharlagun
3. Posighat
4. Along
5. Tezu

ASSAM

1. Jorhat
2. Silchar
3. Guwahati
4. Dibrugarh

BIHAR

1. Darbhanga
2. Munger
3. Gaya
4. Bhagalpur
5. Bihar Sharif
6. Arrah
7. Jamshedpur
8. Dhanbad
9. Chapra
10. Bokaro
11. Simdega
12. Jamtara
13. Latchar
14. Kharsawan

15. Patna
16. Muzaffarpur
17. Ranchi
18. Katihar

GOA

1. Mapusa
2. Valpoi
3. Canacona
4. Bicholim
5. Quepem
6. Marmagoa

GUJARAT

1. Ahmedabad
2. Jamnagar
3. Navsari
4. Nadiad
5. Petlad
6. Junagarh
7. Baruch
8. Rajpipla
9. Bhuj
10. Valsad
11. Limdi
12. Porbandar
13. Gandhidham
14. Bardoli
15. Anand
16. Godhra
17. Modasa
18. Jambusar
19. Surendranagar
20. Wadhwan
21. Veerawal
22. Una
23. Mangrol
24. Vyara
25. Surat

26. Bhavnagar

27. Mehsana

HARYANA

1. Faridabad

2. Sonapat

3. Gurgaon

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1. Paonta Sahib

2. Kangra

3. Nalagarh

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

1. Jammu

2. Srinagar

KARNATAKA

1. Raichur

2. Bellary

3. Hospet

4. Shiraguppa

5. Kampli

6. Koppal

7. Bijapur

8. Terdal

9. Jamkandi

10. Gulbarga City

11. Yadgir

12. Chincholi

13. Shorapur

14. Mandya

15. Maddur

16. Malavalli

17. Shimoga

18. Kollegal

19. Chitradurga

20. Hiriyur

21. Davahere

22. Mulbagal

23. Chamaraj Ngr

24. Shikaripur

25. Sagar

26. Channagiri

27. Shiralakoppa

28. Bhadrawati

29. Hubli D. Corpn.

30. Gadagbetageri

31. Haveri

32. Arasikeri

33. Holenarapur

34. Belur

35. Humnabad

36. Chitaguppa

37. Athani

38. Soundatti

39. Konnur

40. Koduchi

41. Birur

42. Kadur

43. Bangalore City Corporation

44. Mysore City Corporation

45. Gowribidanur

KERALA

1. Pertattinkara

2. Varkkala

3. Punalur

4. South Paravur

5. Periathalmana

6. Chavakkad

7. Malappuram

8. Tirur

9. Vadakara

10. Thalassery

11. Kannur

12. Kanhangad

13. Manjeri

14. Kozhikode

15. Thiruvananthapuram
16. Kollam
17. Alappuzha

MADHYA PRADESH

1. Berasia
2. Katni
3. Guna
4. Kharsia
5. Rajnandgaon
6. Rewa
7. Burhnpur
8. Bhopal
9. Jabalpur
10. Khandwa

MAHARASHTRA

1. Bomaby
2. Amaravati
3. Kalyan
4. Aurangabad
5. Sholapur
6. Kolapur
7. Nagpur
8. Jejur
9. Vengurla
10. Saswad
11. Wardha
12. Yavatmal
13. Jalgaon
14. Kupwad
15. Ulhasnagar
16. Mira Bhayandar
17. Sinnar
18. Bhagur
19. Gangakhod
20. Bid
21. Chandrapur
22. Akola

23. Malegaon
24. Nanded
25. Mowad
26. Bhondiya
27. Bhusawal
28. Gadhiroli
29. Jalna
30. Lattur
31. Chopda
32. Nasik
33. Deglur
34. Dhule
35. Parbhani

MANIPUR

1. Imphal
2. Kakching
3. Sekmai
4. Moirang
5. Kakching

MEGHALAYA

1. Shillong
2. Baghmara
3. Resubelpara

MIZORAM

1. Aizwal

NAGALAND

No town

ORISSA

1. Kendrapara
2. Jajpur
3. Talcher
4. Chhatrapur
5. Berahampur
6. Phulbani
7. Koraput
8. Jagatsinghpur
9. Balasore

10. Bhanjanagar
11. Angul
12. Rayagada

PUNJAB

1. Amritsar
2. Jalandhar
3. Ludhiana
4. Patiala

RAJASTHAN

1. Jaipur
2. Chomu
3. Phulera
4. Kotputli
5. Dausa
6. Ajmer
7. Udaipur
8. Pali
9. Lalsot
10. Bari
11. Kota
12. Jodhpur
13. Bikaner
14. Bhitwara
15. Dungarpur
16. Ganganagar
17. Choksu
18. Sambhar
19. Todabhim
20. Rajakhera
21. Karoli

SIKKIM

1. Gangtok
2. Singtam
3. Rangpo
4. Rhenock
5. Rongli
6. Gyalshing
7. Soreng

8. Sombaria
9. Dentam
10. Mangan
11. Namchi
12. Ravangla
13. Jorethang
14. Melli

TAMIL NADU

1. Tiruppur
2. Trichy
3. Salem
4. Tirunelveli
5. Tiruvottiyur
6. Tambaram
7. Dindigul
8. Vellore
9. Kumbakonam
10. Thanjavur
11. Tiruvannamalai
12. Karur
13. Tuticorin
14. Rajapalayam
15. Sivakasi
16. Avadi
17. Ambattur
18. Alandur
19. Kanchipuram
20. Nagercoil
21. Kamarapalayam
22. Pallavaram
23. Coimbatore
24. Madurai
25. Cuddalore

TRIPURA

1. Amarpur
2. Udaipur
3. Belonia

4. Sabrron
5. Agartala
6. Sonamura
7. Khowai
8. Teliamura
9. Ranirbazar

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Agra
2. Mathura
3. Meerut
4. Ghaziabad
5. Hapur
6. Kanpur
7. Farukhabad
8. Varanasi
9. Unnao
10. Gorakhpur
11. Moradabad
12. Bareilly
13. Shahjahanpur
14. Allahabad
15. Fatehpur
16. Rae Bareilly
17. Behraich
18. Faizabad
19. Ferozabad
20. Jhansi
21. Haldwani
22. Dehradun
23. Aligarh
24. Mirzapur
25. Lucknow

WEST BENGAL

1. Balurghat
2. Basirhat
3. Beldanga
4. Gangarampur
5. Habra

6. Haldia
7. Kalimpong
8. Kharagpur
9. Haldibari
10. Krishna Nr.
11. Kurseong
12. Medinipur
13. Mirik
14. Navadwip
15. Mekliganj
16. Raiganj
17. Siliguri
18. Tarakeshwar
19. Ashoknagar-Kalyangarh
20. Kalna
21. Raghunathpur
22. Islampur
23. Diamond Harbour
24. Berhampur
25. Taki
26. Asansol
27. Calcutta

ANDAMAND AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

1. Port Blair

CHANDIGARH

1. Chandigarh

DAMAN & DIU

1. Daman
2. Diu

DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI

1. Silvassa

DELHI

1. Delhi

PONDICHERY

1. Pondicherry
2. Mahe
3. Yanam
4. Oulgaret

Statement-II*Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP)**Statement showing Yearwise Central Share Released (1995-96 To 1997-98)*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No	Name of State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	260.10	208.85	88.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.50	—	—
3.	Assam	5.50	11.00	—
4.	Bihar	101.80	135.70	—
5.	Goa	16.50	16.50	5.50
6.	Gujarat	48.15	96.35	50.85
7.	Haryana	29.30	26.85	8.65
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.00	11.00	5.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	94.95	63.30	—
11.	Kerala	70.85	65.30	48.40
12.	Madhya Pradesh	174.20	116.15	97.25
13.	Maharashtra	133.00	44.35	—
14.	Manipur	16.50	11.00	5.50
15.	Meghalaya	17.60	14.50	11.00
16.	Mizoram	17.60	16.50	11.00
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	30.60	20.40	23.35
19.	Punjab	16.45	16.45	8.65
20.	Rajasthan	107.10	71.40	39.95
21.	Sikkim	8.25	16.50	11.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	108.45	216.90	189.85
23.	Tripura	5.25	5.50	5.50
24.	Uttar Pradesh	282.45	368.95	127.90
25.	West Bengal	136.45	178.95	52.75
26.	A & N Islands	13.75	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Chandigarh	—	18.30	18.30
28.	D & N Haveli	27.45	09.15	9.15
29.	Daman & Diu	—	9.15	18.30
30.	Delhi	11.00	11.00	—
31.	Pondicherry	—	—	5.50
Total		1750.00	1780.00	841.85

**Upto 30.11.97 whereafter the scheme subsumed into SJSRY.

[Translation]

Modernisation of DSP

2043. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the works alongwith the dates for which Birla Technical Service was awarded contract for the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant alongwith the total amount of the contract;

(b) whether the amount of the contract was increased further;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India had objected to awarding contract to the above company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The details of contract awarded to M/s Birla Technical Services under the modernisation project of Durgapur Steel Plant are as under :

S. No.	Package	Date of Contract	Contract Value (Rs. Crores)
*1.	Raw Material Handling Complex	17.3.89	213.89
2.	New Sinter Plant	17.3.89	31.29
3.	Blast Furnace	17.3.89	88.01
4.	Basic Oxygen Furnace	17.3.89	128.41

(b) and (c) The amount of contract with M/s Birla Technical Services increased due to additions, change in scope of work etc.

(d) and (e) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report containing review on the Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant has made certain observations about the capacity and competence of M/s Birla Technical Services.

[English]

Doubling of Railway Line from Ernakulam-Kottayam to Kayamkulam

2044. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for doubling of railway line from Ernakulam-Kottayam to Kayamkulam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Survey has been taken up. Further consideration will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Funds to DRDAs

2045. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the concept of release of funds of DRDAs directly from his Ministry has been changed;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the better financial managements of DRDAs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Under every Rural Development scheme run by the Ministry, there are specific guidelines and accounting mechanism to ensure proper utilisation of funds and overall financial management.

Losses Incurred by Indian Airlines and Air India

2046. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) total loss incurred by Indian Airlines/Air India during the last six months : and

(b) the steps taken to reduce the losses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) As per the provisional results of April-September, 1998 Air India and Indian Airlines have incurred losses of Rs. 129.08 crores and Rs. 34.90 crores respectively.

(b) Steps taken by the two airlines to control expenditure and increase productivity are as follows :

Air India

(i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue. (ii) Network rationalisation and consolidation with emphasis placed on route profitability. (iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by undertaking more in-house repairs. (iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished.

Indian Airlines

(i) Closure of off-line stations and reduction in the number of booking offices. (ii) Ban on recruitment, unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons. (iii) Drastic cut in the expenditure on office buildings. (iv) Freeze on capital expenditure unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons. (v) Reduction in frequencies of loss making routes.

Improvement of Railway Services in Madurai

2047. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madurai in Tamil Nadu is an important location of the Railway network in Southern India;

(b) if so, whether there is great demand for improvement of Railway Services and expansion in and around Madurai; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government there-on?

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

(c) For improvement of railway network in and around Madurai, Gauge Conversion of Madurai-Rameshwaram metre gauge line has been taken up. Augmentation of necessary terminal facilities at Madurai

have also been planned, to cope with the anticipated increase in broad gauge traffic.

Purchase of Stationery and other Items

2048. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of computerisation of requirement and purchase of stationery and other items in his Ministry, in the Service Headquarters, Inter-Service Organisations, defence establishments in Delhi Cantonment and nearby towns, lot of irregularities are taking place in the purchase thereof ignoring the quality of the products and the lowest rates;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to ensure that they purchase the best quality items at the most fair and reasonable rates; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to streamline the purchase procedure and to computerise the requirements and purchases interlinking them with computer networking with higher authorities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing procedures take into consideration all relevant factors to ensure the procurement of high quality products at fair and reasonable rates through Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar. Only items not available with these stores are purchased locally at the lowest rates by following the prescribed process of calling for the competitive quotations, after obtaining the administrative and financial approval of competent authorities.

Master Plan for Delhi

2049. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will The Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have modified the Delhi Master Plan 2001; and

(b) if so, the details of the new provisions made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Master Plan 2001 has been modified. Vis-a-vis the norms for residential construction. The details of the new provision made in the Master Plan 2001 vide notification No. K-12016/5/79-DDIA/VA/IB dated 23.7.98 is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Extracts from Gazette of India Extra Ordinary Part II Sec Sub-Sectioned - (ii) dated 23.7.98

MODIFICATIONS :

1. On page 159 (Right Hand Side) of Gazette of the India dated 1.8.90 and in supersession of the Notification dated 15.05.95, the table and footnotes under Residential Plot-plotted housing (001) are amended as follows :

Sl.No.	Area of Plot (Sq. Mt.)	Maximum Ground Coverage %	FAR	No. of DUs	Maximum Height (in Mtr.)
1.	Below 32	75	225	1	12.5
2.	Above 32 to 50	75	225	2	12.5
3.	Above 50 to 100	75	225	3	12.5
4.	Above 100 to 250	66.66	200	3	12.5
5.	Above 250 to 500	50	150	3(4)	12.5
6.	Above 300 to 1000	40	120	6(8)	12.5
7.	Above 1000 to 1500	33.33	100	6(8)	12.5
8.	Above 1500 to 2250	33.33	100	9(12)	12.5
9.	Above 2250 to 3000	33.33	100	12(16)	12.5
10.	Above 3000 to 3750	33.33	100	15(20)	12.5
11.	Above 3750	33.33	100	18(24)	12.5

NOTE :

Levy on the additional FAR to the allowed vide table above over the FAR allowed vide Notification dated 15.05.95, including the basement and/or development charges shall be charged at the rates as laid down in the Building Bye-laws or through Government orders and as revised from time to time.

(ii) In case of residential plots above 250 sq.mtrs. facing 24 mtrs. and above road (a) the FAR shall be increased by the maximum ground floor coverage, (b) maximum height shall be 15 mtrs. and (c) the number of dwelling units shall be as given in brackets.

(iv) (a) BASEMENT :

(1) Basement in case of plotted development if constructed shall not be included in FAR.

(2) Basement area shall not exceed the ground floor coverage and shall be below the ground floor. Basement area may, however, be extended below the internal courtyard and shaft.

Rest of the footnotes i.e (i) and (v) to (xi) of Notification dated 15.05.95 shall continue.

2. On page 160 (Left Hand Side) of the Gazette of India dated 1.8.90 under Residential Plot – Group Housing (002), the following amendments/additions are made:

Maximum FAR	167
Maximum height	33 mtrs.

NOTE :

Levy on additional FAR and/or development charges for additional FAR shall be charged at the rate as decided by the Government from time to time

OTHER CONTROLS :

(i) The net housing density permissible shall be 175 DUs per ha. with a 15% variation on either side. This should be indicated in the Zonal Plan/Layout plan taking into consideration the gross residential density prescribed for the area. At the permissible level, maximum variation in density shall be 5%.

In case of Bungalow area (Part Division D) and Civil Lines are (Part Division C), any residential density in group housing pockets shall be prescribed on the basis of detailed scheme.

(iv) additional FAR upto a maximum of 400 sq. mtrs. shall be allowed to cater to community needs such as community/recreational hall, creche, library, reading room and society office.

On page 155 (Left Hand Side) under usage/use activities permitted in use premises below Residential Plot –Group Housing (002) entry under creche and day-care centre will be replaced by the following:

Community/recreational hall, library, reading room and society office are permitted on the ground floor.

3. On page 166 (Left Hand Side) in the Gazette of India dated 1.8.90 under-Professional Activity, the provision is replaced by the following:

Professional activity shall be allowed in residential plots and flats on any floor on the following conditions:

Part of the premises shall be permitted to be used upto a maximum of 25% of FAR or 100 sq. mtrs. whichever is less, for non-residential but non-nuisance activities for rendering service based on professional skills.

FARM HOUSES (135)

4. On page 164 (RHS) of the Gazette of India dated 1.8.90, the table will be replaced by the following:-

(i) Minimum size of the farm house	0.8 ha.
(ii) Maximum ground coverage	5%
(iii) Maximum FAR	5 (subject to maximum of 500 sq. mtr. irrespective of the size of the farm)
(iv) Number of storeys	two
(v) Maximum FAR	8 mtrs

All constructions including basement, if any, will be counted towards FAR.

Land will be surrendered free of cost for circulation network and infrastructure requirements as per the layout plan by the land owners, allowing them the benefit of FAR on total area.

Levy on additional FAR over and above permitted vide Government of India, Gazette Notification dated 1.8.90 and/or development charges shall be charged at rates to be decided by the Government of India from time to time.

[Translation]

Kelker Committee Report

2050. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION to pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Board has demanded for speedy implementation of the recommendations of Kelkar Committee;

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

(c) the date on which the report of Kelkar Committee was submitted to the Government;

(d) the salient features of the recommendations made by the Kelkar Committee;

(e) the reasons for the delay in the implementation of these recommendations; and

(f) the steps that are being taken to implement the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir, The Kelkar Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 13.12.1996. Its main recommendations relate to :

- (i) Financial restructuring, which includes capital injection of Rs. 992/- crores in the form of compensation, subordinated loan, equity and contribution by Indian Airlines and its employees.
- (ii) Fleet Planning.
- (iii) Route Rationalisation.
- (iv) Organisational Restructuring.
- (v) Human Resource Management.

A sub-committee headed by the Principal Advisor (Transport), Planning Commission was immediately constituted by the Government in January, 1997 to go through the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee and suggest possible measures for its implementation.

As the turn-around strategy involves a large amount of financial contribution, the matter is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission.

[English]

Maintenance of Government Quarters

2051. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI U.V. KRISHANAMRAJU :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently issued orders to charge 100% expenditure on all the departmental

works for residential quarters allotted to the Government employees other than General Pool;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the maintenance charges are being paid by the respective Departments to his Ministry;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to review their order; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to upkeep, renovate and modernise all the Government quarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) The Government had issued an order on 19.12.97 that whenever any addition/alteration is desired by an allottee of the residential accommodation belonging other than to general pool, the concerned Ministry to which he belongs may recover the requisite contribution from the employee and deposit 100% of the cost involved to the CPWD for carrying out the work.

(b) The copy of the Office Memorandum No. 11014/22/90-W3 dated 19.12.97 issued in this regard is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The annual repair and maintenance and special repair of such quarter are carried out by CPWD from its own resources.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration.

(e) The quarters under the charge of the CPWD are already being maintained and modernised as per the norms and guidelines depending on the availability of resources.

Statement

F.No. 11014/22/90-W3

Government of India

Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment Department of Urban Development (Works Division)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-11

Dated 19.12.97

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub : Additions/Alterations to be carried out in General Pool Accommodations at the request of the allottees - funding off - clarification - regarding.

The undersigned is directed to invite reference to this Ministry's O.M. of even number dated 9.1.96 regarding additions/alterations to be carried out in the general pool accommodation at the request of the allottees and to state that the orders issued vide O.M cited above are not applicable to pools other than general pool residential accommodation. In case, any additional/alteration is desired by the allottees of pools other than general pool accommodation, then the concerned authorities may take the required contribution from the allottee and may meet 100% expenditure from their own funds and place the funds at the disposal of the CPWD for carrying out the work. However, the annual repairs and maintenance and special repairs will continue to be done by CPWD from its own funds.

2. This issues with the concurrence of Finance Division vide Dy. No. 1673-E dated 30.11.97 and with the approval of secretary(UD).

Sd/-
(SPS PARIHAR)
Deputy Secretary (W)

To

1. All Ministries/Departments of the Govt. of India.
2. CAG of India, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha, New Delhi.
4. DG(W), CPWD, New Delhi (Shri B.S Duggal) – 25 copies.
5. Chief Secretaries of Union Territories.
6. Directorate of Estates (Shri R.K. Singh, Director).

Copy to :

1. PS to MOS (UA & E)
2. PPS to Secretary (UD) and Secretary (UPA) / PS to AS (UD).
3. All Joint Secretaries/Directors/Deputy Secretaries/Under Secretaries.
4. All Desks/Sections in Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment.

Hindi Section for Hindi Version.

Indian Delegation to Israel

2052. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether he visited Israel alongwith a delegation in the month of October, 1998;

(b) if so, the composition of the delegation and the purpose of visit;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir, The delegation visited Israel from 1.11.98 to 4.11.98.

(b) **Composition** of the delegation was :

1. Shri Babagouda R. Patil, – Leader
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment,
2. Dr. P.L.S. Reddy, Secretary, – Member
Rural Employment & Poverty Alliviation Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment.
3. Shri S.B. Mohapatra, Additional – Member
Secretary, Deptt. of Wastelands Development, Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment.
4. Shri M. Madan Gopal, PS to – Member
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment.

Purpose of the visit was to discuss the matters relating to Rural Development and Wastelands/Desert Development and explore the possibility of mutual cooperation between Israel and India in the field of Wastelands Development, Rural Development, Agriculture Marketing and Watershed Management.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Corruption in Implementation of Rural Development Schemes

2053. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned "Corrupt Office Auction Public Funds" published in the "The Pioneer" dated February 10, 1998;

(b) if so, whether funds sanctioned for the implementation of schemes such as Employment Insurance

Scheme in rural areas for rural development are being misused in many States;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into the allegations published in the newsitem; and

(d) if so, the name of the investigating agency and the details of the facts after conducting inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the news item captioned "Corrupt Officers Auction Public Funds" published in "The Pioneer" dated February 10, 1998. This relates to Uttar Pradesh.

Government of Uttar Pradesh was accordingly requested to get the matter inquired into, Government of Uttar Pradesh have since inquired into the matter. They have informed that while they have found many shortcomings in the working of the Employment Assurance Scheme in the districts, no overt instance of corruption was found. They have also informed that a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Agricultural Production Commissioner has examined the question of removing corruption and bringing about complete transparency. They have further informed that the suggestions of this Committee are being enveloped into implementable work strategies, to stop malpractice in rural development schemes.

A few more instances of alleged irregularities/slippage in the implementation of EAS in few other States have also come to notice of this Ministry.

[English]

Pensionary Benefits to Casual Labourers

2054. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government consider to include the entire casual service as pensionable service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) As per the instructions in force on the Railways, after the casual labour are regularised, 50% of the service rendered as casual labour from the date of attaining temporary status till the date of regular absorption, is counted as qualifying service for the purpose of pensionary benefits. These instructions are in line

with those laid down by the Ministry of Finance, and no unilateral action can be taken by the Ministry of Railways to make any change in this regard.

[Translation]

Revenue Earned by Railway

2055. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of States from which the Railways get maximum and minimum revenue, separately; and

(b) the name of States where there is maximum and minimum length of rail line, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Statewise information in regard to Revenue is not maintained. However, Zone-wise information in this regard is as under :

Based on the Information of Traffic Earnings for the Year 1997-98, Railways got maximum Revenue from South Eastern Railways (Rs. 5544.73 crore) and minimum Revenue from Northeast Frontier Railways (Rs. 483.18 crore).

(b) As per the latest figures available (as on 31.3.1997), Uttar Pradesh is the State having maximum length of railway line (route kilometres) (8911.13 km) and Arunachal Pradesh is having the minimum route kilometres (1.26 km).

[English]

Tatkal Reservation from Jamnagar Station

2056. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers travelling from Jamnagar have Tatkal Reservation facility through computer for Saurashtra Mail at Jamnagar Railway Station;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided?

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

(b) Dose not arise.

(c) The Tatkal reservation facility at Jamnagar has been provided in sleeper class by 9006-Up. Okha-Mumbai Central Saurashtra Mail w.e.f. 14.10.1998 and by 9005 Dn. Mumbai Central-Okha Saurashtra Mail ex. Mumbai Central to Jamnagar w.e.f. 7.12.1998.

Absorption of Casual Labourers

2057. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS, be pleased to state :

(a) whether the casual labourers who worked before January 1, 1981 and subsequently retrenched and gave them opportunity to exercise option for permanent absorption in compliance with Supreme Court Order; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Casual Labour who had worked on the Railways prior to 1.1.1981 and were discharged due to completion of work and/or for want of further work, were given an opportunity to apply by 31.03.1987 for inclusion of their names in Supplementary Live Casual Labour Registers, in line with the judgement dated 23.02.1987 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 332 of 1986; and the names of those casual labourers whose applications with documentary proof were found to be genuine have been included in the said Registers. As per the extant instructions, such casual labour are to be considered for regular absorption, based on total number of days put in by them as casual labour, against future vacancies, after exhausting the post 1.1.1981 casual labour borne on Live Registers.

[Translation]

Change in Departing Time of Passenger Train at Jabalpur

2058. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Allahbad bound passenger train emanating from Itarsi arrives at Jabalpur at 3.30 p.m. and halts there for about two and half hour and departs from there at 6.50 p.m.;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to reschedule the departure time of the said train at 5.00 p.m.; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) 1389 Itarsi-Allahabad Passenger arrives Jabalpur at 1535 hrs. and leaves at 1805 hrs. to suit the daily office goers and commuters of Jabalpur-Katni section.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Examined but it has not been found desirable as this is an extremely sensitive commuter train.

[English]

Work Orders to HSCL

2059. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given directions to the Steel Plants regarding awarding of contract to H.S.C.L.;

(b) if so, whether the above directions have been complied by the Steel Plants;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the works of Steel Plants under SAIL was got done from the private agencies and by H.S.C.L. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Sale of Bogus Railway Tickets

2060. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bogus rail tickets are also being sold in the country on a large scale;

(b) if so, whether any gang selling these bogus tickets has been arrested;

(c) if so, the action taken against it; and

(d) the amount of loss suffered by the railways on account of selling of such tickets during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION. (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Regular and surprise checks are conducted by the anti-fraud squads and the Vigilance department of Railways in association with various agencies like Central Bureau of Investigation, Police and Railway Protection Force personnel. During such checks, a few instances of sale of fake/ bogus tickets have come to notice. Persons found indulging in such activities have been apprehended and handed over to the Police for prosecution. Such tickets have also been seized to avoid any loss of revenue on this account.

[English]

Import Licences

2061. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether SAIL, RINL and MSTC have sold their import licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the main findings of the inquiry;

(e) whether some officials of these companies have been found involved in the sale of import licences; and

(f) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (f) An independent inquiry has been conducted into the sale of Advance Import Licences (AIL) by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd. (MSTC) to ascertain the circumstances in which AIL were transacted and to suggest future course of action to be followed in sale of such licences. The inquiry report pointed out some inadequate, irregular or improper actions by SAIL, RINL and MSTC on some counts. The follow up action on the report has been initiated. The subject matter of the question, at present, is sub-judice.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hundreds of workers are being arrested and ESMA has been imposed. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, Please allow me to raise a very important matter. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Acharia, I will allow you later.

(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Reports alongwith Audited Accounts of Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd., Hyderabad etc. and their Working Review etc.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : 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 Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1735/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1736/98]

A Copy of the Lakshadweep Building Development Board Rules, 1997 under Lakshadweep Building Development Board Regulation, 1997

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : I beg to lay on the Table : A copy of the Lakshadweep Building Development Board Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.No. W(XV)/SE/84. Vol. III(3) in Lakshadweep Gazette dated the 1st August, 1997, under section 31 of the Lakshadweep Building Development Board Regulations, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1737/98]

12.01½ hrs.

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
Second Report**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai N/W) : I beg to present the second report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas – Crude Oil – Indigeous Production and Imports.

12.02 hrs.

**Joint Committee on Office of Profit
First Report**

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit (Twelfth Lok Sabha).

12.02½ hrs.

**Standing Committee on Defence
Statements**

[English]

SN. LDR. KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on action taken on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Committee (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of Ministry of Defence for 1997-98.

12.03 hrs.

**Standing Committee on Industry
Twenty-sixth to Twenty-ninth Reports**

[English]

SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Industry:

- (1) Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in its 17th Report on Industrialisation of Backward Areas and the State of Capital Goods Sector;
- (2) Twenty-seventh Report of the Committee on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in its 18th Report on Demands for Grants of Ministry of Steel (1996-97);
- (3) Twenty-eighth Report of the Committee on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in its 19th Report on Demands for Grants of Ministry of Mines (1996-97); and
- (4) Twenty-ninth Report of the Committee on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in its 20th Report on Demands for Grants of Ministry of Industry (1996-97).

12.04 hrs.

**MOTION RE : BUSINESS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

(Seventh Report)–Presented

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 9th December, 1998."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 9th December, 1998."

The Motion was adopted

12.04 1/2 hrs.

[English]

BILL INTRODUCED

High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : The hon. Minister should also bring a Bill to have High Court Benches in Western Uttar Pradesh and other States where it has been demanded.

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : We are taking that also.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958."

The motion was adopted

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : There is an observation from the Chair.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) . Mr. Speaker Sir, the crops of the farmers of Punjab and

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 10-12-98.

Haryana have been destroyed . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . A Central team visited there . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . This is an important issue of the farmers of Punjab and Haryana . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

12.05 hrs.

[English]

ANNOUNCEMENT RE : BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, just wait. There is an observation from the Chair.

As the hon. Members are aware, three part-discussed items – the Motion for Consideration of the 30th Report of the erstwhile Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Short Duration Discussion regarding atrocities committed on minorities and High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Amendment Bill, 1998 – are listed in today's List of Business.

The Short Duration Discussion has been listed for the third consecutive day today and still there are a number of speakers desirous of speaking on it. The House would appreciate that such carrying over of the business upsets the schedule of the business for the week.

I propose that the High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Amendment Bill, 1998 be taken up and disposed of first by the House. Thereafter, the House can resume discussion on the Motion listed at Item No. 11, namely, Report of the erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and at 4 p.m. the House may resume discussion on the Short Duration Discussion on Atrocities on Minorities.

I feel that we should conclude this discussion today. In order to achieve this and in order to enable more Members to participate in the discussion, I suggest, with the approval of the House, that there may be no Zero Hour and no lunch hour today. The House may also sit late to conclude the discussion under Rule 193.

I hope that the House agrees.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will see tomorrow. Please understand. Please take your seats.

Now let us take up Item No. 12, i.e., "Further consideration of the High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Amendment Bill.

Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot has to continue his speech.

I am appealing to the hon. Members once again. I will allow submissions under Zero Hour tomorrow because today we have very important business.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Tomorrow, not today.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think it needs lot of persuasion to make others believe that the economic situation of this country is very grim. I think that it is the view of the Government also. In the context of the mounting pressure on the common people and especially on the workers, an all India strike has been called. Whether you like it or not that is going to happen.

We are saying that we, the Members are agitated. The Government – at least the Haryana Government – is going to deal with it by declaring a war, particularly in that State also. Apart from that there are other areas where problems are there. And the most draconian law, the ESMA – against which Shri George Fernandes fought very stiffly alongwith us on the floor of this House and I remember the spirited attack on that draconian Bill – is being implemented. Hundreds of workers are being arrested.

Is this the way to deal with the people's problems? Therefore, naturally, we have to articulate their problems, their feelings and their sense of protest against this and I am sure that a very large number of Members of this House will join me in protesting against this.

Therefore, I suggest intervention by the Government. Their own men are there. Their allies are running that Government. As the Government of India, they have a duty to the working classes of this country. The Government should take steps immediately to prevent the continuance of such repressive measures. That is our minimum demand. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Speaker Sir, as the hon. Members of the House Shri Somnathji said in the House . . . *(Interruptions)* let me speak. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : *(Interruptions)* So many people have been arrested . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA SINGH (Bhiwani) : When he was speaking, we were not interrupting and we listened their protest patiently . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is going to reply please.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, when he speaks then I have also the right to speak . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . You have called me. You ask him to take his seat . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . They simply want to protest. I know their protest. They are not in a position to listen to what I say. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Surender Singh.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Now he is saying that . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

They are asking who and I to reply.

[Translation]

If he speaks, then I can also speak about Haryana . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, the Minister is going to reply. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is going to reply. Please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, when he has already registered his protest . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . you gave him the time to speak . . . *(Interruptions)* . . . you have also called me . . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker Sir, ask them to keep silent . . . *(Interruptions)*

*Not Recorded.

They are continuously interrupting . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Surender Singh, you please speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri Somnathji has mentioned about imposing ESMA in Haryana. You also allow me to speak I am not supporting the Government here but in view of ESMA, the Government . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . The relations between the Government and the employees should be peaceful so that the Government functions smoothly. The main demand of the employees was regarding the Fifth Pay Commission there. Haryana is a state where the entire amount of Fifth Pay Commission has been provided in view of the recommendations of the Government in this regard. . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

If you are there to agitate, why not I? I am also a Member of the House. I have got every right to speak. They mentioned about Haryana. I belong to Haryana.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to discuss about the Legeslative Assembly of Haryana here . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . A call has been given by them for strike . . . (*Interruptions*). This is the crop season there . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

Shri Surender Singh, Please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Is the Minister going to make any response? Shri Khurana, are you going to say anything? What is this? . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Please listen to what I say.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please ask them to keep quite for a while . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . These Members are saying . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

They are asking who am I to reply. I am not replying for the Government; I am not here to defend the cause of the Government. I am not here to reply the Government's version. Since they are also submitting, I have got every right to submit what I have to say. This is not their monopoly.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : 24 hours in Haryana. . . (*Interruptions*) . . . This is the time of crops and the crops of farmers are destroyed . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . The employees of Electricity Board do not allow the farmers to get the supply of electricity and water . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : He has made his submission. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH : They stage dharna there to cut the electricity and we even have not implemented ESMA . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : Sir, tomorrow's strike is an all-India protest action for one day and notice has been given according to the law. We want to know why this Government is resorting to these repressive measures in order to break the strike. There is no violence. Nothing has been committed. A peaceful strike is going to be held.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Sir, it is not at all peaceful.

The buses burnt there the power houses have been destroyed . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . is this a peaceful demonstration? . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : So, we would like to know what the Government's view is. Let the Government say something on how they intend to deal with the worker's demands and the strike.

[Translation]

THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM MINISTER (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the government employees have been part of the government, we have always fought for their demands. We are talking about ESMA Mr. George and others have raised their voice against ESMA. You have formulated this law and supported it for two years . . . (Interruptions). . . The Union Government have not ordered to misuse the ESMA. If you have any such information then tell us, we will look into that matter . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, this is nothing but an insult to the working class. We cannot, in the circumstances, continue here. We must register our protest. We walk out against this . . . (Interruptions)

12.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Indrajit Gupta and some other hon. Members left the House.)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Sir, we also walk out in protest . . . (Interruptions)

12.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and some other hon. Members left the House.)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali) : Sir, we are also walking out in protest . . . (Interruptions)

12.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri P. Shiv Shanker and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : The Government are against the labourers and adopting negative attitude towards them, so we and our party walk out of the House in protest . . . (Interruptions)

12.18 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Mohan Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, we protest against the undemocratic measures against the workers which the Government is adopting. A war is declared against the people of Haryana. The people are being arrested and being harassed. We walk out in protest.

12.18 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia left the House.)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central) : This Government is against the labourers . . . (Interruptions)

12.18½ hrs.

At this stage, Shri Ramdas Athawale left the House

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : The Government are suppressing the agitation of the labourers. The Govt. have ruined the economic policy by price hike. We walk out of the House in protest . . . (Interruptions)

12.19 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh left the House.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we also join in protest and walk out.

12.19 hrs.

At this stage, Shri G.M. Banatwalla left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bhraich) : We have come back after walk out. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to bring this fact into record again that the government employees are the part of this government and the Union Government has neither misused ESMA nor ordered to misuse it. If any government have misused it and if it is brought to our notice, we will look into this matter. But we do not want to take any undemocratic step. I have already said that ESMA was imposed by the Congress government and they continued it for two years inspite of their two successive Prime Ministers and they kept quiet at that time. . . . (Interruptions) . . . Whatever had been done by the Congress government during the Railway strike, they know it. The way Union government committed atrocities on Government employees some there four years back is known to everybody. . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : What is the benefit of this clarification, they had already decided about walk out. This is a habit of Comradas, they have to do that.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to bring through you, a very important issue before this Government . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, this is a letter to the President. Something very serious has happened yesterday. This is a question relating to the life of an hon. Member of this House . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Is it on the same point or on some other point?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Sir, this involves the question relating to the life of an hon. Member of this House. These are threats to Kumari Mayawati. Yesterday what happened in Lucknow . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not today, tomorrow. Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Chandresh Patel.

(Interruptions)

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

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Tomorrow, not today.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : We have given a notice for zero hour.

MR. SPEAKER : We will take it tomorrow, not today.

(Interruptions)

12.21 hrs.

At the stage, Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Chandumajra, please go to your seat. This is not good.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You go to your seat first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Chandresh Patel.

(Interruptions)

*Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, is it the way to behave in the House?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Then, Sir, where shall we go to seek protection? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not today, tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

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

(Interruptions)*

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to bring out early on up-to-date telephone directory of Jamnagar District, Gujarat

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL (Jamnagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Telephone directory of Jamnagar district in Gujarat has not been published for a long time. Last time it was published in 1986 which has upto date numbers upto 30.11.96. But after that new exchanges are as under whose numbers are not there :

1. Level 50 New G.I.D.C. Exchange 5000 line.
2. Level 67 New City exchange 10000 line.
3. Level 54 exchange 2000 lines have been extended.
4. Level 55 exchange 5000 lines have been extended.

So, after 1996 there have been many numbers but Traders, Industrialists & people are facing lot of problems because of the non-availability of an upto-date directory and now the directory of 1996 is of no use. An open House was organised in Jamnagar telephone deptt (Gujrat) on 5.1.98 in which the people had raised this matter but upto-date telephone directory has still not been published.

Therefore new upto-date telephone directory be brought at the earliest.

(ii) Need to ensure that Namoshudra Bengalis are recognised as Scheduled Castes in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI SOHAN POTAI (Kanker) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Namoshudra Bengalis enjoy S.C. status in other states while the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh wants to enlist them in Backward class.

*Not Recorded.

I therefore request the M.P. Govt. through you that Namoshudra Bengalis of Madhya Pradesh be given S.C. status.

(iii) Loss caused to the Crop of Soyabean by Rect disease in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Farmers have suffered a great loss due to Rect disease to the Kharif crop of Soyabean this year in Madhya Pradesh. Last year too most of the Soyabean crop had perished in the fields and the barns due to heavy rains and it had grown in the barns itself this years the farmers had sow the soyabean by purchasing it at a high price from the Govt. which could not take roots due to the loss of 60.70 per cent germination capacity, no crop grew and whatever crop grew in the fields that too has been destroyed by this disease for which the farmers had suffered a great loss. The situation is that the farmers in Madhya Pradesh will not be having seeds of Soyabean to be grown for the next crop.

So I request the Govt. of India that the estimated loss caused to the soyabean crop due to Rect disease should be called for and compensation be given to those farmers who have less than 10 acres of land and arrangement for the soyabean seed be made for the next year.

(iv) Need to take stringent security steps to safeguard the sea coast in Gujarat

SMT. BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : In view the ill intentions of ISI of Pakistan fencing work is being done in Rajasthan by the Central Govt. to further strengthen the border security of our country and fencing work is being considered in Gujarat also but the coastal area in Gujarat is insecure even today as a security point of view.

I therefore request the Central Government that :

- (a) Patrolling of coastal area be handed over to coast guard.
- (b) Joint Patrolling expenses by the State Govt. should be reimbursed by the Central Govt.
- (c) High Speed boat facility be provided for joint coastal patrolling.

A memorandum had been given to the hon'ble Home Minister of Central Govt. on 2.4.98 in connection with coastal security of Gujarat and the Chief Minister has also sent a letter on 16.10.98.

I, request, the Central Govt. to take early decision in regard to provide security to the coastal area of Gujarat.

(v) Need to declare Sirmor area of Himachal Pradesh as Scheduled Tribe area

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : The areas of transgiri in Distt. Sirmor in Himachal Pradesh and apart from Rajgarh Renuka and Silai, Jaunsar which is hill area of Uttar Pradesh was also a part of Sirmor State but it was included in Uttar Pradesh and the rest State remained in the Sirmor. The tribal area here is not yet declared as tribal area while the part included in Uttar Pradesh has been declared as tribal area. Distt. Sirmor has been demanding to declare the area as tribal area and in this connection Himachal Legislative Assembly has passed a resolution and requested the Govt. of India to declare the area as tribal area. But the Govt. of India has not conceded this reasonable demand. Although their rituals and relations are the same as in the adjoining area jounsar. I therefore demand the Govt. of India that their long awaited demand be met immediately and their anger which they have still been showing as demonstration should not get a tempo and it could be silenced. I hope that Govt. of India would fulfill the demands soon.

(vi) Need to look into the grievances of land-oustees of Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA (Peddapalli) : The Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC during its inception had acquired land from various private persons in different villages.

In 1988, NTPC entered into an agreement to provide jobs to the land-oustees in a phased manner and it provided jobs to a few persons in the past few years. But 120 persons are yet to be provided jobs. These people have been on relay hunger strike for the last over two months to draw the attention of NTPC. There is untold human suffering because of breach of agreement by NTPC. There are many Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes people, apart from minorities, in the list of people who gave away the land for the project. The management of NTPC has breached the agreement. Sir, I request the hon. Minister of Power to look into the matter and do justice to the aggrieved land-oustees.

(vii) Need to extend Sabary railway line upto Punalur via Sabarimala in Kerala

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN (Adoor) : Punalur is the main gateway of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Most of the Sabarimala pilgrims come from Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh by roadways and gather at Punalur and from

there only they proceed to Sabarimala. Punalur Paper Mill is situated in Punalur. Besides, Punalur is an industrial and commercial town also. With the extension of this proposed railway line up to Punalur, the public, especially the common people, farmers, business people, industrial people and students, will get more facilities and benefits according to their professions or trades. Maximum benefits will accrue to those people who stay in the nearby places of Kollam, like Pathananuthitta, Kottayam and Trivandrum.

I request the Union Government to extend the Sabary Railway line up to Punalur which is badly required for development in every respect.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I again request you as it is very important issue of the farmers of Punjab and Haryana. Sowing of wheat has started but they haven't received money. Paddy crop is adversely affected. It is the loss of the magnitude of thousands of crores rupees. The Central team visited and surveyed there but no money so far has reached the affected ones. All rice mills are inoperated. . . .

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the proper way.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : If there is no time for us then we should go . . . (Interruptions) Every matter is discussed here except ours. It's a matter of two states. Every matter is discussed here. We are not given even two minutes . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have appealed to the hon. Members that we will take up 'Zero Hour' tomorrow. Today, we have more important business Prof. Chandumajra, what is your submission?

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR (BALLIA) : Sir, it is an important issue. The crops are destroyed very badly. Sowing time is running out of hand and farmers are yet to receive the seeds and fertilizers. Haryana and Punjab are the two states upon whom the entire country depends for foodgrains. We can well imagine the situation if they don't get the seeds and fertilizers. The crops are worst affected there. The concern of our friends is very genuine. I think the Minister of Agriculture is not here. I don't know who is the Minister of Agriculture. . . . (Interruptions) The

situation in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh is not different. I went to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh there also the crops are destroyed. I would like to request to the Government through you to give special attention to the problem.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your submission?

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : I thank Mr. Chandra Shekhar for understanding our feelings and inviting attention of the Government towards the problem, through you. I, also, want to assert that the farmers of Punjab and Haryana fulfill the food demand of the country and still they are in pathetic condition. There is urgent need to think and act over this condition. The central team visited there to provide the compensation. The team has submitted its report but compensation has not been provided so far. The paddy crop worth thousands of crores is destroyed due to rains, floods and water logging. Wheat is not being sowed. The farmers are running from pillar to post for money, so I think Punjab and Haryana should get the compensation as announced by the Hon. Prime Minister during the Punjab visit. If this money reaches Punjab and Haryana, farmers will be compensated for the damage.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your submission?

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHAMAD (Madhubani) : Fertilizers and water will be made available to the farmers of the whole country but the farmers of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are yet to get the fertilizers. The Hon. Prime Minister stated in this House that this House is the Apex forum for the voice of 90 crores of people. I request you to take keen interest in this matter and get the fertilizers available to the farmers of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana. . . . (Interruptions) Your direction is required in this regard.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Sir, devastating floods have destructed the crops in Uttar Pradesh and the farmers are in pathetic condition. They are not getting adequate flood relief. Their houses have damaged, their paddy crop has washed away in the floods and the leftover crop has rotten. I would like to request, through you, to provide relief for flood to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. You, please, issue directions to the Government for the same. The supply of fertilizer is also not adequate. There is scarcity of DAP. The reason for the same being sudden sowing and higher demand of fertilizer. I would like to request, through you, to get the arrangements done for the fertilizers.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi) : Sir I request you, as pleaded by Mr. Chandrashekhar, to issue directive to the Government to get the fertilizers available to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Would the Government like to respond to it?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing, except what Shri Gehlot is speaking, would go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, the Government has already noted it.

Shri Gehlot, Please continue.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing, except what Shri Gehlot is speaking, would go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Sir, Hon. Finance Minister introduced a Bill in the House yesterday regarding Rupees one Thousand note. I support it and I accordingly spoke on the subject yesterday . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Government has already noted it. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad, now, he is giving the reply.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, two points have come up during the discussion. One being, scarcity of fertilizers in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The state of Haryana is also there.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, we will inform the concerned Minister regarding this issue and he will, in turn,

*Not Recorded.

consult with the Parliamentarians of that area. As far as movement of fertilizers is concerned, it is said that there is dearth of racks in the Railways. I would like to inform that there is no dearth of racks and sufficient number of racks are available. Whosoever put a demand for racks near Vizag, the demand is fulfilled. I assure you that racks are available in excess of the loading capacity. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He already has answered it. Now, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already answered it. Now, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We would now take up discussion on the High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Bill. Shri Gehlot may please continue now.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Sir, Hon. Finance Minister has presented a Bill in the House yesterday regarding Rupees one Thousand note. I support it and accordingly spoke on the subject yesterday . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Prime Minister himself stated about this around a week back. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? The Minister is on his legs.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : A fullfledged discussion is coming up next week on natural calamities, if you desire it can be included in that . . . (Interruptions) please, listen to me first and then speak . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister complete please.

*Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I want to say that I will convey your feelings to the Minister of Agriculture today and request him to inform the House in this regard . . . (Interruptions) I would convey to the Minister of Agriculture to pay special attention to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. I would like to ensure that there won't be any scarcity of fertilizers, as told by the Prime Minister . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, I am coming from Punjab. I was in Patiala yesterday . . . (Interruptions) Farmers are worrying for fertilizers even today, I have been hearing it there . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : You cannot talk about the interest of farmers, wearing tie, first you come wearing dhoti . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It does not make any difference Sir, I am coming from Punjab, I am telling what farmers said. Prime Minister had given a statement there. He promised that his secretariat would monitor that Government should issue a statement, giving details of the demand of each state and the amount which they had received, just to remove their apprehensions. By that we would be able to tell the people. The government should issue the statement by today evening to correct the psychological perception . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Pilotji, it is sufficient . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He may not be able to give the statement by today because he has to get the facts . . . (Interruptions) I will convey your feelings to Hon. Minister. He will issue the statement by today evening or tomorrow.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, what is this, you are always disturbing the House?

(Interruptions) .

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

(Interruptions)*

12.43 hrs.

HIGH DENOMINATION BANK NOTES (DEMONETISATION) AMENDMENT BILL - Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is provision of printing bank notes of high denomination in the amendment bill presented by hon. Finance Minister. I support it and feel that the House will believe that the economy of the Country come on right track because of high denomination bank notes. There will be no need to get the bank notes printed from foreign countries. The demand from R.B.I. Bank notes printing factories, will be fulfilled easily. The paper ink and labour will be saved on a whole. This will be worth supporting, so I support it. Here, some hon. members had apprehensions that black money, the numbers of scams like Hawala would increased, if this bill is passed. I do not agree with it and want to say that printing of bank notes of high denominations was closed it this country after 1977 and after that period black money increased. There happened may Hawala scams. There are other reasons not only high denomination note. The bunglings are because of wrong policies. It has nothing to take from the denomination of bank notes. Bungling like Tax evasion, not showing real income and invest that in other fields are because of wrong policies. Finance Minister is aware and active. His eyes are sharp. He is aware of these bunglings and trying to have check on them.

I will like to conclude giving two, three suggestions. At present bank notes are printed in Devas and Nasik factory. The proposal for the expansion is pending for a long time. It should be completed speedily. At the same time new factories have been set up in Mysore (Karnataka) and West Bengal. They should be set up as fulfilled factories. The problems of the employees should be solved immediately with these words, I support the Bill and thank Finance Minister for his good efforts.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. speaker, I am on my legs to speak on High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) AMENDMENT BILL presented by Finance Minister. I want to say some thing as suggestions. There is a big scarcity of 1, 5 and 10 rupees note and small coins. This scarcity should be met to give convenience to customers and traders for daily sale and purchase. Same way I support the bill presented for circulation of 1000 rupee note inspite of 500 rupee. It will be convenient exchange by 200 rupee note in place of 100 rupee note. I want to draw your attention towards whole Uttar Pradesh. Mutilated currency notes are not exchanged. Many customers go to main Bank Branch of Bank to exchange

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

mutilated currency notes. Banks are not exchanging and it has created a big problem. I had gone to Madhya Pradesh at the time of elections, Mutilated Currency notes of 1 rupee, 2 rupee and 5 rupee are in circulation, but traders refuse to accept them in other states, and it leads inconvenience to customers. Banks should be given direction to exchange mutilated currency notes and release small denominations and coins for circulation. When we withdraw money from banks, we get some mutilated notes, but when we go to deposit them, banks refuse to accept them. You should instruct banks to accept those currency notes.

I want the quality of the paper should also be good. Paper currency notes get mutilated soon. So its quality should be improved. The circulation of fake notes of 50, 100 and 500 denominations are there in up I want that their in U.P. in large scale. I want that their circulation should be checked by appointing a special task force so that inconvenience to the customers be checked. There was black marketing and hoarding due to the circulation of currency notes of big denomination. As we are discussing to start the note of One Thousand, five Thousand or ten thousand to check and stop the black marketing and hoarding; we should have open eye on it. With these words, giving some suggestions, I stress upon this Bill as also oppose add this Bill. If my suggestions are considered I will support it. Circulation of currency note of five thousand and ten thousand should stop.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been in touch with you for three days. The Human Resource Development Minister is sitting here. We are in trouble. The students of Aligarh Muslim University are on hunger strike. Their condition is deteriorating . . . (Interruptions)

When I raised the issue yesterday, you had told that the Minister was not there. But today he is here . . . (Interruptions) Boys will die.

[English]

Today the Minister is here. I will request the hon. Minister to intervene and see that the students are saved . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This matter was raised by you yesterday.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, all the boys are dying there. We are interested in the matter that the

University should be opened and I would like to know from the Minister as to what initiatives are being taken to get the University opened. On behalf of the hon. Minister Shrimati Sheela Gautam had visited there and the hon. Minister assured the boys . . . (Interruptions) the boys are on the verge of dying.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised this matter yesterday.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : So, let the hon. Minister reply to it now.

MR. SPEAKER : I now call the Minister of Finance to reply to the discussion on the Bill.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You raised this matter yesterday and the Government has also taken note of it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Sir, today nine days have passed since the boys went on hunger strike.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is this the way to raise matters in this House?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, nine days have passed since the boys went on strike; they are dying. . . .

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : That's a very serious matter. Sir, we have never raised any matter during the whole session.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Paswan, you have made a mention about this yesterday and you made a mention about it two or three days ago also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The Minister was not present yesterday.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, the boys are on hunger strike and today, nine days have passed since the incidence.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, you are a senior Member of this House. This is not the way to raise matters. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have already called the Minister of Finance.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

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

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, is this the way to raise a matter in this House? Please take your seat. You are a senior Member.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow Shri Chavan to speak on this Bill. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I will take only five minutes.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : I hope, you are going to speak on this Bill.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you only one minute.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, I will require five minutes but not more than that. I want to make a few points because it is a very important Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, I will allow you.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, it is a very important Bill. We do not mind supporting the Bill which the hon. Finance Minister has moved. But we need an assurance. He wants to introduce thousand rupee notes. It is understandable why he wants to bring it. He has given some logic about it. There are two or three serious implications to this whole business of currency note

*Not Recorded.

printing. The whole country was shocked when Government of India took a decision to import currency notes from eight different countries. Of course, the decision was not taken by this Government, but that is not the point. As a result of this decision, a serious problem of counterfeit notes has arisen. There was a Question in Parliament also. It was replied that counterfeit notes worth Rs. 15 lakh have been seized. The problem is very serious in the North-East. Non-availability of smaller denomination notes in North-East is also a very serious problem.

I would like the hon. Minister to investigate why the two printing presses, one at Salboni and other at Mysore, which were bought to enhance the capacity are not functioning properly. Is there a conspiracy? Our presses are not working and the Government is importing currency notes. Rs. 350 crore worth of import took place. Please assure us that these thousand rupee notes will not be printed outside. There are very grave implications to this.

Another issue I would like to touch is that the whole apparatus of currency printing notes and paper printing notes needs to be overhauled. They cannot function like the ordnance factories. Please convert all these currency printing and paper mills into companies and corporatise them so that they can work efficiently and the country is not held to a ransom. I would request the hon. Minister to study the counterfeit aspect very seriously. There are reports that the counterfeiters have got excellent technology. There are reports that the counterfeiters have got excellent technology. There are reports that some of our neighbouring countries are using it as an unconventional economic warfare against this country. I would not like to name those countries. The terrorist activities are being funded by the counterfeit notes. Our currency notes are being printed in eight different countries. What is the guarantee that more notes are not being printed? What is the guarantee that the security papers which are being supplied by you perhaps, are not produced in larger quantity? What is the guarantee that it is not being misused? What is the security during transportation? It is a very serious matter. Currency notes worth one lakh crores of rupees were printed abroad by eight different countries and that too by the private companies. Let us not repeat this. Please give an assurance to us that you do not intend to print 5,000 and 10,000 rupee notes as this Bill does not prevent the Government from doing that. Please clarify the position of the Government.

Now, you have specifically come to the House to get permission to print 1,000 rupee notes. Perhaps, there is a logic to it. But you assure us that you will not get these 1,000 rupee notes printed outside, we will find it difficult to support the Bill.

I understand that the design for thousand rupee notes has already been done. I do not know whether it is true

[Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan]

or not. When you design it, for the photographs to be put on the currency notes, please consider the photographs of great leaders of the past. I would request you to put the photograph of Chatrapati Shivaji on the thousand rupee notes. When you introduce some other currency notes later on, you can consider other great national leaders of the past. Please assure us that you will restructure the whole currency printing mechanism. This situation of going abroad to get our currency notes printed should not arise again. Please investigate why these two printing presses imported at great cost are not functioning properly.

13.00 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that this Bill which I have brought before this House has led to a very lively debate and a number of issues have been raised. One very important issue which has been raised is the question of consensus across the House. Kumari Mamata Banerjee and a number of other speakers have referred to that. I entirely concede the point that in the days of fragile polity and fractured politics, no Government can get through anything without a consensus. Therefore, this is the first point which I would like to tackle.

The suggestion that thousand rupee notes should be printed was first mooted by the Reserve Bank of India for some very good reasons in April, 1994. The suggestion came from the RBI. The then Government of the Congress Party took a decision in principle in July, 1994 that thousand rupee notes should be printed. Most of us who have been in Government are aware of the very complicated and dilatory mechanism by which the Governments work, especially the Government of India. The final decision could not be taken on this during the regime of the Congress Party. The proposal was revived and continued to be considered when the United Front Government came to power and that Government decided to go ahead with the printing of these thousand rupee notes. A decision was taken at the level of the Cabinet. Then political events intervened and they could not bring the Bill before this House. When our Government came into power the proposal was put up to us and we looked at the justification and background recognized by the two previous Governments. Then we also decided to go ahead with this and it is in that background that this matter has been brought before this House in the form of a legislation.

So, if consensus is an important consideration, I would dare say, Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all humility, that there has been a consensus across the board spanning three Governments including ours which have been in power for the last three years. Unfortunately, in this country there has

been a shortage of both notes and coins. This is not a recent origin. For almost two decades this country has been facing the shortage of notes and coins. From time to time steps have been taken to get over the shortage. Fresh capacities have been created in the form of new mints and new presses to get over this problem. Despite the efforts which have been made, unfortunately, the availability in terms of the supply and demand position has been going down and I have figures to suggest that it has come down from a high of 55 per cent of availability to something like 38 per cent of availability in 1997-98. Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan has left the House immediately after raising his point. Therefore, it was in that background that the United Front Government, when it was in Office, decided to import both currency notes as well as coins from abroad. It was a decision taken by them. I am not reflecting on the merit of the decision, But I would like to say that the present Government has had no hand in that decision.

We have not taken any decision so far, despite the shortage that we are facing, to import these currency notes. I can assure, with all the emphasis at my command, that as far as thousand rupee notes are concerned, it is not the intention of the Government to get them printed outside this country. They will be printed within this country so that no problem arises.

An issue has been raised here by various speakers in regard to the shortage of small denomination notes.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : May I know whether the five thousand rupees notes will be printed outside or within our country?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I will come to that. If you just have the patience to listen to me, I will try and satisfy the curiosity of all Members.

The decision not to print the notes of one, two and five rupees was taken many years ago. The decision not to print one rupee notes was taken in September, 1994. The decision not to print two rupees notes was taken in January, 1995 and the decision not to print five rupees notes was taken in November, 1995, by the then Government, maybe for good reasons.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : That is why we are here. Do you want to be here?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The problem, Sir, is, that all the wisdom dawns on Members and Parties when they go to that side.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : That is your experience.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : And, I have known of Parties changing their positions and stands when they are in power but I know a very few cases where Parties have

changed their stands on decisions taken when they were in power.

This was done, as I said, for obviously the good reason that the currency notes used to get soiled and, therefore, it was decided that they should be replaced with coins. That is the status at the moment. The reason why soiled one, two or five rupees notes are still in circulation is the fact that they have not been printed and they will not be printed in future. As I said, they have not been printed for many years. The arrangement of the Reserve Bank of India is that anyone who is in possession of these small notes can go to any of the currency chests of the Reserve Bank of India and get them replaced for coins of these values. That is the suggestion that I would like to make. Anyone, who is in possession of such notes, should go to the nearest currency chests and get them exchanged. There is no point in trying to keep in circulation notes which are soiled, damaged and which are not going to be printed in future. If there was a proposal to print them, then I would have said that they will be replaced. But they will not be replaced. The replacement will be on the basis of the coins.

An issue has been raised here, Shri Mohan Singh and other Members were kind enough to raise that issue, with regard to the Permanent Account Number. I would like to repeat it once again with all the clarity and all the emphasis at my command that the requirement of the law is not that a PAN is absolutely mandatory for any transaction, including opening of a bank account. The requirement of law is, if somebody wants to go and make a transaction or open a bank account, then the bank would ask whether he is an assessee of the income tax. If he is an assessee than he would perhaps have a PAN. If he does not have a PAN as yet, then he will have a GIR Number, General Index Register number. Every income tax payee has a GIR. If he does not have a PAN, he will quote the GIR and if he does not have a PAN or a GIR which means he is not an assessee of the income tax then he has to fill a very simple form called Form No. 16 where certain details are taken. That is all. No transaction will be stopped. No bank account will be refused from opening only on the ground that somebody does not have a PAN or a GIR number. It is not the intention of the Government. It was never the intention of the Government that the bank transaction should be stopped.

I would now talk about the point which Shri Chacko and other Members have raised, that is that the printing of a thousand rupee notes will lead to accumulation of black money in this country. It was represented as if this Government was acting in the interest of the rich and against the poor. It is not so. A decision was taken in 1987 by the then Government to print 500 rupees notes.

They did not have to come to Parliament because it was not necessary. It was within the framework of the law. So the then Government in 1987 went ahead with work of printing Rs. 500 notes. If through demonitisation we could put a brake on generation of blackmoney, then in 1978, when this demonitisation Bill was made into an Act and thousand rupee note, Rs. 5000 note and Rs. 10,000 note were demonetized, then Shri Chacko would not have been required to make that contradictory statement. Then the blackmoney circulation and quantum of blackmoney in this country would not have gone up between 1978 and 1998. That is exactly what I meant when I said that it is not the denomination, but there are other things which determine whether blackmoney will be generated in this country or not. I dare say, once again, with all humility that in this year's Budget I have taken a number of steps to strike at the root of generation of blackmoney. The quoting of PAN is one such measure that I have taken. We are all aware that people have gone and bought cars in cash. They have bought properties in cash. The cash has been in many lakhs of rupees. Now, I am saying that if you go and indulge in any of these transactions then please let us know whether you are an income tax payee. If somebody is going and making property deal in cash of lakhs of rupees, then the Revenue Department has a good reason to know where that money came from. So, these are some of the measures that I have introduced in this year's Budget to strike at the root of blackmoney.

Let me make it very clear that this Government does not believe in promoting or encouraging the generation of blackmoney and then coming repeatedly with one amnesty scheme after another. We shall not do this. What we shall do is, we shall continue to strike at the root of generation of blackmoney so that blackmoney generation is reduced to the minimum and honest taxpayers are not discouraged in this country. Every honest taxpayer comes to us and says, 'what is the point in paying taxes if at some point of time or the other we know that you will bring measures which will give amnesty to all those who have avoided paying taxes and evaded paying taxes'. So, PAN was considered in that context. We have a programme where we shall be giving to the majority of income tax payees a PAN before the end of this financial year and whatever is left shall be completed within the next financial year.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk) : I have a small clarification. The 100-rupee-note and the 500 rupee-note, the two are very identical. They are easily mixed up. Please pay attention in this regard also.

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, it was pointed out that the ISI is printing counterfeit notes and that fake notes are being circulated in this country. The Government is aware of that and it has taken a number of steps through the Ministry of Home Affairs and through the intelligence agencies to make sure that that mischief is nipped in the bud. This has also been a continuing process. We will continue to take the strongest possible action against any foreign agency which tries to disrupt our system by bringing into this country, currency notes which are fake or counterfeit . . . (Interruptions). If you hear me through, many of your questions will be answered. If there are any unanswered questions left, I am here to answer them. I am not running away from the House.

Sir, Kumari Mamta Banerjee raised a very important point about the circulation of Bhutanese currency in the North of Bengal. I have checked up on that. This is very much in the knowledge of the Enforcement Directorate and it is taking steps to see that we put a stop to that. Wherever information is coming to us or to the Ministry of Home Affairs or to the Government about any such incident or series of incidents, the Government is acting with alacrity and effectively to put an end to it. If the Government of the day had not – I am not merely referring to the last eight months, I am referring to all the previous Governments also – acted with alacrity then perhaps those mischief makers and those foreign agencies would have, by now, succeeded in achieving the objective that they set forth to.

Now it is true that we are bringing an amendment in the 1978 Act. The intention of the Government is to bring only one thousand rupee notes at this point of time. For all those who are raising the question of notes of smaller denomination and the poor people, I will say that once we use the existing capacity to start printing one thousand rupee notes, it is quite clear that somebody who is earning Rs. 500 or Rs. 50 a day will not be using those one thousand rupee notes. But there are people in this country who will find one thousand rupee notes convenient. Now what will happen, is, this will release capacity for the smaller notes. It will then remove the pressure on the notes of smaller denomination and then it will be possible for us to make sure that the difficulty in regard to the notes of smaller denomination is removed and the difficulty which people are facing are also taken care of.

I would like to say at the end that in the last eight months that we have been in office, we have taken a number of steps. The mints at Hyderabad, Bombay, and Calcutta have been put on 54 hour working instead of 48 hours per week. There was some differences with the trade unions. We have resolved those differences and they have

now agreed in the national interest to work for 54 hours a week instead of 48 hours. This will lead to increase in capacity. We have also devised an incentive scheme which has been introduced, to begin with, in NOIDA Mint. When it works well, we will introduce it in other mints also. The mint at NOIDA is the latest and the modern one. But the NOIDA mint has unfortunately been working only one shift. It is the intention of the Government to introduce the second shift which will lead to doubling of the capacity.

All these steps have been taken in consultation with the Government and with full concurrence of the workers and the trade unions who are in these mints. So, we are keeping a watch on the situation. As I said, we have absolutely no intention at this point of time to go in for imports. I suppose, the then Government had to go for it because the exigencies of the situation so demanded. But we have no intention of importing notes printed abroad. It will be our endeavour to ensure that all our needs are met from within the requirement, within the capacity available in the country. We are also going to increase the capacity of the note paper and all this will ensure that the shortages that I had mentioned in the beginning when I was moving the Bill, would be taken care of in future. Therefore, in the light of the fact that in this particular case, at least it has been a continuous process spanning three Governments, I would appeal to the House and to the hon. Members to withdraw their objections to this and please vote this Bill unanimously. Thank You.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : What about import of note paper?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The note paper has been imported in this country over the years because there is a shortage. Therefore, this Government has taken the decision that we shall create additional capacity for note paper so that we do not have to look for imports to meet our requirements.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Regard the PAN and GIR, we have been receiving a number of calls from our constituency for subscription of telephone connection and purchase of a car. It seems to be difficult to show cause why they are not income-tax assessee. It seems to be very difficult for the common people and rural people. It is noted that the Samadhan Scheme has been extended to 31st December. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would propose extending the date of the new scheme so that the common people would be aware of the things so as to avoid these difficulties.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The date for Samadhan Scheme has not been extended. The original date of Samadhan Scheme is 31st December. As far as other requirements of law which I had mentioned in the Budget

Speech, are concerned, they have come into operation from the 1st of October. We have to recognise one fact and that is that the number of people who have been traditionally evading paying of taxes in this country, that must get reduced. It is with that intention that I have brought all this. It is not to cause inconvenience to them. Therefore, exemptions have been granted to agriculturists, retired people and others who want to own a telephone. But others who fall within this category have to merely say whether they are assesseees or not. If they are not assesseees, we are not going to say that they must pay their income tax whether they are required to pay income tax or not. This requirement will be there only if they are required to pay income tax on the income that accrues to them.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, despite statements made by hon'ble Finance Minister, the finance Ministry's officials - Income Tax Officers and Inspectors-harass people in the name of PAN. Therefore, he should insure that the implementation of his statements could be put into effect in tune with what he has made; otherwise, it would creat panic in the name of PAN. I, therefore, would like to say through you to the Finance Minister that the implementation should be made properly.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM (Garhwal) : Hon'ble Finance Minister, the clarification regarding PAN and G.I.R. is . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No need of so much clarification.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN SCHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM : I fear that in the Bank of Parliament House Premises also the PAN or G.I.R. is required for opening an account.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : That is why I have said this thing, strongly in this House. If this thing could not be made public through this House, I don't know what else I can do or not. I myself talked to the Govenor of the Reserve Bank of India and have asked that the Banks should never do misbehave like this with those who approach them to have an account open. There is no ban for getting account opened just like on a person purchasing car with a ready cast of Rs. 10 lakhs Simply I want to know whether you pay tax or not. If you do not, say it, nothig wrong of it . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : I would like to remind hon. Finance Minister to the issue raised by Shri Vijay Goel. The 100 rupee notes and the 500 rupee notes are so much identical that you have to suffer a loss of Rs. 400 while taking Rs. 100 note instead of Rs. 500 note in confusion; and the same thing happens vice-versa.

I, therefore, request Hon'ble Minister that the he would take note of it while printing these two notes that they have of different design so that confusion may be avoided. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, this is a suggestion for action. I have taken note of it.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the High Donomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Act, 1978, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13.24 hrs.

MOTION RE : CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF ERSTWHILE COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES - *Contd.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Item No.11, namely, further discussion on the motion moved by Shrimati Maneka Gandhi on the Report of erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi may move the Motion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : Sir, I had moved the Motion yesterday. Now it is for the debate to begin.

MR. SPEAKER : When you have moved the Motion, you have to make a speech now.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : No, Sir. It is for them to make their speeches. I have moved the motion. It is for the hon. Members now to make their speeches after which I will reply. I do not want to make a speech now.

MR. SPEAKER : Last time, you had moved the Motion. Now, you have to make a speech. You may say something on the Report and other things.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : I will make a speech after the debate. Now it is for the Members to say whatever they want to say and then I will reply to them. I have laid the Report on the Table of the House. And you have given four hours' time for the debate.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Shri Ajit Jogi.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : Sir, he is not present now. You may call the next speaker.

[Translation]

SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP (Bastar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to discuss the 30th report regarding the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1989-91. It was put on the floor of the House on the 28th of July, 1998. I represent Bastar. I have great concern for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I would like to express my view about the report by Dr. Brahmdeo Sharma referring to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Dr. Sharma is a biased person having no interest in developing Tribal areas. He was Collector in 1972 in our Bastar district. He closed down all the schemes and promoted plundering and pillaging. Be it the matter of Approach Road Project or industrial dealings, he did nothing for them at all.

The report reads that had made his first visit to Dante wala after resuming the office in 1989. Then he observed the Bailadilla Iron Ores Project and concluded in his report that the industry should not be undertaken and only excavation should be undertaken. Now 40 years have passed since the excavation started. In spite of that no development has been made for the Tribals. Previously, the excavation used to be undertaken by tribal workers but now-a-days it has been replaced with mechanisation

resulted the situation has been very miserable there. Having no industry in Bastar district, Balladila Iron Ore is being run by M.M.D.C. It does nothing but maintains its households. The workers have been shortlisted and now no tribal worker is working there.

The people of Bastar talk of setting up industry there. I, too, led the movement many times demanding it. But the previous government did not pay attention to it. They used to say the tribes need merely forest land including pastoral production like Mahua, Tendoo leaves and woods. But the irony is that now-a-days there seems to be a dearth of all this production also. The Supreme Court said in its order a Karnataka-based party had filed a writ petition in the wake of deforestation by Arvind Netam and his company on large scale. That is why there has been shortage of fuel wood.

In a dense forest area like Bastar, wood is brought from Raipur. The matter is in the Supreme Court. I want to request the Government to get this vacated so that the people of that area can get fuel wood.

Regarding irrigation, only one to one-and-a-half per cent area is under irrigation. In all the adivasi areas in the country there is no proper arrangement of irrigation. In the report presented by Dr. Sharma, it has been mentioned that this is not in the interest of the adivasis. Regarding the interest of the adivasis, it is mentioned in Ramayana—'Hita-Anhita Pashu-Pakshi He Jana.' The adivasis know what is in their interest and what is not. Dr. Sharma was a Commissioner. He was also a secretary for two or three years in Madhya Pradesh. He was against construction of roads etc, not only in Bastar but in adivasi regions all over the country. There is an interesting episode. In 1977-78 Sh. Morarji Bhai Desai was the Prime Minister. At that time I was the tribal welfare Minister in Madhya Pradesh. I had a talk with him and funds were allocated for that. Hon. Dhanik Lal Mandal was the then Home Minister. After my talks with him, provision was made for the construction of roads in the adivasi regions. This is the situation. Hence this report is merely an eye wash. If efforts are made to bring about changes in the life style of the adivasis and the Scheduled Castes, based on that report, then, I do not think there can be a bigger mistake than this one. Dr. Brahma Dev Sharma was the Commissioner. At that time he used to write that time, that this would not benefit the adivasis and the Scheduled Castes. The world is progressing. The world is moving towards the 21st century. And if we harp on going back to the 19th century, nothing could be more disastrous. I would like to request the hon. Maneka Gandhi to pay heed to this report and to formulate a special programme, after discussion with the representatives of adivasis and the Scheduled Castes, so that something effective could be done.

Today, the Adivasis of 1980 have encroached the forest land. But the Government has not made any announcement to provide land to them. In 1978, when hon. Morarji Bhai was the Prime Minister, we had started the work of providing lease. But, after the formation of Congress Government, it stopped this. Then, the B.J.P. Government came to power. Then we gave lease for land ownership rights and provided Rs. one thousand, two thousand for its development. Those people who occupied the forest land till 1980, are entitled for lease. Therefore, I raised this question in the previous session in Parliament. The Environment and Forest Ministry had replied that permission had been received to provide some land to those who had encroached the forest land in five states till 1980. This proposal is still pending with the Environment and Forest Ministry. I want to request that a decision, regarding all matters, pertaining to the adivasis, pending in the Environment and Forest Ministry, should be taken in the interest of the adivasis.

Another thing is that, the adivasis living in the forest have encroached on the forest land, as they have no land. They are harassed by the staff of the forest department. Ten to twelve years ago the houses of the adivasis, living in the forest, used to be destroyed and were forced to flee from there and were even put behind bars. This was the situation. Agitation was launched in Jhabua, Bastar and Khargone to provide them land. When P.V. Narasimha Rao was the then Minister of Human Resource Development I had submitted a memorandum to him for giving ownership rights to those who had occupied forest land. I wrote to him twice. He replied only once. I wrote thousands of letters. But no one bothered. Ten crore adivasis live in places such as Bastar, Jhabua, Khargone, Khandua and north-east. They lead a hand to mouth existence. The case of persons like myself, or Ajit Jogi or Shrimati Usha Meena is somewhat different, as we have become Members of Parliament. I am originally an adivasi and have joined politics after some education. We improved our lot. An adivasi living in the Jungle, roams about with rice and 'tumbi'. As per the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, hunting has been banned. I want to request the government exempt the adivasis in some cases. I request the Hon' Minister, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi to discuss this problem with the adivasi Mukhiya, Manjhi, MLAs and MPs.

As far as 'Malik Madbuja' (temporary ownership of the land) is concerned, registry of the land belonging to the adivasis is done. Being clever, permission is taken to register the land, by making payment, in collusion with the officials/staff, and the Malik Madbuja (temporary owner) cut timber. There was a Union Minister of State in the previous

Government* and others indulged in this activity there. They felled the forest wood as well as that of the 'malik madbuja' (trees). There is a Supreme Court stay on it. I want to request the Minister to get the stay vacated.

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : It would be better if you do not take names.

SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP : I am taking his name as he is involved in it. Also because the matter is pending with the Lok Ayukta.

SHRIMATI USHA MEENA (Swai Madhopur) : He is an adivasi.

SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP : If he is an adivasi, does it mean he can do such a thing? I, Bali Ram Kashyap, am an adivasi. Does this give me the right to do wrong? If an adivasi commits a wrong, I do not consider him an adivasi.

Sir, 40 lakh hectares of forest in Mandla is inflicted with Borer disease and * the Government has given permission to cut the forest. Yesterday, my brother Shri Faggan Singh Kuleste said this permission was wrong . . . that the Government has done so many things in these areas. The Collector* of Bastar, sometime back, added the names of the wives of the adivasis in the (land) records, on verbal orders of the Chief Minister. Whereas, no amendment has been effected in the land Revenue code 1959.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, a person who is not present here should not be named. He has taken the name of the Chief Minister. You please refer to him by his office and not by his name. This is as per the rule.

SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP : The Chief Minister has done this. When I met him at the Raipur Airport, he said that this was the desire of his Government. I replied that if this was the case then he should bring a Bill to amend the land revenue code. This is being done arbitrarily. I apologise to hon. Shri Ajit Jogiji for hurting his feelings by taking the name of the Chief Minister.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : This is not the practice.

SHRI BALI RAM KASHYAP : I know it is not the practice. I was a member of Vidhan Sabha for twenty years and this is my first term in this House. I know very well what the practice is. I want to state that only 1.5 per cent land is irrigated in adivasi region. I am taking the name, Dr. B.D. Sharmaji as he is the Collector. The report is against the construction of Narmada Dam. During the previous years several places were hit by drought. What

*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

[Shri Bali Ram Kashyap]

would the adivasi people do if the dam is not constructed and irrigation facilities remain non-existent? The adivasis of Bastar, Jhabua and other places are looking for employment and joining the naxalite movement. Hence, I request the Government to take steps to help the adivasis. Regarding the question of reservation of jobs for the adivasis, their quota has, not been fulfilled anywhere in India. Same is the case with Scheduled Castes. On the one hand we say that the interest of the adivasis should be protected and that their quota should be fulfilled. Yet, this is not done. Why? How are such vacancies filled? Who keeps such records which other people are recruited for the posts reserved for them?

Sir, I would like to tell you about the situation in Madhya Pradesh. Due to unavailability of adivasi candidates there, the Tribal Minister wrote that such vacancies should be filled by non-adivasis. This was done. Adivasis were deprived of the opportunity. They lagged behind. They were backward fifty years before independence and even after fifty years of independence their condition is pitiable. For this reason I had to speak. A discussion should take place to safeguard their interests. Unless and until all this is done, they would be forced to join the terrorists. This is the situation in Bastar district today. Situation is bad at several places. I would like to request the Central Government and specially the hon. Minister to pay attention to all these points. Discussion would be meaningful only if a meeting of all adivasi Members of Parliament, Scheduled Castes Members and the MLAs is convened and steps be taken to solve their problems.

As far as the question of considering the 30th Report of the commission is considered, the Report is totally against their interest. In the library I read the reference made by Dr. Sharma in that book. He wrote to Paswanji, the ex-Chief Ministers, Shri Sunder Lal Patwaji, Shri Chimanbhai Patel and several others, and mentioned that the situation was not good there and this should not happen there. He talked about an agitation. It can take place anywhere. If a dam is built any where, agitation will naturally take place, as land would be acquired. Since, the adivasis possess only land. When a dam is built in an adivasi area, they should be provided land by the Government in lieu of the land acquired from them, so that they can, be rehabilitated. It has been said in the Narmada Tribunal that if a dam is constructed on that basis in the adivasi region then the terms of Narmada Tribunal should be applied there. As per the Narmada Tribunal, land and housing is to be provided. Similar arrangement should be done in other adivasi regions. Where ever a small or big dam is constructed in the adivasi region, the adivasis should be provided adequate land, compensation and accommodation.

Sir, I thank you and all the rest of the hon. Members for listening to my views.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Mr. Speaker Sir, as one among the soldiers of the Self-respect Movement, who fought and are fighting for the self-respect of SCs/STs and OBCs under the leadership of Dr. M. Karunanidhi, the forefront leader who has dedicated his life for the oppressed and downtrodden, I rise to stand by the people for whom the motion is moved.

Sir, centuries together, the SC/ST people were exploited; they were socially exploited, economically exploited and consequently they were also exploited politically. A peculiar phenomenon, never found anywhere except in India, prevails here under the guise of *Vamashram Dharma*. It codifies the classes under *Manusmriti*. The *Vamashram Dharma* codified and classified the Hindu religion into four parts. I quote :

"A person who is born out of the forehead of the God has been called as Bahmin; a person who is born out of the shoulders of God has been called as Kshatriyas; a person who is born out of the hips of the God has been called as Vaishya; and a person who does not belong to any of these three categories and born out of the legs of God has been called as Shudras and Panchamas."

Here I want to quote from Manusmriti for the sake of this august House. The slogans are in Sanskrit and I quote :

"Daivatheenam Jagathsarvam
Dhanmantram thu daivatham
Brahmanathinam Dhanmantram
Brahmana Mamadevatha"

This slogan in Sanskrit means the entire world is controlled by God, God is controlled by Mantra, and Mantra is controlled by Brahmins, castes. So Brahmins the so called upper castes are our Gods. This slogan exists in Manu Smriti.

I have narrated what is meant by Brahmins, upper castes. Here I hasten to choose one more Sanskrit slogan from Manusmriti, 2.31 and I quote :

"Mangalyam Brahmanasya
Syath Kshatriyasya Palaanvidem
Vyasyasya Dhansamyuktham
Shudrasya Thu Jukupsithem"

This means, Brahmins, upper castes are noble, Kshatriyas are brave, Vaishyas are rich and Shudras and Panchamas are ugly. It shows their mindset.

This is the way in which Manudharma and Sanatandharma preaches. Why they call it Sanatandharma? Because it is infallible, as they call it. It is just like indelible, infallible and it is existing for ever. Because of this, the Indian Hinduism went into disintegration of harmonising relations of mankind.

Sir, you just find out who am I? Who is Shri Ajit Jogi? Who is Shri Raghubans Prasad Singh? We belong to the so-called Shudra community. My blood gets boiled. Who are they to call us Shudras? Who are the upper castes to call us Shudras? Are we sons of prostitutes? The so-called *Manudharma* calls us as sons of prostitutes.

Sir, will you tolerate all these things? Will anybody in this civilised country who preaches civilisation tolerate all these things? These things have not been accounted for decades together. My Party, which is the self-respect movement, envisages and preaches self-respect for the past 82 years. We fought, we are fighting and we will fight to the end of it till such time the so-called *sutra* community, the *panjama* community gets a social freedom.

Sir, economic freedom is not a must; political freedom is not a must but social freedom is a must. That is why, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu preaches, acts day in and day out accordingly.

For the information of the august House, I would like to inform that he brought a Scheduled Caste girl; his son got married to a Scheduled Caste girl; he preaches and practises. While he was in the Opposition in the 1950s, the Scheduled Caste labourers, agrarian labourers were fighting for their rights at Nangavaram near Tiruchi. At that time, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in Tamil Nadu, he went and led the procession, agitated and restored the rights for the Scheduled Caste agrarians. When he came to power in Tamil Nadu, there were a lot of performances.

It is good to narrate all these things for the benefit of this august House. He recommended Shri Varadharajan, when he was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, to be posted as the Justice of Chennai High Court. Afterwards, he had been elevated to the level of the Justice of the Supreme Court. Sir, Dr. Karunanidhi was instrumental in setting up Dr. Ambedkar Arts College at Chennai. During his period only, Dr. Ambedkar Law College was established. Sir, a Law University was established and it was inaugurated by no less a person than the hon. President of India. We were very much proud of it.

Sir, when the agitation in Mumbai was launched on the issue of Marathwada University and that the University should be named after Dr. Ambedkar, a specific movement was launched in Tamil Nadu. Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi

conducted rallies. He instructed all the men and women of Tamil people to send telegrams to the Governor of Maharashtra to see that the renaming had been done in the name of Dr. Ambedkar. That had been carried out by the present Governor, Dr. Alexander.

Now, Shri Murugaraj, IAS is in the sensitive position. He is in the foremost position. He had been posted as the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission. Shri Muthusamy, IAS is the Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu. Shri Kalimuthu, IPS is the Commissioner of City Police, Chennai. Shri Kolappan, IAS is the Commissioner of the City Corporation, Chennai. The Secretary to Labour is Shri Elangovan, IAS. The Commissioner of Labour is Shri Ramaiah, IAS. These are all the various most important and sensitive positions, wherein we want Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community should have its due share in the administration.

Sir, an innovative scheme has been launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister some months back to see that the Schedule Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Class and Forward Class people as to cultivate them how to live together. He has launched "Samathuvapuram villages", secular townships throughout the State of Tamil Nadu. . . . (Interruptions). More than hundred such townships are being established in the State of Tamil Nadu. In fact, for your information, I am very glad to express my profound feelings. Even the so-called *brahmin* community in the district of Vellore had applied and got a place in "Samathuvapuram village". So, forward class, backward class, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and all sections of the society live together. This scheme is getting a lot of appreciation from various sections of our people. To create a social awareness, to educate the people how to live harmoniously, this is a better scheme which was launched by our Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi.

Sir, before I conclude, I will be failing in my duty if I do not remind this august House that in 1920, Thanthai Periyar, Shri E.V. Ramasamy had launched an agitation in Vaikam village of Kerala, not in Tamil Nadu, when an educated boy crossed the road where upper caste people were living, he was stopped and beaten. At that time, a lot of agitation took place in Kerala. Then, Thanthai Periyar, Shri E.V. Ramasamy went there. He led the procession. He agitated and won. The D.M.K. is fighting for the sake of oppressed and suppressed class as well as for the particular section of the people. It was fighting, it is fighting and it will always fight to see that our people, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities, live in peace and in harmonious relationship with other people.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : Mr. Speaker Sir, at the outset, I extend my personal thanks, for allowing

[Shri Ajit Jogi]

discussion on such a vital issue which is least discussed in this House.

Before I begin, I want to draw the attention of the House to these lines of Gurudeo Rabindranath Tagore who was a great visionary. He had said :

"He mor durbhaga desh, Jadev Karachho apman
Apmoane hote hobe tuha dev sabaar samaan
Jaare time niche fellow, se tumare bandhive,
paschaate rakhechho Jaare
Se tummare Paschate yannidde."

He said that one whom you are insulting today, a time would come when you will be insulted by him. So don't insult him.

14.00 hrs.

Whom you are pushing back today, a time would come when he would push you back. Whom you are throwing today, unless you stop doing this, a time would come when he would throw you down. So, change this system of the society. Don't think anybody higher or lower. Considering that all are equal, establish such a system in the society that all may have equal opportunities. All may live together in equality. Poet Rabindranath was a visionary. So, I referred to the Poet Rabindra Nath Tagore. Similarly, when Mahatma Gandhi led the Freedom Movement, he did not mean by this to drive away the Britishers from this country. He wrote in 'Harijan' -

[English]

"Freedom would not be complete till the curse of untouchability is erased from the face of India."

[Translation]

Freedom would be meaningless as long as we don't abolish the untouchability from this country. The maker of the Constitution, respected Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had said the same thing. While drafting the Constitution, he made very specific provisions. Entire part 3 of the Constitution, and part 16 of the Constitution, except three or four articles which pertain to Anglo-Indians, the remaining provisions in these parts are for the protection and development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. We can be proud of this fact that only India has such a Constitution in the world which talks of affirmative action. There are positive provisions in the Constitution for the upliftment of those, who were left behind during the last thousand years.

Speaker Sir, suppose there is a race of 100 metres in which great runners like Carl Lewis, Ben Johnson and

Michael are participating and a man with one leg impaired also participating. How he will complete? In the last Five Thousand years, in the last ten thousand years, whom you didn't allow any education. About whom it was said that if he studies, put molten glass in his ears. How would such a persons come to the equal level, as long as they are not given opportunities of advancing ahead by bringing all these provisions. So, the makers of our Constitution, Baba Saheb Ambedkar and all his colleagues of the drafting committee of the Constitution made all these provisions. It was said in all the articles of part 3 of the Constitution. Part 16 of the Constitution that there will be affirmative action. But it is a pity that when we understand the spirit of freedom struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi, when we look at these four lines of Poet Rabindranath Tagore as a warning given to the whole country, when we read the Constitution today, we have not brought about equality, harmony and the equal opportunities in our society even after fifty years of independence. So, it is essential that the report of SC/ST Commissioner must be discussed. The Commissioner in his report about the Scheduled Castes has mentioned many things.

Speaker, Sir, much is being said about the reservation. The people say that the reservation was given for ten years in the beginning but we continued it. Now when the 50 years have passed, what is the need of it? The Commissioner has given the data of reservation, but I do not know how to read that. I do not want to take much time of the House. Look at the data of reservation, through you I want to let the whole House and the country know as to what is the condition of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes today even after giving them reservation for Fifty years. Where have we reached in the category-A, Class-1 services at the Central and States level. Our aim is that 15 per cent people from Scheduled Castes and Seven and a half percent people from Scheduled Tribes should be given reservation in services. Despite all this hue and cry, only 8 per cent people of Scheduled Castes are there in class-A services, while the target was fixed 15 per cent. The percentage of Scheduled Tribes people is not even 3 to 4 per cent as against 6.5 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the situation today that we are stuck at this stage. I am saying so because I belong to this class. Our people don't beg for the reservation. This is our right. We, therefore, say that if we are made competent, we shall never ask for the reservation. One should not give one's own example, but since the matter is under discussion, so I would like to inform you that fortunately, I was born in an educated family and I was provided with good education. I was good at my studies also. I was in I.P.S., I was in I.A.S. But I took no benefit of the reservation. I have said clearly that I had good education in comparison to others. So, I do not need reservation and I never took benefit of reservation. But

there are crores of my brothers and countrymen who belong to Scheduled Castes and Tribes and who did not get the facility of good education, who were kept suppressed for thousand of years, for them, the reservation is essential. They all are prepared to say so that if you make them equivalent to others, they would not take even the least benefit of the reservation. But do bring them equivalent to others. As long as they are not given facility, how they would progress? If my son studies in Doon School and my Scheduled Tribe brothers like Larang Sai sitting in Sarguja, Bali Ram Kashyapji from Bastar, send their sons for study in a school of Bastur where there is not even a black-board, where there is only one teacher and large number of children, how can he come to the level of the boy who is studying in Doon School? I have just visited one of the schools in Bastur where there is only one teacher and 135 children. If you make him compete with the boys studying in Doon School, Lawrence School or Rishi Valley, where there are Five teachers teaching one child, how can they be compared? That's why, I was saying that if you make Carl Lewis and a handicapped person run in a race of 100 metres and you are asking the crippled one to be equal to Carl Lewis, how would they compete? So, the people who are objecting to the reservation, their this act is not good. This voice has been raised much. So, I am saying this that we are not demanding reservation as an alms but we are demanding it as our own right. If you do not give it, if you do not make all these people your counterparts, how would you stop the society from flowing towards rebellion, revolution and bloodshed?

I would like to make a request to you that such sort of talk should not be made otherwise this community would feel that they did not want mix up with them. I want to say with a heavy heart that our community feels today that other people do not want to mix up with them in this country. They do not want to provide us with equal opportunities. They do not want to let us stand shoulder-with-shoulder with them. Therefore, today if there is a Naxalite wave in Bastar, Mandla, Rajnandgaon Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra, there must be a reason for this. There is a certain limit of bearance and when it is crossed patience gets lost and people get ready for fighting with weapons, in their hands. If you want to keep the country's unity and integrity intact, if you want to maintain the oneness of Mother India, why do not we go ahead to achieve that goal for which Mahatma Gandhi fought the battle of Independence and Baba Saheb Ambedkar framed the Constitution? I do not want to say this on behalf of any party because we all are living in the glass-houses and should not through stones at each other. The formerly Commissioner of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes has himself ascribed in his report, on which we are having

a debate here, that until Social order, our social status and the society are changed we will not be able to go ahead.

Mr. Speaker Sir, a point regarding high and low has been stated. Nobody is higher-lower by birth. All people speak of religion what Lord Krishna was said in 'Gita' why do you not follow it? Lord Krishna has said in the 4th metric couplet of the 13th chapter of the 'Gita';

"Chaturvarna maya srista, Gunakarma Vibhagashah
Tasyoo Kartarapi : Manm Vindhya Vyavam"

Lord Krishna has said to Arjuna that "I have created the four Varnas (castes) on the basis of Guna (Characteristics) and Karma (deeds), not on the basis of birth. Then why were these things made on the basis of birth in this country? If these things have been created on the basis of Guna and Karma, as Lord Krishna himself has said, why do we not abide by them? Again, why do they give unequal opportunities to the people? Why do they call someone higher or lower by birth? Why does such thing prevail among? Sir, despite all of these points, I want to apprise the countrymen on the behalf of my brothers belonging Scheduled Caste that even after too much talk about alleviation of untouchability God knows how many villages are there in the country, rather I would say that there are most of the villages where any of our Scheduled Caste brothers cannot ride a horse on the occasion of his wedding even today, this is not an exaggeration.

Even today there are many a wells where we cannot go and drink water, until this system is changed, how can the society be united? In order to bring about oneness and eliminate untouchability, I only request that this is not possible through all these laws.

14.10 hrs.

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

I want to say to the government and the hon. Minister that something which prevailed in the early years of Independence, is now no where. If you want to eliminate Untouchability it would not be through government programmes. Until and unless you encourage these non-governmental honorary institutions who organise movements and work in this direction and reward them for their work, until they are recognised, this problem cannot be solved. I was talking about reservation. I would like to give an example as to how this system has been working against us. The Supreme Court gave its decision that there should be no reservation in promotions'

[English]

Then we all started. We are already so backward. If reservation is not provided in promotions our people will

[Shri Ajit Jogi]

never go to higher posts. I was in Rajya Sabha at that time when this House passed in unanimous, the 77th amendment in the Constitution. We pointed out that no matter the Supreme Court gave its decision with in whatsoever circumstances, the people of SC and ST did not favour it, they were making their decision as 'anter dicta' on Mandal Commission on behalf of the Supreme Court, it was not the main subject. About this, only a simple observation was given that there should be no reservation in promotions. We passed the 77th amendment and said that this won't go, there must be reservation in promotions too. Thereafter we all M.Ps belonging to SCs and STs, wrote to three Prime Ministers with reference to 5 G.O's. We also told the hon. Minister that what we wanted to give the people through 77th amendment, it had been taken back by his legislature through passing the government order. That thing has gone upside down. Now, these kinds of government-orders have been passed. We have not enough time, otherwise I would read all the G.Os out here. Nobody can be benefitted with reservation in promotions if these five G.Os are there. We one reiterating the thing, I do not want to accuse any body, but the hidden self-seekers do not want people belonging to SC/ST go ahead. We have spoken about them in both the Houses of Parliament which is the apex body of the country. Both Houses recommended reservation in promotions. Five such G.Os in this connection are passed, to which your attention has been constantly drawn. We have written to three Prime Ministers one-by-one. A hundred and twenty five MPs went to hon. Gujral Saheb and all of us went to hon. Atal Behari Vajpayeeji too. We told them that what the House wants to provide to these classes, is taken back by your officials. Please do something in this case, but, with regret, I have to say that we have not done anything in this direction so far. Those five G.Os are still there as they were.

I want to tell you that until these government-orders are withdrawn our people will not be able to get reservation in promotions. Our people will not be able to go ahead. Why am I to favour reservation is government services? If you have provided reservation in government services, many people are benefitted. Many of course, do not get any thing but atleast some sort of spirit emerges in their heart. I can exemplify myself, when I was not an I.A.S., I.P.S., me and my family was treated in a different way in my village and the day I joined I.P.S./I.A.S. there was a sea-change of the people of the same village.

Only joining a certain service could make for a big change. Therefore I say that a good government-job is a hallmark of self-respect in this country. If you do not let our people go to higher ranks, they can never attain self-

respect, therefore we demand to get it. Many people may not be getting their benefit, some thousands out of many crores, but through those few, we reflect our self-respect for ourselves. Therefore we demand for it as our right.

They reason ability, those who oppose reservation. They say if reservation continues then able ones could not come forward. I want to call my brothers at the other side with humility, that ability is not confined to a certain class as their personal right. If you were able, let me ask my other friends, then in the five-thousand years-old history of our country, we were put to enthrallment for nearly four and a half thousand years together, out of five thousand years; whereas the entire system in your hands during those five thousand years. We were there only to serve you as 'Sudras'. If you were able enough to run the system and the society, then as to why we were enthralled for the most of the time in the history of five thousand years and mind through whom? Not any big monster did it for us. Mohammed-bin-Quasim came with a ten thousand men, Babar with an army of the same number, Mohammed Ghauri with ten thousands—entered through Punjab and proceeded on towards Somnath while *ran sacking* the country. This large country could not stop a ten thousand people and become slave of them! They looted where and what they wanted. British came here as traders and later they became our masters! Take it seriously! If you were able enough to run the system, as to the how only ten thousand people could crush you! Ability is not confined to you only, with all humility, I put that to you. I would like to request you as to how it become possible. Just take it seriously and think how it happened. It happened only because you kept 90% people of this country deprived of power and rights. Those 90 per cents, they do not care who is running the country from Delhi, who is running from Lucknow, who is running from Bhopal or Chandigarh. Ninety out of a hundred just do not care for it. So, they said, come anybody with ten thousands, loot us, do anything of one's choice why should we care? The day you will include all of us in power, provide participation to them, nobody can make this country slave. And if that is not done, then mind you, this country did succumb and, God forbid, may it not be in the same situation in future. Therefore I am saying that for equality to everyone, we must unite, must come above all party-barriers and evolve an atmosphere, a society . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanji) : Going to mar other's rights?

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Just never. Everyone should have equal rights, but a certain class is exploited for five thousand years; this should not be granted either. We have to change only this mentality. Had we and our forefathers been provided with equal opportunities, as is the case with

you, we would not have demanded for anything. I have exemplified myself, and do not want to repeat it again and again, otherwise you take it as boasting. When I came into I.A.S., I never took any benefit from reservation, neither for my being an I.P.S. I wrote in the form of U.P.S.C. that though I was an Adivasi (Tribal), yet I did not want to take side of it anyway. I wanted to be reckoned as a General Category candidate because I had got education in good institutions. Just provide my other brothers with the same opportunity and education, let them follow the same way and they too will deny any reservation. But you do not provide equal opportunities. Even today there is only one teacher on 135 children, I have seen it in the recent elections. If this goes on, how can they attain equality? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : There is only one teacher for five hundred children, this is the example . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj) : Who is responsible for this? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : O Kay, the mistake committed, but you correct it, you are in power . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Shailendra, it's alright.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, I am not saying this only on behalf of Congress party, it is a matter of consensus and we should speak on it from a point of consensus. The matter of SC and ST is not a certain party's matter, if it is so, then see to it as if we are making no progress. Then no one could resist the tolling of Naxalism, disintegration and separation in the country. If we prefer the society to remain unite, harmonical, in equity of opportunities, then we must consider these basic questions seriously, this I request. What congress did, what BJP did we talk a lot like this. And we have undergone the recent elections too in the same vein—isn't it so, Mr. Gehlot?

I want to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister through you, towards some more facts about tribals. The conditions of 'Adivasis' is quite different to that of our S.C. brethren. But we don't indulge in untouchability practices, because 90-95% part of that community is formed by ourselves. Whilst we live in forest, we do not have any feeling of this sort we have a completely different set of problems and I want to draw government's attention towards them through you. Don't give us anything but only three 'Jal, Jungle and Zameen' we have a natural right over them. We are told that our forefathers would farm in the plains in the past, and they resided here very during the Mohanjodaro and Harappa Civilizations. Then came others, they compelled us to move past southern areas.

We went ahead to central area, and therst in the forests. From there also, you are forcing us to flee away by building your factories' dams and projects. Now, we live at top hills and if you continue pushing away us, we have no place to dwell in. I request you to consider seriously the fight of 'Adivasis' for their rights of 'Jal, Jungle and Zameen'.

In his report book, the Commissioner has furnished figures of 'Land Alienation'. The land which belongs to our forefathers, others cheated it from them and bribing them by giving a bottle of liquor or some meat, seized their farms. How could we get them back, you must take it seriously. Let me tell you an experience of mine. I went to a village after a long time. The son of its landlord was my classmate, he was also an Adivasi. I wished to meet them. When I reached there I found the bungalow of the landlord completely spoilt. I stood in front of a small room and asked to call him. His name was Dayal Singh.

You may call Shri Dayal Singh, he was my school-mate and I want to see him but when nobody called him I stayed there for quiet a long time. I had gone there with my own vehicle. When nobody called him, I myself went inside to trace him. To my dismay, I found there a man looking very lean and thin who started running away after seeing me. He did not want to meet me. I ran after him and caught him. I talked to him. Bad smell of country liquor was coming out of his mouth. I asked the village men as to how he was living in such a pathetic condition when sometime he used to be the owner of 200-250 acres of land? Where is his wife and children? People told me that his wife is working on daily wages with CPWD in order to earn livelihood and to run the household expenditure and meet the requirement of her husband and kid.

When I asked about his land measuring 200-250 acres, I was told by the people that he had written entire land in others' name. As he became a great alcoholic and started consuming country made liquor, everytime he was found drunk. People, with the vested interests, deliberately used to offer him drink and under the influence of his intoxicated state of mind, they got his entire land transferred in their names. Due to this bad habit, he had written his all 250 acres of land in others' names. Not even a single acre of land was left with him. Even he sold his house. It was a very big house but at last he sold it. He sold everything which belonged to him. Now, the situation is, that wife of a farmer, who was once the pride owner of 250 acres of land, is forced to work on daily wages in order to run her family.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, conclude, please. There are many speakers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jogi, Please conclude now.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, I am the first speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are 24 speakers who want to speak on this subject and you have taken almost more than 40 minutes now.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, have I taken so much time?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, then I will conclude now.

[Translation]

I gave this example because there are several such cases in other tribal villages also. Shri Naren Sahai will tell us and our other colleagues will tell us that the farmers who once used to be the owner of 250-300 acres of land, are today left with, not even a single inch of land. Though a legislation in this regard has been enacted, like a legislation known as 170 'B' has been enacted in Madhya Pradesh to get the land of these farmers back to them but so far, no piece of land has been returned to them.

My request to you is that these legislations should be enforced strictly so that the land of these Adivasis which were snatched away from them forty to fifty years ago, is returned to them forthwith. Even laws should be made and implemented in other states, like Kerala, also where land of tribals is in the possession of others.

The Government of India should direct such states to frame this kind of law so that the land of tribals in these states is also returned to them.

I know you cannot allow us to have the entire forest area in our possession. Our ancestors enjoyed this privilege but today you cannot allow us to enjoy these rights. I know it. But if we are given only the small produces of forests, we will have to go nowhere else. Give us only the leaves, flowers and fruits of forests. I have given you a small example. In my state, Madhya Pradesh, traders used to deal in 'Tendu' leaves for Bidi manufacturing later, I was made chairman to formulate a policy in respect of "Tendu" leaves transaction. Former Prime Minister late Smt. Indira Gandhi directed me to remove the middlemen from this trade. I, as a chairman, formulated a policy and said that middlemen will remain no more in this trade. I made it clear that our tribal sisters, who pluck "Tendu" leaves, will remain no more a worker, rather they would be enjoying the status of owner of this forest produce.

Whatever income is accrued from these leaves, will go to them. In 1988-89, I, as a chairman, implemented this

policy in the state and now I am telling you a very startling fact in this regard. When I made an assessment, I found to my dismay that our mothers and sisters, who were involved in plucking of "Tendu" leaves, were getting only Rs. 11 per day as their wages. I would have gone into details in this regard to explain you the real situation but I have not got that much time. On the other hand, I found that there were forty big traders of "Tendu" leaves who never go out of their A/c rooms and A/c cars. Their job was only to purchase "Tendu" leaves and sell the same. Our mothers and sisters were getting only Rs. 11 per day as their wages whereas those forty middlemen were getting a profit of Rs. 13 lakh per day. [English] Rs. 13 Lakh per day was the profit of the each middlemen. [Translation] Since it is a season of only forty days but the annual profit was upto the tune of Rs. four hundred crores. I decided to remove the middlemen from this business and distributed those four hundred crores of rupees as bonus to our leaves plucking mothers and sisters. I did it that year. This is merely an example of "Tendu" leaves. There are other smaller forest produce like seed of sal tree, mohline, Harr (Mysobalan), Bahera and Chironjia, our tribal men sell Chironjia at the rate of Rs. 6 per kg. Whereas it is sold at the rate of Rs. 150 or Rs. 2000 per kg in cities. Thus rate of Chirojia from Rs. 6 per kg in tribal villages increases to Rs. 200 per kg in cities. If this exploitation is done away with by our Minister Menka Gandhiji, our tribal people will become rich on their own..One more point I want to make and that is about mines for which I have always been struggling with your support.

These mines are in our areas. Recently, diamond reserves were found in Devbhog area where mining was conducted. It has been told that it is one of the richest diamond reserves in the world. A multi National company-De-Veers by name are keeping their greedy eyes on this reserve. We launched our agitation against it. Ramesh Vaishji also joined our agitation. We launched our agitation together. So far we have not allowed that company to undertake the mining work. What an irony is this? Shri Ramesh Vaishji is sitting here. He belongs to that area. I have also lived there. I have undertaken a five days "Padyatra" of that area. A survey of that area was conducted by me and according to that, "Kamass" are the most backward tribal caste living there. The survey revealed that percentage of literacy is very poor in that area. Even after fifty years of our independence, there were found only two children who were matriculate. And the diamond reserve has been found in that area of poor tribals.

Now they are likely to be displaced from there in order to undertake the mining work. That is, of course, likely to fetch us as Rs.10,000 crores per year but what will happen to these tribals? No body bothers about this. Mining,

industries, power-projects are set-up in those tribal areas, but what is given to those people who live there and are displaced to pave the way for upcoming projects? Sometimes they are given meagre compensation in lieu of their land and sometimes they are befooled by other rehabilitation projects. My submission is that in case, some diamond or gold or silver reserves are found under the earth in their areas, they should be given at least some share thereof or else their condition is not going to improve.

Sir, I will tell you the pain of displacement. When I was deployed as Collector of Sidhi District, a tribal came to me and gave me three papers. He knew that I was also Adivasi. He told me that his Tehsildar gave him three different papers for compensation but he got nothing. I went through those papers and found that his village was washed away during the construction of Rihand dam in 1950 at the border of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

He was told by the Tehsildar that he would get due compensation. He went to him four or five times but he did not get any amount of compensation. Ultimately he went to some forest and settled down there. After some days a coal company came there and Singrouli coal mine was set-up there. He was again given a paper and told that the would get compensation. But, as usual, he did get nothing. He left that place too and went somewhere else. The place, where I had gone, was in the vicinity of Super Power Thermal Station. I found that the tribal had settled down there. I assured him that this time he would get his compensation. He went back to his home and returned with three papers which he showed me and added that I, too, would give him a paper but he would get nothing. Thus, you are displacing the tribals from one after another places to set-up your projects and in return, they are getting nothing . . . (Interruptions)

My request is merely this, that these are certain basic issues which require our immediate attention. If you really want the upliftment of tribals, please give them their dues. If we want to bring Dalits and Scheduled castes forward in our society, we will have to give them equal opportunities as well or else, unless we do it, they will remain backward and oppressed class in our society.

Somebody has rightly said –

"Phoolon Ki Tahaniyo par Nisheman Banaiye,
Bijali Bhi Gire to Jasne Chiraga Manaiye,
In Garibo ki rago mein Mitha Mitha Dard Hai,
Unaki Beemar Nakahato ko Jara Gud-gudaiye."

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak. I do not want to take much time because discussion under Rule 193 on

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is still to be taken-up and our party members will definitely participate therein. . . . (Interruptions)

Sir, I do not want to take much time, also, because I think, that time should be give to the affected people belonging to these castes. We feel that we all are human being first and then anything else. We may belong to any caste or religion – be it Brahmin, Hindu, Kshatriya, Muslim, Sikh or Christian – but above that we are human being first. It is our duty to show them the right path. The report, which dates back to 1989-90, is being submitted only today.

We are discussing that report. Already, it's submission has been significantly delayed. National Commission on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes was set-up way back in 1992. That is functioning. When we talk to SC/ST people, we feel that there is great pain in their hearts. They have been subjected to several social injustice. There are several safeguards provided for them in our constitution but they are not properly implemented. Had they been properly implemented, such a situation would not have arisen.

We are aware of the poor percentage of education among Adivasis. They cannot afford educational expenses which hamper their development. Their reservation quota remains unfilled. It is necessary to impart them education so that their reservation quota is filled fully. Even they do not get the minimum primary education. Jogiji and one other colleague from this side said that there is one teacher after one hundred and fifty students.

[English]

I am citing one example from the 30th Report of the Commission. The Jawaharlal Nehru Technological College of Engineering, Hyderabad has given a report. If you kindly see the report, you will see the branches of computer science, electronics and communications, electrical, civil, mechanical, painting technology, etc. in that college. There are so many branches. But if you see the column pertaining to percentage of the Scheduled Tribes from 1987 to 1990, everywhere, it is written 'Nil'. That means, nobody was taken from the Scheduled Tribes category.

[Translation]

They do not get opportunity even with the reservation facility. We should have a National Social Chapter for this purpose. We can do some work therein for providing social justice to the SC/ST people. There is special provision of empowerment and safeguards in our constitution. Provision has been made for their involvement in development

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

programmes. They have got fundamental rights as well. A lot of things have been said in respect of their safety, their employment and their involvement in every social aspects, but nothing is happening properly. I admire Jogiji for what he has said. If there comes up an industry in some Scheduled Tribes area, we do welcome it.

[English]

There is a policy of the Government : 'Either one employment or the minimum compensation.'

[Translation]

But they do not get it. They shed their sweat and blood on these lands but they do not get any share of it. This leads them to think that they are backward people. This requires our attention. Government's policy should be strictly followed. They want land. "Operation Varsha" has been introduced only in few states. It was introduced in our state too but under this scheme, land is not given on permanent lease. That is changed every year which makes them feel insecure. They fear that they might be ousted after one year or so. We require permanent solution in this regard.

[English]

As far as employment is concerned, they are not getting even their certificates at proper time.

[Translation]

They face difficulties in getting their certificates. The government should simplify the process in this regard so that SC/ST people get their certificates easily and at proper time.

[English]

They do not get certificate at proper time. They have been harassed like anything. They complain to us also, so many times. There are so many vacancies. But they are not being filled up. Sometimes, they say, "Yes, it is not being filled up because they are not getting the people". It is not fair. Sometimes, it is because of negligence that they are facing this problem.

[Translation]

SC/ST Commission has constituted at State level. I request the Government that there are so many tribal areas in the country, they should review them properly. There are so many tribal areas in North, East States, Hill-areas of West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh, the Government should review them. In which

areas the tribals are living in large number and in which areas they are in small number, all this should develop the area tribal commission.

[English]

In every state, there should be a Tribal Development Commission or something like that. It should be done for the development of the tribal people.

[Translation]

According to the Mandal Commission, there are 177 castes of O.B.C.. but, all this work has not been completed till now. In my state West Bengal out of 177 castes, only, 85 castes have been included. Therefore I would like to request that there should be a monitoring system whether the Government is doing right or not, there is a great need for monitoring all these things, By doing so, the Government can have the figures of every year as to what is being done and what is not being done. The Tribal do not get work in the Indira Awas Yojna and the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna because as Shri Jogiji has stated that they are not educated and they came to him with three letters, we should help them.

[English]

I make a request to the Government. There must be some more schools for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Their children should be educated in a proper way, so that they can have a bright future.

[Translation]

If unless it is materialised, no decision can be taken.

[English]

I appeal to the Government that there must be a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Commission in every district.

[Translation]

It is in Delhi and there are many such areas in other states, where people do not know that it can be or not. They know it that there is a National Commission but there is no minorities Commission.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : It has been done.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What I am saying is above politics.

[English]

I do not know whether it is a fact or not. There is a feeling that there is no Secretary in the Government of

India from the Scheduled Tribes. If it is a fact, then, there are many good officials also who are educated enough like Shri Ajit Jogi. He said that he did not take advantage of the reservation quota. There are individuals who have developed themselves but there has been no development in a collective manner.

[Translation]

Individually or collectively monitoring of the reservation quota is yet to be done. At some places it has been done individually. It is the collective responsibility of the society.

[English]

We were not able to fulfil that collective responsibility.

[Translation]

Therefore, I request that the Government should pay attention to fulfil the collective responsibility. There is nothing new in this report and we have discussion it in the old report. I would like to say that it is not enough to make the state commission or the National Commission for S.C. and S.T. at grass root level. It can be successful only if its work is done on the grassroot level.

[English]

Please see to it that these development oriented programme reach the grassroot level so that people get their proper share at the national level.

[Translation]

I would like to say that you must not think, that we are in minorities.

[English]

Everybody is in a minority in another State. If some people are in a majority in one State, they are in a minority in another.

I would request the Government to strengthen the Minorities Development Commission and also to form a Linguistic Minorities Commission. The linguistic minorities are also feeling that they are isolated. There should be a separate Commission for the Scheduled Castes, a separate Commission for the Scheduled Tribes, a Minorities Commission and a separate Linguistic Minorities Commission. This is my request to the Government.

With these words, we convey our regards to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[Translation]

I want to conclude by citing a couplet -

"Jarrah-Jarrah bu e ulfam se khatam banjaega.
Milkar baihtenge to foolon ka chaman ban jayega."

We do not want to divide the country. Therefore we should sit together and find out a way out, so that we may give proper place to the neglected people in the society.

With these words I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on this occasion.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE (Chimur) : Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest that if at all the issue of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is to be resolved honestly, first of all an Act should be made for reservation and we would like to point out to the Minister that if no law is framed in this regard injustice will continue. The enactment of reservation Act is very essential and if it is not implemented honestly, it would not be good. There should also be a provision for punishment for those who fail to implement it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Jogendra Kawade, please take your seat. You can put forth your suggestions when you get a chance to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Injustice is being meted out against the people of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in this country. Discussion on it will not serve our purpose. Mr. Chairman, Sir, excuse me. It is of no use disussing. Law should be framed for it . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai-North Central) : No solution will come out of disussion. There should be an enactment for this. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You sit down please.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Reservation Act should be made and the Minister should say something in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Athawale you please sit down. We have called Shri Bajuban Riyan. You may speak when you have your turn.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, what discussion is going on among the honourable Ministers. Discussion is so serious and the Ministers are conversing with each other . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Nobody is serious about the issue of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Minister is not serious.

[Translation]

Whenever the issue of downtrodden is raised, proper attention is not paid to it . . . (Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM (Garhwal) : What did you do in 50 years?

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Why do you speak about 50 years? You tell the achievement of last 8 months . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Sir, the Minister should take the issue seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : The Minister should note it that very important discussion is going on in the House . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhuria, you please sit down. You please speak when you are allowed to do so.

(Interruptions)

*SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the 30th Report for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The National Commission for SCs and STs was set up in 1990 by 65th Amendment of the Constitution under article 338. The purpose of the setting up of this Commission was to determine the action plan for the welfare of the SCs and STs.

Sir, this commission collected all the information and various problems pertaining to SCs and STs from all over India and then submitted their report in 1990. After the submission of this report so many Governments have changed but nothing was done to implement the suggestions and recommendations for the ameliorating the conditions of the SCs and STs. Though my party CPM does not agree with all the points submitted in the Report yet we support on the whole the welfare measures to be adopted for the SCs and STs. According to this Report separate State may be carved out for the adivasi dominated area. My party or I cannot support this recommendation. Terrorist movements have been going on in different parts of our country especially North-Eastern

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

part. One of their demand is to set up a separate State for them. I do not want that my country should be divided in this manner. Moreover, I do not believe that setting up a separate small State for the SCs and STs from a big State will be able to solve the problem of these people or this will help to ameliorate either their economic or overall condition. No I just cannot believe this. Our country has been free for 50 years. So many Governments have ruled the country all these years. The Commissioner for SCs and STs and the Commission for SCs and STs have been set up. So many Committees have been constituted to look into the problems of the tribal people. But it is a matter of regret nothing has been done to improve the economic condition of these people. There is no improvement in their condition either economically or in any other matter. . . . (Interruptions)

Sir, the Commission has prepared the Report on the basis of material and information collected from various parts of the country and submitted it in 1991. So many Governments have changed after the submission of the Report. But unfortunately no appropriate measures have been adopted by various Governments to implement the recommendations and suggestions for the welfare of SCs and STs as envisaged by the Report. As I have already said that my party or I do not support all the recommendations submitted in the Report, viz., to set up small State for tribals in the tribal dominated area. This suggestion will only encourage the separatist terrorist group who are demanding separate State for them. I do not believe that we will be able to improve the lost of SCs and STs by creating separate State.

Sir, it is a matter of regret that after 50 years of independence, after setting up so many Committees and Commissions, nothing has been done to improve the lot of the tribal people. I must say instead of improvement in their prevailing conditions, there is deterioration in their lot. Most of them had their own land before 50 years. They had some means of livelihood. They were self reliant to earn their livelihood. Now after 50 years they have been named for destroying the jungle and woods. It is being alleged that they are ruining the ecological balance. The tribals are held responsible for ruining the ecological balance. I do not believe this allegation. The tribals stay in the jungle for their existence and survival. They fell the trees for fuel and selling the wood. They get a very small amount by selling wood. The forest contractors and the businessmen loot the profit by paying a very small amount to the tribals and deprive them their due share. They do not have any alternative job. There are various jobs for various other sections of the society. The Government has done many things for them. But whatever recommendations have been submitted for their welfare have not been implemented.

They could not realise or enjoy the fruits of the welfare measures adopted by the Government because of non-implementation of these measures. Those who are associated to implement the welfare schemes and projects for the tribals are not discharging their duties and responsibilities in a fruitful manner. The net result is the economic condition of the SCs and STs has been deteriorating day by day.

15.00 hrs.

Since the inception of our Parliament, we have a Committee for the development of the SCs and STs. It is an elected Committee. This elected Committee has submitted its report after discussing various issues. But whatsoever has been recommended for the developmental schemes and projects for the SCs and STs has not been implemented so far. It is really a sorrowful affair. The report under discussion though may not be adopted by Parliament, after it was sent to the Government, the Government has considered the setting up of Social Justice and Empowerment Department. There were 21 recommendations with separate comments by Social Justice and Empowerment Department and other Departments also. They have suggested to set up another high power Commission under article 339(1) of the Constitution. That Commission will consider many other points. I do not have any objection to set up another Commission. But I want to ask why the Government has so far not implemented the various recommendations for the welfare of the tribal people. There is no paucity of legislation in our country. So much discussions and deliberations have been held for the development of the SCs and STs. The Government could have done so many things for the welfare of the tribals and Scheduled Castes. But they are not doing anything. Because of the treatment, the SCs and STs are not able to progress and are lagging behind the mainstream. I have been elected from Tripura. We have Left Front Government ruling in Tripura. It is for the 4th successive year the Left Front has won. The Government of Tripura has set up District Council for the tribal areas to look after the welfare of the tribals under 6th Schedule of the Constitutions. This District Council TTADC (Tripura Tribal Area Anti District Council) for the tribal areas has been set up only in Tripura after amending the Constitution. This council has been functioning like the State Government. Sir, through you I appeal to Government to set up the District Council like Tripura in other tribal dominated area of our country so as to look after the welfare of the tribal people. Instead of considering to set up separate State for tribal people of the District Council can function properly to look after the developmental schemes for the tribal and SCs. I do not want to say that by constituting District Council in tribal areas will be the only means to achieve the goal of developmental schemes

for the SCs and STs. The responsibilities like the administrative and economic power of the council must be enhanced so that it can discharge its duty properly. This can be done by Parliament only by amending the Constitution. The developmental scheme under the State Government can be done by the District Council if their administrative and economic power is enhanced. The District Council set up in our State has been functioning by fund sanctioned by the State Government. The problem of the SCs and STs is not a state subject. The subject of SCs and STs is there in other States. An elected Committee has been set up in Parliament for this purpose so the responsibility of the Centre for the development of the SCs and STs is equally important. The Centre has to come forward to take appropriate measures so that the SCs and STs can prosper economically and otherwise. My demand is the Centre should provide more money to the Council. The money should be provided directly. The matter should be discussed with the Planning Commission and the decision should be taken in this regard. I am saying this because before Tripura in Assam we have Karbi Anglong, in Mizoram Chakma, Pawa and Phakev and in North Kachar also District Councils have been set up in 1952. These Councils have been set up right from the day our Constitution was promulgated but these Councils have not been able to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the tribals. They are not able to implement the welfare measure for their development appropriately. The District Council of Tripura, TTADC has been facing difficulty in discharging their responsibility for implementing the welfare measures for SCs and STs. The functioning of the Council depends on the attitude of both the State and Central Government. The elected Committee for the welfare of the SCs and STs of Parliament have been examining the implementation of reservation of SCs and STs in PSUs in the State and the Centre, various Government Departments like Railway etc. They have submitted their report also in this regard. I have been associated with this Committee for many years. We have submitted many reports. But unfortunately no Government or semi-Government organisation has filled up the quota of 7½% for the ST and 15% for the SCs.

I am not considering high posts like class I officer for which one has to be highly qualified. But reserved posts for B Group post or the post of class III employees can be filled up if the Government is sincere and honest in its intention. At least the reserved post for the peon should not remain vacant because one need not be highly qualified for these posts. The Government must adopt sincere approach in this regard. I know that these people cannot be appointed in the post for higher category because they do not get opportunity or facility for higher education. But at least the reserved posts for lower

[Shri Bajju Ban Riyan]

category can be filled up. If we check up we will find neither the Centre nor the State Government have been following the reservation quota even for lower posts. It is only in Tripura ruled by Left Front Government this quotas for the SCs and STs are being filled up. I do not feel this is being followed anywhere in our country. I hold this Government responsible for this. But the party in my right who ruled this country for more than 40 years and the party in my left who are the present ruling party and who are ruling in some more States also, have not implemented the reservation policy for the SCs and STs not only in jobs but in education also. The attitude of the Government has to be changed. The tribal people are quite physically strong. We labour so much. We clean the big industries. We carry the night soil we are keeping the country clean and beautiful and giving the babus comfort. I do not have any objection to it because the tribals are doing these jobs for livelihood. But I want to ask why they won't get the same rights like others enshrined in the Constitution? It depends on the Government. We cannot change the lot of the SCs and STs by setting up Commission after Commission. Any commission however high power cannot deliver any good if it lacks sincere approach and intention.

The population in India has increased. But surprisingly the Adivasi population has come down. Why it is so? Because after a child is born the tribal people are not able to provide healthy diet to the child due to poverty and ignorance. So the rate of child mortality is very high among them. That is why there has been a decline in population.

If the recommendations for the welfare measure are not implemented the lot of the SCs and STs can never be changed. They are the one who suffer from TB, leprosy and dreadful diseases due to lack of healthy diet. The priority for the welfare of these people must be given. If we do not give priority forgetting party affiliation we cannot improve the pathetic condition of the adivasis. People from all walks of life have to come forward to change the condition of these people. If we fail to do that then the situation will further aggravate. The country cannot remain in peace if we allow to aggravate the situation. They have taken weapons in North-Eastern part. The peace loving people of the jungle have taken up arms. They have armed struggle in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and other places. They know that they have to pay heavy price for taking the help of arms. They have resorted to violent means even. The involvement of ISI and foreign mercenary has been raised in this House a few days back during Question Hour. These foreign elements are taking advantage of their economic condition and trying to destabilise our country. For this we make the tribals responsible. But we must

find out why they have resorted to terrorism. So we must change our attitude and try to pin point the real picture. We the tribals are not afraid to do any hardwork. The tribal people are hard working simple and honest in nature. The high casts take advantage of their simplicity and honesty and try to cheat them. But they are trying to survive.

Through you, Sir, I would like to request everybody to come forward to face the challenge of terrorist activities and render help to change and improve the condition of the tribals so that they get enough opportunities like others and become a valuable part of the country and make it prosperous and advanced. Once again I thank you Sir for giving me an opportunity to participate in this important discussion.

15.10 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Mr. Chairman Sir, first of all I want to thank to the house, hon. Speaker, our Prime Minister and to all for taking the report for discussion on which dust was gathering since 1990-91. I want to thank him for this.

Some of my friends have said that Shri B.D. Sharma had prepared this report. I want to thank particularly that person also. My friend tried to criticise him, I am against it and I also want to thank him because he belongs to Brahmin community. In spite of being a member of Brahmin community he recommended for the betterment of the Schedule Castes, and Schedule Tribes in this Committee's report. He conducted several experiments, identified these communities and collected information regarding distress and diversities in society and submitted his report. He mentioned such an arrangement in his report as it is required. The time passed from 1989 to 1999, several Governments formed and gone, but any government has not considered this report. This is a matter of sorrow for us.

After thanking, I want to say one thing and went to request with agony that after 50 years of independence, we are writing that a Dalit woman was pulled out of her house and stripped off and forced to walk in the streets only due to fetching water from a Panchayati hand pump. Alas! my countries's rulers, what picture we are presenting before the world even after independence. Even after independence a Dalit man or woman stripped off and forced to walk in the streets this is not only a matter of one state. I am representing 15 lakh persons of Firozabad constituency which is in Uttar Pradesh. It is my third term in the Lok Sabha. As I am a member of Parliament I am not talking about a state but about the entire country. I do

not want to talk about the government of different parties in different states. At least in 5 states out of 25 states in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, such incidents are occurring. I want to give figures of the three years i.e. 1995, 1996 and 1997. In 1995, 32,964 cases, 1996, 31,416 and in 1997, 27,708 cases of atrocities on Schedule Castes occurred. There are 5,494 in 1995 and 4,972 incidents in 1996 have taken place regarding the Schedule Tribes this is the picture before the House. Today, what the people of other countries think about the poor and downtrodden people of this country, what is the meaning of independence for them? Who is guilty for this, Do you think that by abusing a person of a particular class or a Brahmin or any other person, this society can be reformed? Who is responsible for this? The person sitting in this House and the rulers as well, after 50 years, the whole responsibility lies on these people. They are the custodians of the democracy, and they have no respect for democracy. The society is not responsible even 90 crore people of rural areas are also not responsible, only the bureaucrats are responsible for it, we have to keep in mind that there are only 30 per cent people in this country are spreading casteism and hatred in the society. I am not talking about any particular community, we all including I.A.S., I.P.S. officers and Members of Parliament, become part of the elite group. The poor people living in villages, do not get even a seat on a sack in schools. But they themselves become Brahmins and we always abuse the Brahmins. They are the Brahmins but we are also Brahmins who keep ill feeling in our mind about them. Whose responsibility is this, this is our responsibility. Sir, as my friend said that this condition of school is due to our education system. Baba Bhim Rao Ambedkar had said that the education is the supreme. Education is the temple of knowledge. The welfare of this country can-not be done until our children will be deprived of education. Until the feeling of Dalit will be present in the children of Dalit community that they belong to Dalit community they cannot be developed properly. This is the mentality of the people. If Dalit community are educated and has knowledge of small family norm the country's population would not have been so much. This all happens so because they do not get education.

There are so many constitutions in the world but there is not a constitution like Indian constitution in any other country. Each and every one talks about constitution, religion and caste. But the people of Dalit community have not been told about the constitution, Vedas, Rama, Sita, Krishna, Shivaji etc. and they do not know about them. Therefore if they have been provided education they can also play an important role in the society.

We all are parliamentarians, and even after 50 years we say that backlog of reserved posts have not been

filled, Dalit people are not getting promotions, than our country can't develop our 80% population lives in villages . . . (Interruptions) I am talking above party line. You people are more responsible. It is hardly eight days when we come in power. You are responsible.

I am telling you self-experience, once I had gone with a SC, ST delegation. There I talked to the officials, employees management. I found that there was a Junior Engineer, who was not allowed to sit on the chair. Our Chairman Sir is present here. This is the situation after independence, who is responsible for it? The persons who are close to the power, and bureaucrats are responsible for this. We can't blame those 80 per cent illiterate people living in villages. The main issue of concern is casteism which is badly affecting the society. The politicians are responsible for it.

All Parties have made agenda for a particular class to give them a particular post, either that person is eligible for it or not. If the poison of casteism will remain, the welfare of the country will suffer and country will be disintegrated. Today some of the politicians are giving tempting speeches and issuing 'fatwas' and try to break the system. You go and monitor the system in police stations. If there is a S.H.O. or Inspector belonging SC or ST and Brahmin happens to come there, that S.H.O. or Inspector will not spare him. . . . (Interruptions) Similarly, if there is a S.H.O. or Inspector belonging to upper caste and any S.C. person came there he will treat him in the same manner. If this poison of casteism will spread in the police administration, it will be very dangerous for us. We are doing injustice with them also. Parliamentarian of any party is a public representative. You are in the power and still hurting the people. The spreading of casteism should be checked. Blessings of public is the need of democracy. But he has come with the blessings of public. If you are discriminating with them, you are hurting the soul of democracy. It is very odious if scheduled caste person hold a higher post and talk about his privileges then he will be told that SC Parliamentarian has misbehaved with him. Some of the people amongst us try to finish him. As long as the transparency will not come, nothing could be happen in democracy. Mamataji has said a good thing that if we have to keep this nation integrated than we have to live together harmoniously. Don't spread casteism in the country, otherwise the country will be disintegrated. The whole world will see it. If such issues come up, we will face them together. Without mentioning a particular problem I want to say that we can solve all problems. I do not say that reservation is not provided to them, of course, reservations have been given, because if it was not provided to them, then a poor Dalit person like me were not here. I praise my leaders that they have been given participation to those poor-dalit persons in politics. Our

[Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria]

leaders have given them tickets and they have been elected and came here. I praise for the system which we have established. It's a matter of concern. The way in which Mr. Sharma has presented his report, I want to request to the hon. Minister and to entire House to understand the sentiments of parliamentarians. If a member speaks then 15 lakhs democracy protector speaks, therefore you pay special attention to them. If some one have to give something to society in a good way, if Prime Minister wants to do something for this community then the whole barren land should be used properly. Poor people should be provided land on lease and service should be given to the one child of the family. When the poor-dalit will get a salary of Rs. 10,000 he can be dressed properly. I do not want to use the work which Mr. Jogi has used. I want to say :

'Nirmal Man Jan so Mohe Pawa',
Mohe kapat chhal chhidra na bhawa"

The god is supreme, he does not consider any lordship. As one will sow, he will reap.

Why the natural calamity is occurring in this country? As long as the women and schedule caste people will not get honour, the natural calamities occur in this country, this is my opinion. You just think that there is someone supreme to you, someone is above all. Dr. Ambedkar had also said this. If someone thinks that every thing is in his hands then it is impossible. Therefore it is my request that without abusing one another, one should try to strengthen the society. Our society has given us the post of presidents, the society has given us so many things. By creating controversy in society nothing will be achieved. By blaming each other the society will break. It is a matter of concern as the arrangement of society has been made. You know that if you have to go to Agra from Bulandshahar, you have to pay Rs. 25.35p.

If you pay only Rs. 25, he will ask you to get down. Without paying 35 paise the conductor will not allow to travel in the bus. The House and the custodians of the democracy know that each and everyone should get respect irrespective of his spiritual aspect. If everyone gets respect the welfare of the country is sure. We have to remain alert that anything unusual does not happen in the country. The report which has been submitted by Shri B.D. Sharma, the hon. Members have expressed their views about it.

The way in which exposed the flaws of democracy in Andhra Pradesh and an agitation launched against the oppression of Dalit woman there, it will be the part of history. By keeping in mind our views, the hon. Prime

Minister consider this seriously and bring transparency in the system. As long as our views will not be heard, the welfare of weaker and downtrodden persons will not be done. I have already said to avoid arisen of oppression and revolution.

The country can progress by inculcating feeling of brotherhood. If atrocities will be continued on poor, the country will be disintegrated. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Several hon'ble members have expressed their views over the 30th report of the year 1989-91 regarding SC/ST Commissioner presented by the hon. Welfare Minister Shrimati Maneka Gandhi. I also want to express my opinion on it.

Today's discussion reminds me of Baba Bhimrao Ambedkarji and Mahatma Gandhiji. The people of SC and ST's were satisfied with the reservation provisions of the Poona Pact made by Gandhiji and Ambedkarji. This is the good luck of the country that the creation of another Achhutistan (land of untouchables) is stopped. Today, we have to consider about the gains and losses of the country during the last fifty years. There are many issues relating to SC and ST's which had been hindered by many governments whether it was a question of protecting their interests, or welfare schemes for them, all of them are pending.

Many hon. Members have talked about reservation. All people belonging to SC and ST in the country had apprehension that the Constitutional right of reservation may be discontinued. The backlog have not yet been filled. All the departments whether they belongs to the states or central Government. Not a single department can claim to have filled all reserve posts. We have to consider and analysis over the today's position. You can see the records. Jogiji has given the datas here. I don't want to discuss about it. Look at the position of higher posts in states and central Government held by the people of SC and ST's, analyse the position. I had submitted a report to the hon. Prime Minister during the budget session in which it has been mentioned that there were many officers on the posts of secretary or higher posts in the Central Government, but now nobody is there. I drew the attention of the hon. Prime Minister towards this, I do not want to go into the details whether anything was done in this regard. Today we are talking about promotion. The eligible officers of central and state Government got the promotions. When they get the promotion they are sent to Andman and Nikobar and they don't want to go there hence do not accept the promotion. When persons of other castes get the promotion, they are sent to other districts. If any officer belonging to SC or STs is promoted he is given distant posting just to harass him.

It is considered that he won't joint there, and will withdraw his promotion. I urge upon the Government look into this affair. Schemes related to welfare ministry I will take later on. There are two I.A.S. Officers in Uttar Pradesh one of them is Shri B. Prasad, the husband of a Member of Parliament Shrimati Reena Choudhary and another is Shri A.K. Singh, husband of Member of Parliament Shrimati Omvati Devi These two officers were kept aloof from the key-posts. When these officers resort to High Court the hon. High Court clearly said that they should be given honour by posting them on special posts. But they are neither being posted on important posts and nor they are being given salaries. I want to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister through this House that if this kind of treatment will be done by the Government with the Officers sitting on high posts and belongs to SC or STs then what is the use of our speech in this House.

Chairman, Sir, today evening the Members of Parliament who belongs to SC and ST's are considering together about those IAS and IPS Officers who could not be promoted and are being harassed. The Government should give serious thought to it. I want to submit through this House that there are different situations in different states. There are many states where SC/ST and other backward classes are not given facilities and reservation quota. For example, in Andhra Pradesh, Pasi cast has not been included in the ST category.

Neither they are being given those fundamental facilities which they are entitled to. This is my suggestion that as the financial or judicial powers are given to the Human Rights Commission, the same powers should be given to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission so that our rights are safeguard.

Chairman, Sir, now I would like to take up the discussion regarding Schedule Tribes persons. I am well acquainted with their problems since I had been the Welfare and Forest Minister in Uttar Pradesh. Our point was made clear by the hon'ble Member Shri Kashyap of the Treasury Bench and Shri Jogiji also made a statement. So, I too would like to say that the Government will have to pay special attention to this. The education as well as the health of their children will have to be looked after. They survive on the natural resources available there. Their survival is depend on this resource only. The Government have chalked out many welfare programmes for the Scheduled Tribes but they are not reaching to them. So, I would like to say that specific attention should be given to this matter. Just now one of our frineds asked where such an arrangement is and where such an arrangement was made. I would like to inform about the mistakes committed by the previous Governments during the last 50 years. Today, the people sitting in the Treasury

Bench can chalk out welfare programmes for the Scheduled Tribes and they can safeguard their interests.

15.35 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

I made a visit to the Salempur village in District Fatehpur falling in our constituency. There are 600 students. Most of them belong to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and the backward classes. They have only one teacher for them. When I came to know about it, I drew the attention of the administration to this matter. The number of such villages will be in thousands and not in hundreds where there is only one or two teachers for most of the students. We find that in the schools of missionary or in the schools where the children of rich family study, there is one teacher for five or ten students. Thus, I would like to say, that this should be given specific attention. Together with this, I would like to draw your attention to the villages and countryside of far distants where they are being treated discriminately in the name of untouchability. Many Members talked about the tradition still prevailing in the villages where no bridegroom of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe can ride a mare in his marriage. Likewise, he has to change his course if he sees the people of higher castes somewhere on his way. They cannot sit on the cot in the presence of higher caste people. There are many such wells where they are not allowed to take water.

I would like to remind the hon'ble members that in their areas especially where people of Mehtar Caste and Valmiki Caste reside, they are not allowed to take water. Today we have talked about the setting up of a hand-pump in the midst of ten houses in their villages under our constituency. It does happen now-a-days that when the other people of the whole village have collected water, only then they take water and after they have collected water for themselves, the hand-pump is washed with the soil. Fifty years have past since our country became free but we have not progressed at all during this period. Be it land for ariculture or for building the houses, in the name of lease they are given land outside the villages and the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes build their houses in the forests and live there. If you look at the agricultural land there, they are given either barren land or the land which is occupied by a bully or a ruffian. This will also have to be given specific attention that if we want to raise their standard of living, we shall have to provide them such land where they can have good production and thereby they may improve their standard of living.

Likewise, I would like to remind you of the loan. We provide loan in the name of Scheduled Castes under your

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

welfare programmes. Today people belonging to the Scheduled Castes are fail to take loan. But the mediators and the touts withdraw the loan by putting their fake signatures or false thumb impressions. And Afterwards the notice they get is of the attachment of their homes. You will have to pay specific attention to it. Likewise, money is provided for the marriage of the girls of the Scheduled Castes. Go into the record of Uttar Pradesh and see as to how much money you gave to the girls of the Scheduled Castes for their marriages and how much money was actually spent. I would like to draw your attention to this point.

Likewise, many coaching institutes are opened for them for the preparation of I.A.S. and P.C.S. examinations. The condition in Uttar Pradesh is so bad that the students have no place to live there. Proficient Professors are not available there. If they are made available, the people of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can progress by qualifying these exams. I would like to draw your attention to this issue also.

We need to pay special attention towards villages at the hour. If the people of villages are not prosperous, the country cannot progress.

I would like to draw your attention to the exploitation of the people of Scheduled Castes by the police. Especially, I will talk about my state, Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, some members have raised this issue in the Zero Hour and under Rule 377. If any mishap like stealth or dacoity takes place somewhere, then the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are forcibly entangled in it and fake allegations are levelled against them. They are killed in for encounters. All this has to be stopped. Reservation in Police Department also need be reviewed as to how many SC Officer hold higher ranks or posted as S.H.Os. It needs proper attention.

As many encroachments are removed now-a-days whether they are in forests or in plains, only the farmers or labourers of Scheduled Castes are suffering the most. Their houses are demolished. You lack any planning to rehabilitate them with any good accommodations regarding their standard of living.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, conclude.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : We will have to provide them with constitutional employment. Those employments in the Constitution for the people of SCs and STs, they would have to be provided with them for their economic progress. With these words, I would conclude, because many of our hon. members who come from SCs and STs,

they too would like to speak out their sentiments. You have given me time, I thank you for this.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, by allowing a debate on the 30th report of the Commissioner for Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes, you have done a great deed for the country. The subject-matter of this debate is quite worthwhile and relevant. But in his letter to the hon. Prime Minister, the Commissioner writes that he had raised some important issue at all levels of the Central Government and requested for proper action on them, even he had written letters to CMs and Governors, but in vain, and what is ironical is that, in the case of contempt of Constitutional Rights of the one-fourth people of this country; he was unable to meet the Prime Minister of India, due to his being busy in other affairs. It is obvious in the report that the one-fourth of the country's population suffers despite all the reports in consonance with the provisions of Article 338 of the Constitution.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whensoever any world Conference is held at U.N.O. or other venue, then Hindustan is seated on back benches as the 'Shudras' or 'Adivasis' are seated in our country. What is the reason? The reason is that, in this country the one-fourth of the populace is named with disgust as 'Achhoot', 'Dalit', 'Shoshit', 'Gareeb', 'Adivasi', 'Harijan', 'Schedule Caste' and what not. If I take more names, it'll be inviting pros and cons. Until and unless these people are backward, are dishonoured, India itself would not be securing place in any front-row at the world-level and not be termed as 'progressive'. Until these one-fourth are treated as low-profile people, their condition cannot be improved . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAKUNI CHAUDHARY (Khagariya) : The Dalits in Bihar have also suffered injustice, cure it first.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Bihar is not being discussed here.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I am grateful to Shakuniji in that he inspired me to say the right thing. We have learnt from Gandhiji, Ram Manohar Lohia, Jai Prakash Narain - 'Oonchi Jati ki kiya Pehchan, Gitpit Bole Kare Na Kam' that is after discussing in English they simply skip away but do not work. "Oochi Jati ki Kya Pehchan, Kam Kare aur Sahe Apman." The workers and labourers of India as farmers, ploughers harvestors, winnowers, choosers, carters, brick makers, masons, weavers shepherds, vegetable growers etc. were declared untouchables.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, those who put in labour were called inferior and those who simply eat and do nothing were called superior. They belong to higher strata and they belong to lower strata. The fighting is going on against this

injustice in the society. That is called social injustice. In Bihar Gandhiji, Lohiaji, Jai Prakash Narainji, and late Karpuri Thakurji used to say that as long as the poor people, who are called inferior, are not brought forward and the Fight of equality is not won, the country can not progress. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Hon'ble Member since he is ready to hear me. So please allow me to ask him a question. Whatever the Hon'ble Member is speaking is very good. While mentioning Commissioner's letters to the Chief Minister and Governors but it is also mentioned in the letter that he wrote a couple of letters to the Chief Minister of Bihar Mr. Laloo Prasad Yadav but Mr. Yadav did not respond to the letters. He should have mentioned it in his quotation which he did not. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I will tell as to why he did not reply. Mr. Chairman, Sir, we kept on reading that a new era would come when the worker would eat and robber would perish. The plougher should be the owner of the land. At that time Karl Marx had said that as long as there is economic inequality poverty remains. Economic inequality and poverty both are the same thing. In India, there are two types of poverty. One is mental and the other is economic poverty. One is poverty of heart and the other is poverty of the stomach. One fourth population of India is suffering from the poverty of stomach but even higher member of people are suffering from mental poverty. Action should be taken to remove the mental poverty of our countrymen and until mental poverty is removed, economic poverty cannot be removed. When the man is hungry, he can do nothing, No change comes in but when the same hunger goes up into the mind then a war against inequality starts and the same is happening in Bihar. Shri Laloo Yadav has initiated a crusade against mental poverty and mental inequality. He has fought by providing respect and honour to the poor and by awakening them. We see the practical form of that crusade in Bihar following which all the poor, Dalits, tribals and people of backward communities that they are equal and lesser to none. They are getting respect, and honour. That is why, except one or two parties almost all the parties go against Lalooji. Even then we defeat them in the elections. Even a group of hundred wrestlers in the arena cannot defeat Lalooji in Bihar. Elections were held recently on the issue of Vananchal but Lalooji won in the Koderma region.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a rally too was organised in Gandhi Maidan in Patna recently. In that "Khabardar Rally" people participated in a large number. Lalooji was in jail but the the Gandhi Maidan was jam-packed with like minded people. It was not only a lively rally but also a glorious,

forceful and the most successful one in which the people resolved . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) (Bihar) : Rally has nothing to do here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may continue your speech.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Whatever I am speaking would not be understood by some people; may be for their whole lives, because I am speaking against inequality and exploitation. The poor have been exploited for thousands of years. They are insulted. I shall not quote the words used against them since they shall be unparliamentary here. So some persons are feeling very uneasy. They are not in a position to hear about that. They become uneasy feeling how right, I am speaking.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a region called Tharu in West Champaran of Bihar inhabited by tribals and with people. There is no arrangement of drinking water for them. They have no clothes, nor homes. They live under the shades of trees. This is the condition of Tharu people. This Tharu caste is mentioned also in the report. Thrity per-cent tribals have no facility for education in Bihar. There is no arrangement of medicine if somebody in their family is sick. The condition of tribals is very bad there. Likewise the population of hilly areas is decreasing. Their position too is also not good. After freedom, the Constitution makers had felt that a Commissioner be appointed under Section 338. It was then said that a Commission be constituted which would take care of their position so that they may get social, economic educational development in every way and inequality could be abolished. Therefore this Commission was constituted. You were kind enough to allow debate on the report of the same commission.

There is tribal area in M.P. and so is in Bengal. They are all demanding a greater Jharkhand. The tribals may be from M.P., Orissa, Bihar. They say under a conspiracy that Jharkhand state has to be formed in the interests of the tribals so that they could have their own state. Thrity percent population of tribals in Bihar live in 16 districts. Non-tribals would take over them, so they are demanding for greater Jharkhand. It is just to befool them. They tell the poor that Bihar would be divided. They said there unitedly that a partition of Bihar was not acceptable to them. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the poor are exploited too much. The Chief Minister of Bihar is Mrs. Rabri Devi. Prime Minister goes from here and summons her. Was it expected that Rabri Deviji, stood there with flowers? There was a ceremony of Lord Budha in which scores of dignitaries from major countries were present. The Prime Minister went there and said that there is Mafia Raj in Bihar. This is a very shameful. Does he understand

[Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

culture? These persons are enemies of culture. The way the Prime Minister of the country speaks against a lady Chief Minister and insults 10 crores of people cannot be tolerated. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (Dumdum) : What is the subject? I am sorry to say that this is not the relevant subject. Whatever he says is not fair. (Interruptions). He has to confine himself to the subject of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes . . . (Interruptions) What is this? (Interruptions). Does whatever he says have any credibility?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Many Hon. Members are yet to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir He has called God. Born in Indian as a thief of butter. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Come to your point please. Please conclude now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : An arrangement for education of these down-trodden dalits should be made so as to eliminate their mental poverty. (Interruptions). In their areas (Interruptions) Fourteen thousand and five hundred houses are being constructed. The houses are without roofs. These houses are incomplete - I am talking of Indira Awas Scheme. The poor are roofless and their old houses too have got shattered. Therefore more expenditure is being incurred due to increase in prices of bricks, Cement to complete the partially constructed houses. The Construction work was stopped when it was nearing lanter stage at the cost 14½ thousand rupees. The houses are without roofs and the people were rendered homeless. They get Rs. twenty thousands. All the poor people demand that cemented houses should be constructed but they get lesser amount due to which their houses remain incomplete.

There is a Nonia caste in Bihar which is very laborious. The institute for social studies has examined them in every way—socially, economically and educationally. The people of Nonia caste used to make salt and to

cut out soil etc. The state Government has said that they should be enlisted in the Scheduled Caste List. We had questioned about it in 1977. We came to know through a letter that the Government is considering about it seriously. But we know according to a proverb in english.

[English]

"Justice delayed is justice denied."

[Translation]

Likewise it is a greater injustice to make delay in social justice. I request the Government to take action immediately on the basis of the recommendations received from Bihar because in other states this caste is enlisted as Scheduled Caste and it is very much backward. All the formalities have been completed to enlist them in the category of Scheduled Caste. Let the Government take immediate action and a law should be enacted for their reservation. There is a law in Bihar to the effect that in case an officer does some wrong with the established norms of reservation, action will be taken against him. If such an act is enacted for the entire country to the effect that any officer tampering with matters related to reservation will be punished. If there is such provision, it would be a great contribution for their development.

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (Khunti) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Before speaking on the report, I shall like to speak something on what the preceding Member has said. He spoke in detail about Bihar and passed criticisms on making Bihar big or small. But he probably does not know that there are no people belonging to Scheduled Tribe in the constituency he represents. He does not know as to where the people belonging to Scheduled Tribes live, how they live, what they eat and what they do. He has appreciated the reservation in view of the fact that the officer who violates reservation will be punished, but the situation is just opposite in Bihar . . . (Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will not be recorded.

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA : Before that he was Minister for two and half years . . . (Interruptions) He began speaking on other subject after deviating from the subject of the report and kept talking so much about Bihar as if he had all of Bihar in his hand . . . (Interruptions)

The report which we are discussing today, had been prepared eight or nine years back. It shows the amount of concern of the Central Government to this community. It sounds very strange that the report which had been prepared eight or nine years back is being discussed today. I feel the recommendations made therein, the

*Not Recorded.

context, the circumstances and the then factors have greatly changed. I, therefore, request the Government that whenever a report is prepared in this regard, it should be put on debate immediately so that the recommendations made, could be discussed and the Government could implement it.

16.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kariya Munda, you may continue your speech tomorrow. When this discussion will come up tomorrow. Now under rule 193, action would be taken on the discussion which had been started by Shri Arif Mohammad Khan. It would be discussed upon.

[English]

Now Shri C. Gopal will speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman Sir, you are requested that this important discussion should be continued. Many Hon'ble members have to speak on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is to be discussed at 4 P.M. as per today's business list.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : This may please be discussed tomorrow. Several Hon'ble Members are to express their views. If the discussion is stopped here then they would be deprived of the opportunity to speak, therefore, the discussion please may be continued . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. The discussion has not ended. As I have already stated that this would continue. I have asked Shri Kariya Munda to continue his speech tomorrow. Since subject relating to atrocities is to be taken for discussion at 4 p.m. hence it is taken now.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : The tribals of Madhya Pradesh have been the victims of loot and dacoity for the last 40 years . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : We want to express our views on the misuse of billions of rupees in the name of Tribal plans.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This matter will be discussed tomorrow.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will you give us an opportunity to speak tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. This will be discussed tomorrow.

MR. RAMANAND SINGH : This report has been submitted by the Commissioner. The Commissioner usually writes in favour of the Government. The billions of rupees are being misused in the name of these plans . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri C. Gopal will speak.

16.02 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities Committed on Minorities in Various Parts of the Country

[English]

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakonam) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I am very thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the subject 'atrocities committed on minorities in various parts of the country' in this House. I want to submit before this House that before talking on the subject, everybody must know what is the root cause for these atrocities on minorities in every part of the nation. I want to say one thing that if every human right is respected by every citizen in this nation, then there is no possibility of causing atrocities in every part of our nation. That is why, during the struggle for Independence, the leaders of the National Movement tried to stress the primacy of human rights. In our future constitutional set-up, the Constitution-makers of free India reflected this primacy while handing down to us our Constitution under which we have practised democracy for the past 50 years. We have celebrated Silver Jubilee of our Independence. We have spent 50 years after Independence. The existence of atrocities on minorities is prevalent throughout the country. It has been in existence for the past 50 years. It was there even before Independence. That is why, our great leaders opined that any Government in India has to act according to our Constitution. Our constitution has been framed keeping in view the poor people, the minorities and other people also.

I want to submit before this House what is the Preamble of the Constitution of India. This is a fundamental thing and every citizen must understand it. It says :

"WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens ;

JUSTICE, social, economic and political ;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship ;

[Shri C. Gopal]

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;
and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and
the unity and integrity of the Nation ;”

We must understand that every citizen is equal before law. It is mentioned in the Preamble of our Constitution. My humble submission would be that if everybody is respected, there is no possibility of causing atrocities on any citizen in India.

We know that Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, was the person responsible for getting freedom to our nation. On 15th of August, 1947 when Pandit Nehru invited Mahatma Gandhi to come and participate in the flag hoisting function, I am sorry to say that Mahatma Gandhi did not participate in that function, that is, when our National Flag was hoisted at the Red Fort. He did not participate in that function because near the border of East Bengal, Muslim people were affected and their women were raped. They were not moving freely on that side. At that time, he said, "I did not find the freedom, what I aimed, therefore, I do not want to come to this function." These were the words of Mahatma Gandhi.

We must feel sorry that these atrocities still continue even after our Independence. I request the Central Government to appoint committees in each and every district of our country to give publicity and to advise the people, whether they belong to the minority or the majority community.

My humble submission is that democracy cannot survive and sustain itself without respect for human rights. When the demolition of the Babri Masjid took place, many Muslims were injured in several incidents that followed, whereas in Tamil Nadu—at that time, our beloved leader and the General Secretary of the AIADMK, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Jayalaltha was ruling Tamil Nadu—no such incident had happened and the then Chief Minister provided security to all the Muslims and the minority communities. She maintained the law and order perfectly and, that is why, no such incident had happened. We are very proud to say this in this august House.

I want to draw the attention of the House to the issue of rape of four nuns in Jhabua District in Madhya Pradesh. Many such incidents happened. There were attacks on the schools run by the Christians and there was also the incident of burning the copies of the Bible in Gujarat. There was also an attack on a Convent in Jhabua. A Convent was looted in Baghpat in Uttar Pradesh, and a Church was attacked and desecrated in Meerut in Uttar Pradesh.

(Interruptions) What is this interference? Further, a woman was raped in a Convent in Bandel District in West Bengal. These were the incidents against minorities which happened in various parts of India I do not want to blame any party here. My humble submission is that the gang-rape of four nuns in Jhabua appears to be part of a large plan and to terrorise the minority Christians all over the country. That is why, this incident against the nuns had happened. These criminal incidents are inhuman acts, and they are a blot on our culture also. So, my request is that the Government should see to it that the minority communities, all over the country, do not come under these intense pressures. Every Government should take it as a duty also.

Another incident happened in the State of Tamil Nadu and that was the death of one Ms. Chitra under mysterious conditions.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, the matter is *sub-judice*.

SHRI C. GOPAL : No, the matter is not *sub-judice*. There is a judicial order . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, he is not yielding.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The matter is *sub-judice*.

SHRI C. GOPAL : No, the matter is not *sub-judice*.

Sir, I would not like to submit anything with regard to the Judiciary. The death of Ms. Chitra was under suspicious conditions. Therefore, my leader, the General Secretary of the Party, our beloved leader, *Puratchi Thalaivi* requested the Government of Tamil Nadu to order an immediate judicial enquiry. At the first instance the matter was neglected. The CBCID gave a different report; the enquiry report of RDOS was something different. So, my leader requested the State Government to institute a judicial enquiry immediately.

Sir, the AIADMK organised a four-phased agitation. But that also did not evoke any response from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI C. GOPAL : Sir, I am only speaker from my Party and so I should be allowed some time.

Sir, in the first phase of our agitation, my leader issued a statement demanding stringent punishment for the guilty; in the second phase of our agitation, a meeting of an expository nature was held on this issue on the 3rd of November, which was addressed by the Chairman of our Party, Shri V.R. Nedunchezhiyan. Then, the Women's Wing of the Party organised a protest march on the 9th of

November and finally in the fourth phase of our agitation, the Party Deputy General Secretary, Shri P. Kalimuthu held a demonstration before the Chennai Collectorate. Even then, when there was no response from the State Government, she herself decided to enter the agitation. When the programme for the proposed procession march to the Raj Bhawan was announced, it was then that the Chief Minister of the State became jittery and finally ordered a judicial enquiry into the matter. Though maintenance of better public order and the police are State subjects, yet the Central Government also has a responsibility in the matter. After a month the incident took place, the State Government came forward to order a judicial enquiry into the matter. The Central Government also knew about the matter. I would only say that such incidents should not take place and there should also be immediate remedial measures to such incidents. Only when immediate remedial measures are ensured and culprits are brought to book, then only justice could be rendered to the people belonging to the minority community. The Central Government has been providing assistance to the State Government for meeting the infrastructure of police and also shares intelligence reports with them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are so many Members who would like to speak on this. Please conclude now.

SHRI C. GOPAL : Sir, that is way, I would like to submit that when such incidents take place and the State Government does not take action, the Central Government must come forward immediately to render justice to the minorities.

Sir, the State of Tamil Nadu was very peaceful when it was ruled by our leader. Now, the Muslims are moving from one place to another. When the Babri *Masjid* was demolished, there was no incident of violence in the State. But now there is harassment of the minorities in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Sir, with these few words, I conclude by speech.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, ever since the BJP has taken over the reins of power at the Centre, the attacks against the minorities have increased. We all know that the Sixth anniversary of the demolition of the Babri *Masjid* is just over. The wounds it has inflicted on our polity have not yet healed. Now, the Sangh Parivar has found a target other than the Muslim community, that is, the Christians in our country.

As we all know, the Christians community constitutes only 2.4 per cent of our population. Never before in the 2000 year old history of Christianity in our country this community has been subjected to such concerted inhuman

attacks with the active connivance of the Government at the Centre and also in some of the State Governments ruled by the BJP. If the BJP feels that its pathetic fall in the recent elections is only due to the rise in the price of onions, it is sadly mistaken. The election verdict is a categorical declaration by the people of all communities in our country, especially Hindu community, that they want the secular traditions of this country to be protected. In fact, the Sangh Parivar and its cohorts are attributing to the Hindu community an intolerance which it never possessed. In fact the greatest thing that this country can be proud of is that we have a rich heritage which welcomed all religions and all streams of thought to our country. I would like to quote Swami Vivekananda here. It is good for the BJP to occasionally know what the greatest exponent of the Hindu faith told the world about the Hindu faith. This is from the famous speech of Swami Vivekananda delivered at the World Parliament of Religions. He said :

"I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth. I am proud to tell you that we have gathered in our bosom the purest remnant of Israelites who came to southern India and took refuge with us in the very year in which their holy temple was shattered to pieces by Roman tyranny."

Throughout his trip across the United States he asserted the tolerance which this country and the Hindu faith preached.

As far as religions are concerned, our country is a world in miniature. Almost all major religions in the world are represented in our country. It is this rich cultural mosaic which every Indian is proud of that the BJP and the RSS want to break. The people have again asserted their faith in the recent elections. Their faith in a secular India has given a befitting reply to the attempts by the BJP. What has happened in our country during the last eight months of the stupendously glorious BJP rule is that this Government has been extending active patronage to all these fundamentalist forces who are organising nasty and inhuman attacks on the minorities, especially the Christians. Bible are burnt, nuns are raped, priests are attacked, and religious meeting are disrupted and vandalised, all in the name of Hindutva.

What happened in Jhabua ? I was one of the six Members of Parliament belonging to CPI(M) who visited Jhabua. Four innocent nuns who were staying in a convent doing whatever little social service they could do to the community, were molested by a group of thugs.

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

How this rape is different from the other rapes that have been reported in our country? This should be viewed on the background of the all-out attack by the Sangh Privar against the Christian community. When this most foul atrocity was committed against these four innocent nuns at Jhabua, the Secretary of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad had the temerity to make an outrageously atrocious statement that it is an act of patriotism. In his mind apparently, the rape of the nuns was an attack the against the Christian faith.

This gentleman was a BJP Member of Parliament and he continues to be in the ruling party even now. This whole country was looking at the Prime Minister and the Home Minister whether any of them would condemn the attack and the new found definition of patriotism. But none came forward to condemn this and offer protection to the minority and to the Christian community. Sir, this is nothing but the betrayal of whatever little trust this great country reposed on you.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Sir, I am intervening. I have to reply at the end, but when an atrocious statement of this kind is made I thought that I must contradict it. I must say that in the presence of Arch Bishop of Delhi who came and pointed out to me that statement which has been issued, on that very day, in his presence, I phoned the leader of that organization and had him reprimanded and further had the organization, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to condemn that statement and condemn the act of rape also.

Further, I wish that this issue is not communalised. In this issue, the culprits who committed this heinous offence, if 24 were suspects, 12 of them happened to be Christians. Therefore, the issue is not Christian versus Hindu. The issue is a rape of women and a rape of nuns, which is atrocious and outrageous. No one can condone it. Therefore, no words can be too strong to condemn this act.

I wish that your delegation, when it went there, had also asked the State authorities which happened to be different from my party, as to who are these people. And, when, we asked them, they told us that out of these 24 culprits, 12 are Christians. And, the moment, I came to know about it, I said, it is our failure. Because of this one single incident, we have been maligne'd throughout the world. This Jhabua incident has done a lot of damage not to the BJP as such, not to the Government but to the whole country because this country cannot reconcile with that. Now, when I learned that CPM delegation went there, I am shocked that the CPM delegation did not care to find out this elementary fact which was immediately told to us by the State Government. If this fact had been known, the kind of a bad reputation that the country has earned today,

would not have been there. Therefore, because you are repeating it, I felt that even before I reply to the whole debate, I must contradict this particular fact.

This is a heinous offence. Those who have committed it, are being brought to book by the State Government, and I must compliment the State Government for taking necessary action. But it should not be communalised by any one of us. . . (Interruptions)

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : On how many attempts, the arrest was made ? . . (Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : So far as the other matters are concerned, I will reply to them. But this is a different category altogether. Yesterday, every one spoke about all these things. But no one referred to Jhabua incident. I felt that they have taken cognisance of the fact that this particular incident should not be referred to in this context. And today, when I learned from you that your delegation has actually visited there, and after that, you are repeating it, I thought it would be proper for me to contradict.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I said that this incident should be viewed on the background of the all out attack against Christians community in our country.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Well, 12 culprits, hoodlums who were the Christian who did this, had they actually done because of Hindutva ? . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Why are you underlying the fact that they are Christians? . . (Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am only saying that so far as the BJP is concerned, it would be willing to explain everything. But let us not refer to matters which are not communal, which are of a different nature and about which all of us should be unanimous.

When nobody referred to Jhabua either day before yesterday or yesterday, I felt satisfied that were aware of the facts of the situation and therefore they were not referring to it. I felt, nobody is talking about nuns being raped in the name of Hindutva because this particular incident itself is proof . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Our concern is about the statement made by the VHP.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I condemned that in the presence of the Archbishop.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : You have only now made this statement belatedly.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I had condemned it the very day.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : You have not made any public statement till now.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I wish you could ask this from the Archbishop himself. I have nothing more to say.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Look at the instances of attacks that have taken place all over the country. There have been several instances in 1998 also. Some of my learned colleagues have mentioned about them yesterday also.

Gujarat stands first in the list of attacks on them. On the 2nd March, in Baroda, Gujarat, while a group of people were distributing handbills concerning an upcoming Christian meeting scheduled to be held at the Baroda Polo Ground during the 4th to 7th March, 1998, young men of the VHP, Bajrang Dal and Durga Vahini came out in large numbers and started beating the group, which included a few foreign tourists. Later, the police came on the scene and took the victims to the Padra Police Station and detained them there for a long time.

Again, on the 4th March, at Vadodara, there was an attack at the Baroda Polo Ground on a peaceful Christian minority group. The buses engaged for transporting the participants were prevented from taking off and the stranded participants using public transport were singled out and mercilessly beaten up. That congregation was disrupted and those who were waiting at the bus stop were mercilessly beaten up.

On the 13th March, a group of pilgrims were attacked by some religious fanatics at Khanvel, Maharashtra.

On the 3rd April, in Gujarat again, a Christian convention organised in the Polo Grounds was attacked by the members of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal in Baroda.

There are several instances. On the 8th July, again in Gujarat, at Kapadvanj in Nadiad district, the body of Samuel Christian, a Methodist Christian, was allegedly exhumed by VHP activists from the cemetery at Kapadvanj and dumped near the Methodist Church.

On the 12th July, again in Gujarat, when the Christians gathered for Sunday worship, village Patel Baburao Gavit allegedly rushed in brandishing a bottle and threatened the Christians. The same day, the Church lock was broken and the Cross removed from the prayer hall of Dhavalidod.

On the 20th July, at Rajkot, Gujarat, copies of the Holy Bible were burnt allegedly by VHP and Banjrang Dal activists at the I.P. Mission School, Rajkot. This Rajkot incident was reported widely.

Again the 9th August in Gujarat, a Church was demolished by the RSS people at Ahmedabad. There are many instances.

What are they up to? As I submitted earlier, the Hindutva forces wanted to negate the real plurality of this country. They deny that India is a multi-religious country and this land belongs to all the people, belonging to various religions. It is the Sangh Privar's objective that these religious diversity is submerged in a 'Hindu Rashtra'. Their aim is to sow distrust among the various communities of the country. The BJP leaders claim that they failed in the elections because they could not implement their agenda fully and forcefully.

That means the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the RSS visualise more terror and intimidation against Christians and other minority communities. The failure in the elections, I genuinely fear, may force the BJP and the RSS to carry on much more vigorous attacks against the minorities. What are the secular allies of the BJP doing? Kumari Mamata Banerjee wants to keep her secular credentials intact by supporting the BJP Government. She should know that she cannot travel in two boats at the same time. The secular boat may capsize at any time. She gave a belated call to observe December 6th as a Black Day. All the allies of the BJP should know that running with the hare is not possible while you are hunting with the hound.

Sir, as I said earlier, Christians are in a minuscule minority. Their great service in the field of education and charity are examples to the people of all other communities in our country. I myself studied in a great Christian institution and I am sure many other hon. Members must also have studied in such institutions. People of all religions have benefited from their work. This is the country where Mother Teresa, the embodiment of Christian love and eternal compassion lived and worked.

I am ashamed to say that in this country of Mother Teresa, the RSS and its frontal organizations, with the blessings of the Central Government are trying to whip up hatred against the Christian community. This Government has not regret in implementing this hatred agenda. When queries came from the agitated foreign Governments, this Government had the temerity to issue an in-house circular to all the Indian Embassies and Missions abroad saying that these attacks are the making of the minorities themselves. They themselves are to be blamed for that. This Government issued this circular. Will this Government take serious steps to put an end to these attacks on minorities being perpetrated by the RSS and its frontal organizations? I would like the BJP to know how the Christians felt at the time of their persecution. It would be nice for them to know what St. Paul said when he was on his way to Damascus. He said, "For Christ's sake we are fools; but you are wise in union with the Christ. We are weak but you are strong! We are despised but you are honoured. To this very moment we go hungry and thirsty; we are clothed in rags; we are beaten; we wander from place to place; we wear

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

ourselves with hard work; when we are cursed we bless; when we are persecuted we endure; when we are insulted we answer with kind words. We are no more than the world's garbage; we are the scum of the earth to this very moment."

Finally, I would like them to remember what Christ said during his glorious moments of glorification. He said, 'Oh! Father, they do not know what they are doing, forgive them'.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Member please be brief as a No. of Hon'ble Members are to speak. This subject is very important.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : I may please be given atleast sometime.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan has started the discussion under Rule 193 regarding atrocities committed on minorities. Hon'ble Shri P. Shiv Shankar and Hon'ble Guptaji have expressed their views in this regard. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble House through you that even after 50 years of independence the minorities be they Muslims or Sikhs or Christians or the people of backward classes or Harijans, they have been the victims of atrocities. The Government have not framed any policy to stop atrocities being committed on minorities group. B.J.P. Government has totally failed in this regard, and the Muslims have not been protected by this Government. Not less than 30,000 riots have broken out in India and whenever. . . (Interruptions)

SMT. JAYABEN BHARAT KUMAR THAKAR (Vadodara) : Who save them?

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : Whatever I have told is true. . . (Interruptions) The riot took place in Muradabad. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA (Ambala) : How many riots did take place since then the B.J.P. Government came into power ?

SMT. JAYABEN BHARAT KUMAR THAKAR : The elections were held in Baruch and the people say that since then the B.J.P. Government have come in power in the state their children go to school without any fear or terror and they are living peacefully . . . (Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : This country cannot progress without the help of Muslims. There are about 30 crores Muslims in India and if you do not impart education to them, provide employment to them, give justice to them then how this country can progress ? No country can

progress in the absence of law and Justice. The case of demolition of the Babri Masjid is before you and it proves that the B.J.P. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the Bajrang Dal and the Shiv Sena people do not abide by law. High Court and Supreme Court had given stay orders but even then Babri Masjid was demolished. They violated the instructions of courts and acted arbitrarily. The party which believes in its faith violates the instructions of Courts, deserves to be condemned.

Today, Shri Kalyan Singhji is the Chief Minister and he was sentenced to jail for one day. Hon'ble Advaniji is our Minister of Home Affairs and he too in facing such cases in courts. In this connection, I would like to mention that muslims are the greatest minority group in India. Muslims have sacrificed everything during the freedom struggle of India. They were beheaded, hanged and even killed with bullets to free India. But inspite of that they are victims of injustice and violence. Sikhs and Christians are also its victims but the muslims are the most sufferers. This Government is making a clean sweep of the Muslims from the Government service. So far as the posts in Police departments are concerned, there is hardly one or two percent Muslims in the Police force. Today the Muslims are in large number, yet the Government have no faith in them. What kind of testimony of loyalty do they demand from them ? - it was Brigadier Usman who made his Supreme sacrifice for the sake of Kashmir, Havaladar Abdul Hamid said down his life for breaking Pakistan's Paton Tank and Shri A.P.J. Abdul Kalam is the master brain in conducting Pokhran Nuclear Test. Even then you have not faith in muslims. What is its reason, what is the mentality behind it and why the muslims are the victims of injustice.

We are meted out step-motherly treatment in schools and colleges. We are not given jobs, our children do not get admission. When you do not impart education to the Muslims of the country, this country cannot progress. Therefore, I must say that we do not ask for alms, we demand our genuine rights. We have our rights in this country. We are bound to demand our rights.

If you do not give us our right, there would be no place for justice and the country would not be able to progress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a Rapid Action Force has been constituted. There are many people in this force who work indifferently in case of riots and agitations. Muslims have been wronged on different occasions, be it any issue either regarding schools, education or services. There are so many examples in Delhi wherein Muslims are being tried just to harass and they are being served false and illegal notices. I would like to inform you that I have also written a letter on 30th to the Lt. Governor of Delhi asking him about the notices being served to the Muslims to vacate the houses. They are being harassed in an attempt to prevail upon them to vacate the place.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to submit that there is one Muslim University, an important residential University educating 30 thousand students. That very University is closed for more than a month from now and all our esteemed Members raised their voice in the House for its reopening and sacking of its V.C. but nothing has been done. Our students, Doctorate students and Doctorates of G.D.O. are on hunger strike. They can be helped but help is nowhere in sight. V.C. is not being sacked and its management is not being tightened. I request to get the V.C. sacked and management tightened.

Sir, another thing I want to submit is the weapon of Vande Mataram and Saraswati Vandana used to harrass the Muslims. Muslims are being implicated and pressurised illegally into it. The state Government of Uttar Pradesh have not issued any written order in the matter but verbal order is being implemented. Verbal order itself is being thrust upon the muslims. It is not proper to teach it compulsorly to the Muslim schools children. This country belongs to all of us; it is not a property of any single community, a single party. This country belongs to all Hindus-Muslims, High-lows and all its inhabitants. This is a democratic and secular country. So, we have to take care of all these things. Injustice was done to Maulana Abul Hasan Naqvi . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was the Minister of education of the country. Saraswati Vandana and Vande Mataram was pevelent even then, so, what is the problem now? Why do you mislead your community? If you can't participate in Saraswati Vandana, atleast keep standing. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : I wish to inform you that Saraswati Vandana and Vande Mataram are not right from Muslim viewpoint. Muslims can't subscribe to it since it is against Islam. Things transpiring democratically and as per legislation would be implemented and practised in the country. Therefore, I wish to get a legislation enacted in order to curb the atrocities on the Muslims, the Christians; particularly, the legislative provisions available to the Muslims should actually be granted to them. Muslims are not even provided much needed education. We have demanded it earlier also for the fixation of special qouta for the Muslims in education and they be educated. Our Army consists of Jat regiment, Sikh regiment then, why there is no Muslim regiment. You should have faith in us. If you don't have faith in us . . . (Interruptions) how will this country run. We have rendered services, we have made sacrifices, we have worked hard to channelize this country along successful lines, but dispite all that we are discriminated against; and then we get an impression that we are second rate citizens because we are treated like this. But, we will continue to live in this country respectably and continue our struggle for the rights. We will fight within

the framework of the law of the land, within the norms of democracy and you will have to grant us our rights. Since, we are part and parcel of this country, how come that we don't get our rights.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : Let me finish, please.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am inviting Prof. Chandumajra. You, please conclude.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : I am concluding within two minutes. Now, you are forcing me to conclude. When Babri Mosque was demolished . . . (Interruptions) after the demolition of Babri Mosque, Hon. High Court in its ruling dated 7.1.93 stated :

[English]

The Hon. Supreme Court has provided that the best solution of the circumstances on revival of sites is, therefore, the maintenancè of status quo as on 7.1.93 and the disputed area be managed and administered by Central Government as a statutory receiver.

[Translation]

But after demolition of Barbi Mosque, of conspiracy to construct Ram Temple there is being hatched. I had been to Ayodhya on 11th November. I witnessed cutting and trimming of stone in a factory and prepatations to erect the temple . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record now Please, conclude.

(Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : Mr. Chairman Sir, no attempt should be allowed to create such a state of affairs but Barbi Mosque should be restored there. The matter is subjudice in the High Court and we have full faith in the court. We will abide by its decision. But, you people don't seem to believe in the court.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now only Prof. Chandumajra's statement will go on record. You, please take your seat

(Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ : I am concluding with a couplet . . . (Interruptions) Please, listen to the couplet :

KAFAS MANZOOR HAI DARO RASN BHEE,
BADALANA HAI YEH DASTOORE CHAMAN BHEE,
NA CHHEDO MUJHKO DEEWANA SAMAJHKAR,
BADAL DOONGA ZAMANE KA CHALAN BHEE,
ABHEE SAMJHA NAHIN HAI, BARQ KO TUMNE,
HAI QUAM KA HAAMEE, WAFADAR-E-WATAN BHEE.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me time to speak. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Generally, you speak a bit.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : I will definitely speak much more today than usually I do as the matter belongs to minorities and atrocities. So I will take time. Unity in diversity is counted as the greatness our country. We are proud of saying that our country is united and integrated despite being a multi religious and multi lingual country. Our constitution-makers had framed some laws and rules in order to provide safeguards to minorities and they have been enshrined in the constitution. Perhaps, they were under apprehension that such thing could creep into the mind of some persons and atrocities could be committed on minorities.

The legislation was framed and enshrined in the constitution as the Hon'ble Home Minister has stated, and according to it the country is being run. The discussion has been going on here for the last two days and some members kept on making a hint especially at it because Bharatiya Janata Party is in Power. I come from minority. I would like to say to all those who hail from minority that if they want to see the country in the spirit of a country, they will have to go through the police of bureaucrats hierarchy for the last fifty years as to what points were considered about them. After keeping in view of this thinking, whatever safeguards were provided in the constitution had been pointed out by the Hon'ble Home Minister. As he told that minority commission was constituted. But we see that no representation has been given to the Sikhs in an state except Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal. Minority commission has no statutory powers to take any action against anybody. Its report is necessarily not introduced on the floor of the House whereas it should be done. I understand that there should have necessarily been a Minority commission in all the States. There are many states wherein there are no such commissions. I, therefore, understand that representation should be given to the minority in the Protection Force constituted for the purpose of checking the rioters. The laws should be strict. If the laws are strict, nobody will muster his courage to commit atrocities against anybody and nobody will dare to attack anybody. It is our unfortunate that the laws were not enforced properly, the legislative policy was not implemented in the real sense. Nuns were raped in Madhya Pradesh because there was no fear of laws. If the rapists had been afraid of laws, not to speak of them, no one could have mustered such a courage. Similarly, the Bible was burnt in Uttar Pradesh, Rajkot. Different institutions were harmed in Gujarat. Muslims suffered a huge loss and were beaten badly in Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Mumbai. If laws had been

enforced in real sense, nobody would have come forward to muster such courage.

I would like to say about my own religious community. The population of the Sikh is the lowest of all other communities in this country. It is known to all that contribution of the Sikh community for bringing about independence and maintaining the same has been the foremost work. If you have a glance at the record of Port Blair, you will find the most considerable number of the Sikhs. If you have a glance at those who had gone to gallows, you will find that like Bhagat Singh and Rajguru there were 93 per cent Sikh people. If we look at the loss of property, 93 per cent Sikhs were there who suffered such a huge loss. It was Master Tara Singh, a Sikh enthusiast, who had failed the 'Three Nation Theory' of the English. He went to Lahore and foreaway the Pakistan flag. The Congress of that time having top leaders including Gopi Chand Bhargava appointed Master Tara Singh a Hindu Sikh dictator. It is a matter of pity that after independence it was none other than the Master Tara Singh faction who had to be handcuffed at first in free India. I would like to ask the then bureaucrats who were responsible for it. Why was Tara Singh's faction handcuffed. Why was heralded 'live long Hindu-Sikh unity', live long Punjabi province and live long Haryana State. For what they were arrested in free India. Just after three moths of independence a letter was issued defaming Sikhs as a community of criminal attitude. Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Nehru had said while standing in Seesganj that there should be a place for Sikhs to hold celebrations of independence as they had played a big role in freedom struggle. Later on, you adopted the rule of Mahatma Gandhi and Nehru. All the states were constituted in this country on the basis of language. Our mother tongue Punjabi was attached with religion whereas it was a regional dialect. In order to constitute Punjabi province, thousands of people had to go to prison, many of them had to face bullets. Who were responsible for it . . . (Interruptions) It was the more grie some point to us when the Indian army attached Shri Akal Takht Sahib, our most revered and sacred shrine.

The army, which is meant for fighting against the enemies, was sent to destroy the sacred shrine which has four entrances. When a voice comes that "Maanas kee jaat, Sabhai ekau pahchaano." (Let the all ancestors of humanity be recognised one). An army with a tank was sent to demolish the very shrine where the life of Lord Rama is discussed, where Farida is discussed and whose four entrances are open for all religions and whose foundation was laid by Sain Miya peer.

It goes down in history that the Sikh never spared those who had attacked Shri Akal Takht and shot dead Harmandir Sahib. History is repeated and its reaction is followed and brutal killings of Sikh community started. Tiny

tots were badly burnt by placing round their necks and thousands of women were made widow. The roads of Delhi and in the country were besmeared by shedding blood profusely.

I went in these elections. There was an old-aged woman sitting in a house and weeping bitterly. Her three daughters and four daughter-in-laws, all became widow and were sittings beside her. Their tiny tots were asking me whether they were foreigners who had attacked their parents. What was its reply to us ? It was more shocking when the administration was instigating them, the police were watching the fun and the brutal killings continued frequently for three days. Nobody responded to it. I am sorry to say that the Parliament of this country is in session, the biggest Panchayat Sabha of the country is in session and debates are going on here for two days, whereas atrocities are being committed on minority. The all persons, including Congress, expressed their views on the issue. But I would like to ask if a minor incident occurs, we make apology. On the other hand, about ten thousands of people were brutally killed but not a single word of apology was made in this august House. When the elections come, they say it was the worst incident. I wonder why they were crying. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has a human heart. He was weeping bitterly. Advanijee has a human heart. He has shocking. Mulayam Singhjee was crying, Paswanjee was screaming, Chandra Shekharjee was filled with pity. But the pity in that the then bureaucrats, on being asked by the press persons, said sarcastically when a strong, powerful explosion takes place, the earth moves. Can we ever forget it ? My Hon'ble friend Shri Inderjit Gupta said yesterday that the Sikhs have cast their votes in favour of Congress. That is why I was saying that I could never forget it. We are unable to endure atrocity and cruelty on others. How will we put up with such a thing which is committed on us ? It was Guru Tegbahadur Sahib who has said;

"Na bhai Kahun Ko det hain na bhai maanat hain"
We do not frighten others but do not feel frightened. This is our thinking.

I wish to say something here which is usually said during election campaign. Today Parliament is in session. If you give us recognition of India's true citizenship, if you like to give full protection to minority like us, I would say, even to my own Government, the resolution of contempt must be put on the floor of the House from the Government's account for the massacre of 1984. This was stated and the commitment was made to us in the previous session. I, therefore, would say to Hon'ble Home Minister that the resolution should be put up from the Government's side. I assure you nobody will oppose it today. We will be satisfied for that we are the citizen of this country. Those who were killers must be punished and the compensation, which is fixed by the court, should be given to the sufferers. Today,

it is a great demand and we, too, are regretted a bit at the point of the Prime Minister's part that those who have committed such a massacre must be exposed in masses.

Ramkrishna Commission was constituted, Jain Commission was constituted, so is it not possible to constitute a Commission like them for us? Even today, we have a demand of setting up a Scrutiny Commission so that it could be unveiled who were behind the heinous actions. Delhi High Court once commented in its judgement that there seemed to be a great conspiracy behind this in human killings and the conspiracy must be exposed at any cost. I would to ask Home Minister a Scrutiny Commission should be set up so as to unveil the truth, after all, who are behind it.

17.00 hrs.

Whenever such a thing comes in discussion, we feel a bit that it was injustice to us. We demanded water in according to laws and asked to solve the dispute by making legislation. But we did not get justice. Our state capital has been taken into possession. No state is deprived having its own capital excluding Punjab. Its sole reason is that the Punjab is the Sikh-populated state and that is why discrimination is being made to it. Similarly, It was Bhakhra Dam in Punjab which, unlike that in other states, had been undertaken by the Central Government. We talk of decentralisation giving more powers to the states. If the states get more powers, a strong centre will be developed automatically. That is why the states will have to be given more powers. It is on the agenda of Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies. Now-a-days this thing has become a notional issue while we have been talking of it for a very long time; but at that time, they were deaf to our perception. If we had a demand of even a glass of water, we would be seen with evil eyes. Yesterday, our senior friend Indrajit Gupta said the Sikh are often talking of separatism. I had already said and wish to say again that the Sikh community has joined their fate with the nationality. Guru Tegbahadur would say; *Baahin jinon kee pakadiya, phir beeche baahin na chhodiye* (once you catch the arms of others, never give up them). I wish to say Sikhs can let their throats cut, they can sacrifice their lives, but they will never allow country's pride to be defamed.

When the two wars took place with Pakistan and China separately, the Sikhs never receive the bullets in the back. They received the bullets on the front line of the battle field. Our sisters themselves went into the battle field and fed the troops 'parathas' and let them drunk 'lassi' (could beverage of curd). In view of this, the then Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri addressing about two lakhs of people gathered in the premises of Gurudwara Rakabganj, said our country was proud of Sikh community's strength which can cross swords with enemy.

[Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra]

I am sorry that a ban has been imposed on recruiting Sikhs to the army saying recruitment will be made on the basis of population ratios. Such a ban should be imposed even on recruiting officers. We lack high-profile representations either to the Apex court or to the High Court of any state excluding Punjab where there are merely four judges posted? There is not any representation on our part to any Selection Board, nor to the Executive posts, nor to the Defence or Semi-defence. I would like to say the law should be equal to all. If a law has been framed to avoid the rights of people, we are extremely regretted.

About 150-200, family hailing from our community has been residing a Nigasan Tehsil of Lakheempur Khiri for the last 30-40 years. They aforesaid their land. But now, the forest has been kept under control of CRPF and attempt is being made to occupy their land. Thus, 150-200 well-settled families which are on the verge of ruining, need to be rehabilitating. Guru Ramdas Academy was attacked in Dehradun attributed to the action of some bad elements, but not a single person has arrested so far. The same thing happened to another Gurudwara at Bichhali in Ghaziabad. We wrote to Home Minister, the State's Chief Minister. They did not take any response of it. At the same time, Mandir was constructed but Gurudwara prevented from constructing. If such a discrimination; happens, we are regretted. We want to reside in this country with full respect and honour. We have associated our fate with this country. Therefore our grievances must be heard and be removed them.

I understand those who commit atrocity, cruelty on minority will bear the same consequences as the Congress party has taken in the past. It had once committed atrocities and cruelty on Sikh Community. Therefore, it is a warning to all and everybody should learn a lesson from it. Home Minister is aware of our pains properly. I request him that the repentance should be made here for the massacre of 1984 and sympathy should be expressed towards the bereaved families. And contempt should be made even to those who despise our leadership.

Vishwa Hindu Parishad had made a harsh statement about Gurucharan Singh Tohda. I would expect from Home Minister to make it clear on to how Bharatiya Janata Party is related to V.H.P.

We have supported the Government by developing cordial relation with the B.J.P. But if the V.H.P. Makes its harsh statement about Gurucharan Singh Tohda, a revered leader of Sikh's supreme elected body for the last 25 years, who have suffered so much atrocities and cruelty in the Parliament and become a victim of militants by losing his one hand, and if anybody touches the top leader like

Tohda, the Home Minister should slander them. The Government should contempt such people who treat him so cruelly. If it is not so, the Government is doubted to be instigating. There must be safeguards for the minorities, their religious places, languages and culture should also be protected. The Government should protect them whenever such attacks place.

With these words I include my speech.

17.07 hrs.

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much that you have taken up this important issue and I thank the House also as I am see in this for the first time that despite a bit of skirmish the house is discussing this issue in a peaceful manner today, I shall try that whatever the topic of debate is, it should be non-controversial so that we may discuss it seriously.

This first thing is that if we could learn how to interpret the word "minorities" correctly, I think this atmosphere of hatred will vanish by 90 per cent. Who are the minorities in this country—the Muslims, the Christians, the Sikhs, the Budhists, the Persians and the Jains. If we go into the history of these six minorities, none will be found to be foreigners. A dispute crops up only when there arises the issue of aboriginals and outsiders. We can understand this conflict. A fight took place between Babar and Ibrahim Lodi. At that time, Ibrahim Lodi was on the throne of the country and Babar had invaded it in 1526. One was aboriginal and the other a foreigner. We can understand this conflict. But today we talk of conflict between the Hindus and the Muslims. Who is local and who is foreigners? A foreigner is he who returns to his own country. He who becomes one with the soil of the country, is no more a foreigner. There is not a single Englishman in the country India today. Whoever were they, they went to their respective countries, then they are foreigners. But the people who settled here and got busy in enriching and a building this country and if we go into their history of 500 years ago, we shall have go into the history of 5000 years back also which will be very painful. If you go five six generations back, you will find that in a population one brother is Hindu and the another one is the Muslim. If you happen to go into the locality of Goojars, you will find that one brother is the Hindu and another one is the Muslim. Go to Kashmir, even today there are 90 per cent Muslims. Even today the title of "Pandit Panna Maulana" is in use altogether.

Where there are Jaats, they got converted into Muslims, where there are down-trodden, they become

Muslims. So, calling the Muslims as Babar's offsprings is wrong. Using this language whether it is done out of passion, is not correct. We must think with cool mind and look seven-eight-ten generations back.

When Babar put his feet on the land of this country, Ibrahim Lodi was ruling here at that time. He was not a Hindu. Khilgi dynasty was ruling prior to it. Tughlak dynasty ruled here prior to it. Prior to him the slave dynasty ruled here. Prior to it, Mohammad Gouri was ruling. The Islamic rule was in existence here since 1100 A.D. There are Christians here. Mr. Sangma is also a Christian. If somebody calls a Christian the offspring of an Englishman, who will tolerate it? The Christians are tribes, aboriginals. There are sixty per cent down-trodden Christians among the total population of Christian people.

Sir, the incident took place in Chandoor. But nobody could know that he was a Dalit Christian. We started the torch of justice from there. Is there any single Englishman a Christian? All are converted from tribes or backward classes and converted even from Upper Classes. Today we are fighting as if Christian are foreigners here. The "Sikh" religion was founded with Kesh, Kachha Kripana and Kara. In such a family, the eldest brother was the Sikh and the youngest one was the Hindu. Shri Tohra Ji, Shri Baddal Ji and Shri Baarnala Ji, belong to one community or they are communal Sikhs as Mr. Buta Singh. Who is foreigner among them? Here, fight took place between the Hindus and the Sikhs. We had seen it. Our residence was at 12, Rajendra Prasad Road. Karpoori Thakur was also there but he could not save a Sikh man. We somehow saved ourselves. My son was one and a half year or two year old whom I had thrown down. Our house was set fire. When there was the case of Babri Masjid, I was in detained in Tilak Nagar Police Station with ten thousands Dalit. Again my house was set fire. We are from Dalit community. I had to face the wrath of the people due to the Mandal Commission. This commission for the backward castes. We used to shout slogan for the backward castes "Pichhada Paave sou mein saath, Raj-pat hai, kiske haath; Angreji aur Oonchi Jaat, Oonchi Jaat ki kya pahchan, Gilt-Pit bole kare na kaam aur sahe Apmaan." We used to chant this slogan. This commitment is always required. If there is a quarrel between a man and a woman, we must support a woman despite her countless mistakes. If there is quarrel between an armed man and a man without arms, we must support the man without arms despite his countless mistakes. If there is a quarrel between the common people and the Government, we must support the public because however has the powers, he indulges in excessive atrocities and whoever has less power, his indulgence is less. I have said in the beginning that if we would learn how to interpret this word as to who the minorities are and if we act according to it, a feeling will develop in us

that the same blood flows in the veins of theirs and ours. There is no difference between Naqvi and Paswan. Six-seven generations back, we would have been two children of one parents. And the same applies to India and Pakistan. Whenever there is an issue of Muslims it is attached with Pakistan. The defence minister is not here. We will inform him that the country spends Rs. 25,000-30,000 crores on the arms every year and the same amount is spent on the arms by Pakistan. Rs. 40,000-50,000 crores of both the countries together is going to America. There is no role of Russia now. There is only one country America, which provided to Pakistan F-16 and asks us to buy F-17 from it. You have developed Atom Bomb. If you have courage, just destroy Pakistan once. But you cannot do this. Pakistan also will not destroy India and Atom Bomb is never developed for self-defence. However much we may be proud of Atom Bomb and if it is dropped in Islamabad, even then Delhi will be destroyed and if it is dropped in Delhi, their Islamabad will also be destroyed.

We know this very well that India cannot destroy Pakistan and Pakistan cannot destroy India. In a country where there is no drinking water in the 2 lakh villages out of 6 lakh villages, where the number of the blind, crippled and poor is the greatest in the world, where there is acute problem of poverty, will you carry on creating the atmosphere of war from both the sides? Neither the citizen of India nor that of Pakistan wants war. When we have a problem, we abuse Pakistan ten times and when something happens with Pakistan, it abuses us ten times. We are just befooling the people of this country. I am talking about the Government, not about any party. Germany and Japan don't possess atom bomb. Has their Veto less importance than that of any other country? It must be noted that whichever country is prosperous, its Veto is given importance. How so many numerous bombs we may develop, our country will remain weak.

Our border is surrounded by the minorities on all sides. There are Muslims in Jammu and Kashmir, there are Sikhs in Punjab, Buddhist in Laddakh and there are Christians in the North-East-Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkam and Tripura. So long as our border is not secured, the country will not be secured and there will be the danger of foreigners entry from there. The border will not be safe so long as the feeling of confidence does not develop in their mind, and they are not treated as number one citizen of the country.

As long as it is not done, the country cannot be safe. We saw a great thing in America. Shri Advani also visits America. In America whether there is a citizen of Indian origin or the citizen of any other country, he is proud of being American because the Government of America did not make them feel that they are Hindus or Muslims. He feels that he has equal right about everything.

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

I respect Mr. Jain very much. He was referring to many things yesterday. When Baba Ambedkar was spoken ill of Mahtma Gandhi had once advised his critics to judge him from his point of view. If you were in the position of Ambedkar, what would you have felt? Minorities have a psychology. They make efforts to get their right. If we start weighing that right on this base that we are 85 per cent or we have done an act of mercy, it will be incorrect. If in a family, the elder brother tries to make his younger brother feel that the former is merciful to the latter its result will be disastrous. So, we should not feel that we are in majority and we are doing the minorities favour. I am glad that Shri Advani clarified it yesterday. He told that it was not the question of majority and minority but a question of Indian Constitution. They have got rights according to the Constitution. You are feeling proud of atom bomb. Has Dr. Kalam contributed less towards it. In the freedom struggle of the country, Khudi Ram Bose who was a Hindu kissed the gallows. Sardar Bhagat Singh who was a Sikh, he also had kissed the gallows. Ashraf Ulla Khan who was a Muslim had said while he was going to be hanged "Sar Faroshi Ki Tamanna Ab Hammare Dil Mein He, Dekhna Hai, Jor Kitna Bajoo-A-Kaatil mein hai." He had kissed the gallows with these words. I had not wanted to cite an incidence but I have to cite it now. When I was the Railway Minister, the wife of Abdul Hamid approached me and asked me to do her favour. She said "Get me a second class pass because I have to go to a station and I don't have money. I said, "Mother, we are ruling by virtue of you people and you need a pass of second class." She told me that she had two sons, and one of them had passed Matric Class and the another one was working in a Post Office as a peon. She informed me that her son would get work only for 10 days and for the remaining 20 days, he was sitting idle at home. Instantly I ordered for the issue of a A.C. First Class railway pass for her. I got both son employed in the railway. I would like to tell all my friends that nobody can do politics by making Hindu-Muslims fight with each other. The politics is meant for strengthening the country, and not for shattering the country into pieces. Politics does not go on in the name of the castes such as Hindi-Muslim, in the name of castes or religion. We find in the field of art that the contribution of Mohammad Rafi or Mukesh, Surayya or Noorjahan, Lata Mangeshkar or Asha Bhonsle is not less than anybody. In the field of games, whether it is Azaharuddin or Gavaskar or new sport star like Sachin their contribution is in no way less than that of anybody else. Pandit Jawahar Lal worked with Gandhiji but Moulana Azad also worked with them. So, the religion should not meddle with each and every matter.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, here the Hindu religion is referred to time and again but I do not want to indulge in this

discussion because most of our brethren. Sitting on that side are learned in Sanskrit and the Vedas. Such persons are less on our side. We nowhere read the word "Hindu" in the Vedas. Two Ramayanas were composed—one by Valmiki and the another one by Tulsidas. The word "Hindu" has not been mentioned in any of the Ramayanas. If you could locate me the word "Hindu" anywhere in Upnishada, Gita or Mahabharat, I am ready to suffer any punishment. When there is no word like "Hindu" then from there did this word "Hinduism" originate? I had studied in my ninth class that some foreigners settled in Sindhu and they called it Hindu instead of Sindhu. This word "Hindu" has originated from "Sindhu". Why are you doing all this? Suppose the Hindu country is declared as a Hindu Nation, who will get it. Is our Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee is not a Hindu, were his predecessors not Hindus? Are our President, Vice-President, leader of the opposition or the speaker of the Lok Sabha not Hindus? Take the Chief Minister of the States for instance, the Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri Patnaik, the Chief Minister of West Bengal Shri Basu, the Chief Minister of Bihar Shrimati Rabari Devi and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Kalyan Singh. . .

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, you have already taken twenty minutes. I request you to conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I will finish my speech in another five minutes.

[Translation]

I was saying that barring the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Farukh Abdullah and the Chief Minister of the Punjab Shri Badal, the Chief Minister of all the state are Hindus. So, what's the use of calling the country a Hindu nation, please keep it in mind that if the water is cold for a Muslim, it is cold for the the Hindu also. If a Hindu is burnt by fire, Muslim is also burnt by fire. As there is no religion of water and fire, so there is no religion of a nation. A nation is neither a Hindu nor a Muslim. A nation is neither a Hindu nor a Muslim. A nation has only one duty-to work for the welfare of the people and to give them livelihood. Only those people who do not have any economic issue to raise, they shout the slogan of religion and caste. The issue of religion and caste can work in this country only once. The permanent issue for the people is to give them employment and the economic development. We implemented the Mandal Commission.

At that time we thought that schedule castes schedule tribes, other backward classes and minority people would

come with us. But we got out of 140. Similarly, if you got 182 in the name of religion, perhaps you may get now 6 only. . . (Interruption) This moment Digvijay Singhji is not present. He belongs to Samta Party. Today his statement has appeared in the Asian age. He said that this government is functioning under. He did not name Shiva Sena. When government is mentioned its written as Govt. of India not BJP Govt. or United Front Govt. This is Govt. of India and you should take decisions in the capacity of Govt. of India. We know that you have four wings. You say million times but VHP is not going to follow you. You say to RSS again and again but you cannot control then rather they can control you. I know your capability also that you can make drink milk to Lord Ganesha at five "O" clock morning. You can make drink also in England. My father was also a saint. We read in childhood.

"Jai Ganesh Jai Ganesh Jai Ganesh Deva, Mata Jaaki Parvati Pita Mahadeva, Pan Chadhe Phool Chadhe Aur Chade Mewa, Ladooan Ke Bhog Lage Sant Kare Seva.

So Lord Ganesh eat laddoo and you people make drink to Lord Ganesha. And this is your competence.

One thing I want to tell you that today there is a question of language. Even after fifty years of independence we people are carrying on with English language. English is number one language and no body has any objection but when matter of urdu comes people start protest. I want to ask Mr. Advani that question of singing Vande Matram and Sarashwati Vandana arises daily here. We people also sang. But there is a rule of nature. Why are you making it compulsory ? I want to tell you that people doubt your intentions. Today we do not find computer in Hindi and who will get a job after reading Sanskrit ? Hindi knowing persons is class three or four employée. But English knowing people are class one and class two officers. You did not bring Hindi on track and you are telling to read a new Sanskrit. We know that neither your children nor our children are going to Sanskrit schools. All of them are reading in English Schools. So the things which does not have any meaning and country is not going to get any benefit there from and does not belong to any economic matter should not be dragged in controversy made a matter of prestige. When I was Rail Minister then Uma Bhartiji had raised an issue. "Bhajans" were used to play in Rajdhani and Shatabadi express. I asked Minister of education to provide good patriotic songs and we played these songs in Rajdhani and Shatabadi Express. Whatever you want, do it practically. One is act one is fact and one is tact. Your act is different, fact is different and there is nothing like tact.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up. Actually, the time allotted for Janta Dal is one minute, but you have taken 25 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILASH PASWAN : I want to tell you one thing more. I was reading article 370 of the Constitution. The special provisions of article 370 are not meant for Jammu-Kashmir alone. These specific provision are for Maharashtra and Gujarat. There are social provisions for Nagaland in article 371, for Assam in 371 B, for Manipur, in 371 C, for Andhra Pradesh and for Sikkim in article 371 F. I want to tell you that there are separate provisions for each state. But whenever matter of 370 comes then Kashmir names arises.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I want to tell one thing to the Home Minister that when I was in the Ministry I also raised this issue there.

You find out whether Muslims and Sikhs are there in S.P.G. And N.S.G. or not. If they are not there, I think it is a very critical situation. When sometimes any incident occurs in this country. No community can be debarred from the right given to it by the constitution for that incident. So, I would like to request you to find out whether the representation of minorities in S.P.G. and N.S.G. is there or not. I don't have though time. Mr. Chairman the role of administration as stated in the report of Srikrishna commission and the role of the party can be understood. But if the administration is communalised, I think, it will be a very critical situation for the country. I want to say to Shri Raghuvansh Prasad is that every religion has its own way. According to the Hindus, Hindu religion is a guided and according to the Sikhs Gurudwara are guided every religion has its way. But Budha Vihar in Bihar, where lord Budha attained enlightenment is still not in the possession of Budhists, There Hindus are in majority there. District Collector is the Chairman of Budha Vihar, whereas it is clearly written in the act that if the Collector is not a Hindu, he will not be the chairman, Sir this, we have been writing to the Chief Minister not for a day but for the last five years. Shri V.P. Singh and Shri H.D. Devegowda had written when they were Prime Ministers. A movement is going on about it. If we are discussing religion today, we should hand-over Budha Gaya Mandir and Budha Vihar to Budhdhists. The country will be benefitted by it and resources will also come from Budhdhist countries for their development. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wanted to speak more but you have restricted the time. Therefore, I just want to say that if you understand the definition of minorities correctly and put economic issues on top priority on that basis, neither the Government will be in mess nor the country, Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was less time for me to speak, but you allowed me to speak for more time. I think you for this.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after this philosophical speech, you should call me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Take your seat, I will call you also.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I thank Mr. Ramvilasji very much for his sensible speech. After so many years of self immolations by our youths, the mistake committed by the Mandal Commission have again flashed across the mind of it. I want to ask then one thing that it does not seem to me that some one will, be having this point in his mind that Pakistan would be destroyed . . . (Interruptions). You said to destroy Pakistan. Which cannot be. No one wishes it. But we earnestly do want the unification of Pakistan and Hindustan and do want again emergence India and Pakistan as a united nation. We all must have wished the same.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it would be better if I am given some extra time to speak and I wish so, because whenever there is any riot, any conflict whether it is between two communities or two castes, maximum atrocity is committed on the maternity of this country. This discussion has been going on since yesterday we always utilise our traditions, culture and views of our father for our self interest but we do that in half way. Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon. Arifji is not present here. He was citing many great scriptures yesterday and was saying that discrimination of this kind is not proper. We also say that there is no discrimination in our society, country and in India by traditions and by birth. It has been stated.

Janm Na Jayate Shudram Sanskarat Uchchte you do not understand. Here nothing prevails by birth and it was never so Swami Vivekanand was also being cited here yesterday, but why we are forced to discuss these points after 50 years, it is a matter to be looked into. We are discussing today as to how many Muslims were killed, and as to how many houses of Christians were set fire. Whenever we discuss, we discuss for this reasons we are not ready to discuss since birth we are, in fact, not different by birth. We quote Swami Vivekanandji properly in half way. I want to tell you that Vivekanand had himself said that human being is not of this kind by birth.

[English]

"One who thinks in term of body is a Sudra. One who thinks about wealth and property is-a Vaisya. One who thinks about power and national-security is a Kshatriya. One who thinks about the welfare of all is a Brahmin."

[Translation]

He said in this way and our Lord Shri Krishna had also said. "Chaturvarnam Mayaasustam Gunkarm Vibhagshah". The way we work, the way we think, and the

work we do, our caste is also determined by this way and character is also determined by that way. In fact, that should be the matter of Hinduism was said here repeatedly yesterday, I do not know as to why was Vivekanandji and other remembered by Arif Sahab. Vivekanandji had also said that I was proud to be a Hindu. Hon. Ram Vilasji we are not understanding the proper definition of Hindu. You were saying rightly but I do not understand as why the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir was excluded : we do not do that but according to our definition Hindu is 'A as Hindu Sindhu Paryant Yasya Bharat Bhumikah which means that from Sindhu river to Sindhu ocean, this our India is Pitrubhu Punyabhuh chaiv, Sabai Hindu ititrah' One who considered it sacred Land, it called to be a Hindu. This is the role of a Hindu. Going by this approach, I will say that no one belongs to minority community or majority community in this country. Who reside in this country. Love it, think, the history of this country as their own, think, this land as their father consider her as their motherland are called to Hindu. There is no need to call anybody a fellow from minority or majority. But it kept happening yesterday talks were held and was stated to be her widow.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday discussions were held as to why anybody is made widow. If I have to answer, I will, though I should not. When we discuss on making anybody a widow, I want to say that atrocities kept on against this community for 700 years. The Mughals continued attacking India for 700 years. They carried sword in one hand and peg of liquor in another and when they put down the peg of the Liquor, maternity and respect of the country was raped. It continued for 700 years and this country faced it. You were talking of making a woman a widow, so I had to tell you. I am not blaming you, why do you take it as a blame for you ? This the history of this country has been attacked in this way. If you consider the 700 years long history as wrong. What can I say ? Hon. Sharadji is not here I would have asked him if this history is wrong. Kshatrapati Shivaji will also be wrong. So do not talk like this whatever is the history we will accept that. I would like to say that we have misinterpreted the meaning of the words. Yesterday, word 'Malechchh' was discussed here. This word does not belong to present time. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Please do not ring the bell time and again give me sometime.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the time already allotted to our party leaders be given to her.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are many more members to speak. I am requesting you to please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Although 'Malechhh' word is there, but we do not say that this is for Muslims. It has been continuing in usage since the times of Vedas and Purans. We call Malechhh to them who are devoid of culture and values we say children in our houses how dirty you are, understand it. What is 'Malechhh' ? "Yavan" word has certainly been utilised. Kafir word was uttered yesterday Kafir is a word for one who does not believe in Allah honesty and the Quran. It has been explained. Kafir word is also in it but what happens. We do criticise the Quran. But do not let the Quran to be discussed. It should be. If we believe in democracy. We should not hesitate to discuss them in public.

What is the approach towards women ? When we call any body a widow and talk of atrocity on her. We talk it in a way as if all atrocities were being committed by B.J.P. That is why I have reminded you are the history of 700 years. Yesterday education was discussed here. It was said that our people are not in executives, not employed as supervisors top posts or not held by them. I would like to say that have we ever thought as why we talk about power politics and so on. We issue 'fatwa' for votes. Please issue fatwa for education some time. Education should be imparted to the women and respect also be given to them. Fatwa should be issued declaring that atrocities should not be committed against women and those guilty should be punished. You will see a different picture. We will open Madarsas and import religious education there. Then, how can we expect ? We should learn how to have self retrospection. We have gained votes by policising for fifty years as to what we have given to people, we will have to think over it. Sometimes I feel what is education ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, please, conclude now. There are many more Members from your side also to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : You allot time of all other speakers to her.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I will conclude within five minutes I am just putting up some points. I will not say much. What is education ? The duty of education is to give values make someone a human being. These sanekars mean to love motherland. It teaches to love motherland. Why do we say that Vande Matram is being

imposed on us. Why we have this kind of feeling. Why we are not ready to accept it as motherland. This is the situation after fifty years. I want to tell those who want to be friend, yet they are not. Minority has been religion based in this country for the last 50 years. They are on the basis of language. I want to ask as to who created conflict in the provinces by making Language as the ground for that. People were faught with each other on the basis of language and province. Gujaratis were faught with Maharashtra and people of Kamataka were faught with Maharashtra as to who created this conflict. Therefore, are to be told that you started communalism. You issue fatwas for votes but never for education. You do go to offer 'chadar' (a piece of cloth) but have courage and see whether you can do that. Do effort for change. Why do you understand yourself as alienated? Why do you not accept Hindustan as your motherland ? Why do you consider 'Vandematram' as alien to yourself.

You had never nerved up such courage because we want to play politics of votes. We never wish to bring about communal harmony in this country. I am saying it with claim because I have seen in this House. Whenever discussion is held. I got up and said about the atrocities on women and said do not divide women. "If atrocity is committed on Dalit women, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan will raise that, Arif Mohammed Khan will raise the same only when atrocity is committed on Muslim woman, Why is so ? Again, in uttaranchal", atrocity is committed on women, our own people committed atrocities on them and we remained quiet and went some one may raise that. Why is this kind of feeling flashing across our minds ? We have been alleged since yesterday but see with open eyes as to whose rule was there when atrocity was committed in a Christian school in Dagrouli. Shri Mulayam Singh was ruling not B.J.P. I felt sorry when a nun was raped in Jhabua, it should not have happened. I always fight. They attacked on maternity such sort of thing must not be there what has happened is quite wrong but it was not the matter belonging to Congress rule and Congressmen. When they were caught we did not want to divide then, but it happened, who did and what ? If any one commits some mistakes, the whole party is blamed. We did the same as if B.J.P. or V.H.P. have done the truth comes out. The same person was defeated in the elections for this reason. The person who only know to commit atrocity was a tyrant, a congress supporter and congress workers. He confused on Congress ticket from Jhabua. It is well known to all . . . (Interruptions) It is true . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it's my point of order . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order ?

*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

[Translation]

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, let it be expunged from the records . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We come to know that commits atrocities on women . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHWALE : Withdraw your these words . . . (Interruptions) . . . do not commit atrocities on women, they support women . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramdas, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : My point of order . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raguvansh Prasad Singh, under what rule are you raising your point of order ?

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, . . . is a member of this House. He has accused him without any proper reason . . . (Interruptions) he has said that . . . committed atrocities against women in Utrakhand . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order in it. I will examine the record.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Hon. Chariman, Sir, I did not carry out any allegations or any person, I only said that he was the Chief Minister . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHWALE : Mr. Mulayam Singh Yadav saved many women in Uttar Pradesh . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramdas, I will examine the record and see whether any objectionable words are there, please sit down.

[Translation]

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : First, expunge it from the proceedings . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I just wanted to say that all was done under the rule of Mr. Mulayam Singh.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I was raising a different type of issue. As I said that atrocities were committed against women, when there was Mulayam Singh's government . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. YOGENDRA KAWADE : You never said that, think of yourself.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Okay, then, now I say it. As atrocities were committed against nuns in Jhabua, there Congress is in power. I only want to say that if atrocities are committed against Christians in Bihar, who governs there, you learn it. But all I wanted to say, was quite a different thing. These crimes are committed place to place, behind them there were Congress-workers Those caught in Jhabua, were the Congress workers. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA : I would like to know whether you are expunging these words or not . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I only say that if any such incident takes place . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : Madam, please give me a minute . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Well, let me speak. Just listen to me, won't you ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, take your seat.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : She has yielded. The Hon. Member is agreeing. Mr. Chairman, Sir . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, you are wasting the time. Please conclude.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Can I take one minute ? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will be given an opportunity to speak. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I am concluding. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the people caught were of both the types, among them Christians too were there, but some Congress-papers were found in their houses . . . (Interruptions) There was Congress government isn't it true ? Well, leave this topic.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Mr. Chairman, please understand that if the Member is yielding, then one can speak. Please understand that and do not say like this. If the Member is yielding, then, I think, I can speak. She is the General Secretary of the B.J.P. I am asking her to give me a minute and she is yielding. What is this ?

Madam, this is the second time that you are making a statement in the House that the people who were accused in this Jhabua incident are Congress workers. The people who were arrested in connection with this incident in Madhya Pradesh have got nothing to do with the Congress Party. You are the General Secretary of the B.J.P. Can you make an irresponsible statement like this ? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan's speech.

(Interruptions)'

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I am going to conclude. Okay, leave this topic.

I was talking about a different example. When these atrocities were committed, as in the case of nuns in Jhabua, all the Christians of India raised their voice univocally, well, it is good, one ought to speak about such things, we also spoke against this, but it shouldn't converted into any political propaganda. We had again and again requested Mrs. Sonia Gandhi that the graph of atrocities against women in Madhya Pradesh is constantly rising, matters not the victim comes from any class—'surpunch' of 'dalit' or 'adivasi', women of every class suffer those atrocities, but no intervention is sought.

I forget, that no intervention is sought. I condemn the atrocities against nuns. We ought to condemn it, because it is a severe offence on motherhood. But political malinterventions is inducted taking excuse of one's Christianity or belonging to any other caste or community, this is happening. Okay, if you want to term is a 'Black Day', go on by it, it's your choice, but do it on 4th

*Not Recorded.

December, why on 6th ? Then we move on to Gujarat government, because offices are on, on 4th December, so that day is fixed.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, came to the subject. Why are you wasting the time ? Please conclude now. You have already taken 15 minutes and I will not give you any more time.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am just concluding. I want to tell it at last that we have to understand these things a bit. We have listened to the matter of riots of 1984. We know that who has done what in last 50 years, we only think that we tried to encash communalism into votes.

Because I deem that, when political leaders sign support, only then the rioters get activated and anarchy prevails, otherwise it may not happen. Therefore, we have to think how we have paved way for communalism in last 50 years. I also want to register my objection over the words 'majority' and 'minority', these should be struck off. We all are Indians why should one deem oneself to be a 'minority people'. If we want to end all this, if consciousness is to be brought about, then for those who have supported communalism for last 50 years, I would like to quote :-

'Jin charagon se ta-a-sub ka dhu-an uttha hai,
Un charagon ko bujhao to Roshni Jaroor hogi.'

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for your kind permission to allow discussion for three days on the subject of atrocities on minorities. We saw that the persons of the other side were giving their arguments and claiming themselves as seculars during the discussion. Opposition Member Shri P. Shiv Shanker tried to prove them otherwise during his speech with the help of various documents. Minorities are facing injustice during this regime. I was growing impatient to give vent to my feelings during Mr Ram Vilas Paswan's speech. His speech was didactic and old fashioned, I could not decide whether he was taking part in the discussion or sermonising.

Oppression and injustice against minorities started with very advent of the communal Government. A communal Government in power was gross injustice against them . . . (Interruptions) Crores of minority community people found themselves in fix and immensely terrorised at the time of the formation of their government . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not make provocative speeches.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : There is nothing provocative in it. They claim that they are secular. Can they afford to be seculars after the demolition of the Mosque. Should they be allowed to claim themselves as seculars after demolition. Hon. Home Minister organised Rath Yatra across the country, spread hatred and demolition came as a result of this exercise. I read in a newspaper just two days back about the confession of Mr. Advani about the unfortunate incident, after six years. Demolition of the Mosque is a blur on the fair name of humanity. If a member of any minority community is attacked or misbehaved, the whole country faces shame in the world. India will lose its high prestige in the world by such acts because, secularism is its character. Followers of every faith live here with complete freedom and fearlessness. There is no oppression and injustice against anyone.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are fifteen Members more to speak on this. Is it the pleasure of the House that the sitting of the House be extended ?

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar) : Let us take it up tomorrow, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have private members, Business for tomorrow. If Members agree, we will extend the sitting by one hour.

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOJ (Baramulla) : First of all please decide about it.

[English]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : We agree, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The sitting of the House is extended up to 7 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : First of all I would like to say that communalism has spoiled Indian History, the country has been divided and this was gross injustice. The murder of Mahatma Gandhi by a communal person was also an injustice. Another black chapter in

Indian History was drafted on 6th December, with the demolition of Babri Mosque, loot and arson, communal clashes, murder of lakhs of people, demolition of other Mosques and temples and what not happened at that time. The third black chapter was written on 30th January, with the murder of Mahatma Gandhi . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Minorities are not getting salary for the last twenty months . . . (Interruptions) Minorities are not getting salary in Bihar. Please, take pains to tell whose oppression is this ? He is claiming to be champion of the minorities . . . (Interruptions) they are living in peril for the last twenty months . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : One poet said :

"Us pistol per lika hua tha tees janavari
jab Mahatma Gandhi ji ki hatya hui thee
in logon ne mitaker use chhah december kar diya."

Indian history witnessed this black chapter. This house has discussed the incidents of burning of holy book of Bible many a times ever since they came to power. The episode of atrocities on Christians in Gujarat and several other states came for discussion.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Why have you stopped the salary for the last twenty months ? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KARIA MUNDA (Khunti) : The minorities in Gujarat have not been paid salary for the last twenty months . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : It is said in our constitution that people of all religions shall have the freedom to worship without any fear and there would be no obstruction for the same and Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji is testifying that the Bajrang Dal does not listen to them, they are projecting different faces in the same manner as in seen in Ram Leela's regarding Ravana and Vibhisan. Somewhere it is the Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad at somewhere else but they all belong to the Sangh Parivar. They say about Nationalism in the name of 'Hindutva'. Whether 'Hindus' alone are nationalists in the country and all others are not ? They speak in such a dangerous manner. They also say that the national flag is 'Bhagwa' and not the 'Tri-Colour'. This is their teaching. They would be governed by the maxim 'Ekechalka Anuvartika', that is, they would be governed by the one. It is not democracy but fascism. Democracy is run by the masses, therefore the minorities of the country are threatened due to these three. They are spreading all sorts of communalism because this is their strength. The economy is in a mess, condition of the farmers is bad in villages, but these are not being attended to. They have come into

power due to the policy and communal approach of the people belonging to the 'Sangh Pariwar'. The Nation shall not remain one by propagating one nation, one country, one stream, one culture and one language. Therefore, we feel threatened and have doubts that if the present government continues for long in power there will be danger for the unity of the country. We have got an opportunity to discuss the issue and highlight the problems of minorities in the House. In a sense, impotent leaders are working towards creating disturbances. Leaders of lesser stature try to create riots. Efforts are made to encroach the land of Masjids situated in towns. Efforts are made to create riots at places where Gurudwaras or Churches are situated, the country suffers due to this. Therefore, we are of the view that the present government, which is communal in its outlook, has come from the bottom and the minorities of country are feeling threatened. News about the atrocities being committed against them in received . . . (Interruptions). Hon. Shri Advaniji has become the Home Minister, they have become more apprehensive due to this and are saying that if the Home Minister be such a person, what would be the fate of the minorities of the country. Shri Burkeji was feeling that his name figures in the names of the accused of Ayodhya case. He has not seen the papers but his name is there. Likewise, Bihar is his target . . . (Interruptions). 'Vasudeo Kutumbkam' (the world is but one family), humanity, fraternity and friendly relations among Hindu-Muslim-Sikh and Christians who are the four pillars of the nation are required. When we will have such type of set up, there will be the atmosphere of happiness. But they have a dream of rating them as second class citizens and unleash oppression and atrocities against them. They are reminding of the history that such things had happened so they are doing the same, therefore, it is not in the interest of the country to perpetuate religious oppression, we are alert but the people of the Congress party are showing laxity and allowing them to continue. We are making efforts to defeat the present Communal Government at the earliest as a third front, otherwise the country shall remain in threat. We are concerned about this . . . (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude your speech now. You are in the panel of Chairmen. Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PARSAD SINGH : The day is not far away when the communal forces would be eliminated and religious equality maintained. You cannot suppress the religious unity, minorities of the country and deprive them

of their rights. This is our belief, and the principles, deeds and history of the Rashtriya Janta Dal as well.

[English]

DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA (Peddapalli) : Respected Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity, I thank the Hon. speaker for having allowed this discussion. I also thank the senior Member of Parliament, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan for initiating the discussion on this important burning subject.

After fifty years of Independence, it is very sad that the minorities are under a sense of insecurity. The minorities feel that they are not able to live as citizens of the country. Their fundamental rights under the constitution are being violated.

If we go through the State-wise statement showing communal incidents involving Muslims and Christians. the maximum number of about 108 incidents took place in Uttar Pradesh this year, Maharashtra being the second in order with 67 incidents and Gujarat being the third with 65 incidents. But if we go through the statistics of the last three years, communal incidents have decreased this year in all States.

The momentum picked up against the Muslims after the demolition of the Babri Masjid on the 6th December, 1992. The Christian Missionaries are the new targets. There are about twenty million Christians in India. They have never been under such tremendous repression and intimidation in India.

The attacks have been taking place across the country. They range from attempts to ban serving of wine in Churches to physical assaults on priests and Churches.

The gruesome gang rape of four Christian nuns in a dispensary-cum-school at Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh on the 23rd September, 1998 has triggered off a nationwide controversy pregnant with far-reaching national and international consequences. The nearly twenty million Christian community is suddenly turning from a placid lake into a stormy sea. Although an FIR has been registered, it seems that no action has yet been taken to punish the guilty.

Similarly, the Shantiniketan High School in Gujarat run by the Jesuit priests of the Loyola Educational Trust was vandalised by hooligans. These are just specimens of more than forty such incidents that occurred in the country in the last six months.

The ineffectiveness of the toothless National Commission of minorities and the apparent unwillingness of the Christian leaders to take up the issue with the Government

[Dr. Suguna Kumari Chellamella]

are all set to destroy the secular credentials of India. People in need of sympathy see in Christian nuns angels who put other's needs before their own comforts, but the beasts of society see them as helpless women who are objects of desire.

Only the other day, the Hon. Prime Minister stated that rapists should be hanged. I think, the gang rape incident in Jhabua district should be the first case where we should start with the observation of the Prime Minister for hanging the criminals. It is because of such incidents that the common man hardly has any faith in the police. One hopes that instead of trying to protect the criminals in any way, the police force will itself go out of its way to nail the rapists and criminals and promptly do their jobs to gain public confidence as atrocities against women are the worst type of crimes against the society.

It is essentially for the State Government to deal with the cases of alleged attacks on minorities. I request the Central Government to provide assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure, besides sharing intelligence with them.

Guidelines should be issued from time to time drawing attention of the State Governments on the need for taking action against persons spreading ill will, hatred and disharmony between members of different communities.

In this connection, I would like to mention the steps taken by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for the welfare of the minorities. In eight districts of the State, Urdu is introduced as second official language. In district and mandal headquarters, funds of about Rs. 8.56 crores are given for construction of 104 marriage halls. There is full encouragement for Urdu schools wherever the minority population is more. Two hundred acres of land has been given for the newly established Maulana Abul Kalam Azad National Urdu University.

The Budget for minorities for the period 1990-94 was Rs. 4 crore. It has been increased to Rs. 53.20 crore for the period 1995-98.

I request the Central Government to take necessary action to give security to minorities and maintain communal harmony in this country.

18.16 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : I beg to lay on the table :-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :-

- (i) Notification No. 101/98-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to reduce additional duty of customs on Iodine used for the manufacture of Potassium Iodate, an input used for Iodization of salt, from 18 per cent to 8 per cent *ad-valorem*.
- (ii) Notification No. 102/98-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose Safeguard duty on imports of Acetylene Black at the rates specified therein for a total period of two Years.

[Placed in Libray See No. LT 1738/98]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944 :-

- (i) Notification No. 36/98-CE published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe rates of excise duty on processed textile fabrics manufactured or produced by an independent processor with the aid of a hot-air stenter determined in accordance Hot Air Stenter Independent Textile Processors Annual Capacity Determination Rules, 1998.
- (ii) Notification No. 37/98-CE published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 05/98-CE dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (iii) Notification No. 41/98-CE(NT) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to notify processed textile fabrics produced or manufactured by an independent processor with the aid of a hot air stenter.
- (iv) The Hot Air Stenter Independent Textile Processors Annual Capacity Determination Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. 42/98-CE(NT) in Gazette of India dated the

10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (v) The central Excise (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No.43/98-CE(NT) in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vi) Notification No.44/98-CE(NT) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.29/96-CE(NT) dated the 3rd September, 1996.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1739/98]

18.17 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities Committed on minorities In Various Parts of Country—contd.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : Discussion is going on the issue of minorities in this House for last three days. It is a matter of pleasure that the House is seriously discussing on the issue of the problems of minorities particularly the atrocities being committed against them. Whatever discussion were held in this House on this issue during previous years, the blood shed of minorities and the number of killings of minorities were discussed therein. But it is a matter of pleasure that bloodshed and the number of the people of minorities is not being discussed on this issue this time. Discussions being held this time are based on the statements of leaders appeared in the newspapers or on the basis of statements made due to political reasons. It is a good change.

Today we have not to discuss that deals are being structured on the killings of minorities in India, they are being killed of the people—Mr. Ramvilas had demanded during discussion that a fullfledged discussion should be made on the issue of minorities. Definitely during last 40-50 years a biased behaviour is done with minorities. Share with the concern and ideology of Mr. Paswan, Congress and whole house in this regard. Minorities have been treated as second class citizen during last 50 years. I also agree with this aspect Minorities were oppressed and exploited during last 50 years. I also agree with this aspect also that nothing has been done for minorities in the field of education, rights and for treating them as primary citizen. I correlate myself

with this aspect also. I want to know that why all this was not done during last fifty years?

Atalji or Adwaniji were not in power during last fifty years. People, who are now expressing annoyance in this regard, were rulling in the country for last 50 years. Minorities in India are not getting rights. Questions arises that certainly minorities and majority should not be discriminated but which people had oppressed them and have said that you do not have any right to equity in India. Who are saying that they are not primary citizen and they are second class citizen, who have posed a fear before them that they do not have full rights. It should be discussed. Today, question arises . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, All the citizen living in this country are primary citizens. No person can be second class citizen residing in this society.

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there have been issues of discussion from riots to Saraswati vandana and vandematram to Babri Masjid. But I understand that this discussion is continue for last several years. Indian Muslims and minorities has isolated from mainstream of progress in the name of this discussion. They were entangled in the non-issues by the way of making them issues and they were kept away from education and employment. No such effort were made to provide them employment. It seems to me that there would be political motivations behind it. For political exploitation of people they have been kept illiterate and week. There is no doubt that they were kept under fear for their political exploitation. Any political party or person was required to create such a terror. They presented BJP as a villain before minorities and it was said that if BJP comes in power they will be treated as a second class citizen in India and you people would be forced out from India and your entire rights would be snatched away. But I am happy to say that after formation of BJP government for last 8 months confidence of minorities has increased.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, A lot of discussion has been made here on Pokharan. The name of Shri Abul Kalam has been mentioned who was behind Pokharan test I want to say that Indian Muslim were presented as a Haji Mastan and Dawood Ibrahim during last fifty years. But in the last eight month BJP govt. replaced this image of Indian Muslim by presenting the figure of Abul Kalam. They are not criminals like Haji Mastan and Dawood Ibrahim but they are like Abul Kalam scientist. It is not a easy job to divide people in the name of minorities and majorities in India. We will have to see the conditions of India in a economic and social prospective as why we are not able to provide the right of education and employment to Muslims and minorities?

[Shri Mukhtar Naqvi]

This is an important question which requires discussion by this House. I believe that instead of getting entangled in the controversy of 'Sarasvati Vandana' and 'Babri Masjid', let us give them their due rights and not misguide them. I also believe that by giving these rights to them, we are not going to do any obligation to them. They are the citizens of India and like others, they are also loyal and patriotic. Their patriotism is beyond any doubt. We and the Bhartiya Janta Party have our faith in their loyalty.

[English]

PROF. P.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Do you agree with the fact that Sarasvati Vandana and Vande Matram should be inflicted upon the Muslim Community?

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : I am proud of being Muslim and above that I am proud of being an Indian Muslim.

But if somebody feels that citing of Sarasvati Vandana will lead him or her to suffer emotionally, then I think there is (Interruptions)

The song which played an important role in the Indian Freedom Struggle, which was sung by every Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian during the freedom struggle, which brought the people of these different religions together and tied them in one thread and which, finally, drove away the Britishers from India, that song . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, I am on point of order (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. You are a senior Member, you know what is point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I am on point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, what is being said here, is not correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You leave it. Tell me, what is your point of order?

*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, my point of order is that the House cannot be misled with wrong statements, false statements and distorted statements. [Translation] He said that those who cannot sing Sarasvati Vandana, are not loyal. [English] That is very objectionable. How can it be? Either it should be withdrawn or it should be deleted (Interruptions) The constitution of India has allowed freedom of expression (Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sarasvati Vandana can not be made compulsory. Vande Matram is O.K., but not Sarasvati Vandana.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : There is a limit for everything. You can not say anything beyond a certain limit. It is not proper to say such things openly here. This should be expunged from the record.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Banatwalla, he is on a point of order.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I am on point of order under Rule 376. Sir, *Sarasvati Vandana* and *Vande Mataram* can be religious situations where Muslims will never boycott provided the State does not issue instructions by way of compulsion. I am quoting Article 25 of the Constitution of India. I will not read the whole. It says :

"(1) Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion"

Now, let us see Article 28. It says :

"(1) No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds. . . ."

I will not read other Articles. So, neither can Sanskrit be made compulsory in Uttar Pradesh nor *Sarasvati Vandana* nor *Vande Mataram*. The Supreme Court decision is also there. What is objectionable in his statement? In his enthusiasm because he is a Minister and I have a respect for him, he says, "one who finds singing of *Vande Mataram* wrong is a"

He should apologise. I leave it to you. He has committed impropriety . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (Coimbatore) : He has expressed his own views. What is wrong in it? . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : He must withdraw that word. We give him a chance to apologise.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that I have failed to explain the things to Soj Saheb. I categorically said that one who finds singing of Vande Matram wrong . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : That was Vande Matram . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : O.K. it was Vande Matram but if somebody's loyalty is betrayed merely because of singing a song, then, I think his loyalty is not true . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Naqvi is saying something. You please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : He must withdraw that word . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Now, . . . he would teach us loyalty (Interruptions) It is enough now, please do not talk absurd and do not go beyond a limit . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, do they know how bitter speeches were delivered by his side? Was that nothing? . . . (Interruptions) how much poison was vomited by them in their speeches during the last two days . . . (Interruptions) How badly we were targetted, but we kept quiet all the while . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagadh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, . . . It has been said . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, hear me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAYASHANKAR (Mysore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been said against an hon'ble Member. He is a senior Member. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : He means to say that people sitting this side are . . . and those sitting that side are loyal . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this should be expunged from the record. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : It cannot go on like this. He should withdraw that word . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will go through the record.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It is not so simple . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : He must withdraw it . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If there is anything objectionable, I will remove it from the record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : What is objectionable in this? Everything is objectionable to them. Any national thing is objectionable to them; any patriotic thing is objectionable to them . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Whatever they said, we listened to them patiently. But . . . it has been said . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Prof. Kurien.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAYA SHANKAR (Mysore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he should not say like that as he is a senior Member . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I am only submitting that this controversy is unnecessary. Shri Naqvi is an hon. Minister. It may be that there had been some other provocative speeches. But when an hon. Minister speaks, he has to show restraint. I would like to remind Shri Naqvi on one point . . . (Interruptions) . . . Let me complete.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : What is objectionable in what he has said? By being a Minister, cannot he speak what he feels in his mind? . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You please listen to me completely and then you may react. I am only reminding him this much that hon. Home Minister has himself clarified it. I hope he is aware of it. The hon. Home Minister himself has said that singing of *Saraswati Vandana* or *Vande Mataram* is not going to be compulsory. He himself had said it . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Shri Naqvi has not said that it is compulsory . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Hon. Home Minister himself said that the Government do not want to make it compulsory. Then why is the Minister of the Government unnecessarily bringing in the point and making a comment? . . . (Interruptions) . . . Let me complete. Kindly have little patience . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have no patience. Shri Naqvi, you may proceed.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will go through the record as to what both the sides have spoken and if there is anything objectionable, I will remove it from the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly do not make it an issue. If there is anything objectionable, I will remove it from the record.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Do not say the word 'anybody'. Sir, he is not 'anybody'. He is a Minister . . . (Interruptions) . . . He is bringing in controversy unnecessarily. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, the Minister has taken oath in the name of the Constitution. What he is saying now is against the letter and spirit of the Constitution. He should withdraw it. He cannot just proceed like that . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Das Athawale, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I want to clarify this issue. I have only to say that he requested me to speak on *Saraswati Vandana* and *Vande Matram* and said that you please speak in this regard and wanted to know my views, then I said, if this is made fully compulsory, I do not agree with that . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Is it your government's view? Kindly remember that you are a Minister now . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to him fully.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : We want to know whether it is the view of the Government . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : When the Minister is on his legs, why are you brothered? Pleas sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It has been said that who do not believe in *Saraswati Vandana* and *Vande Matram*, he is . . . 'this is objectionable' . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Sir, before he could explain his position, let me ask a simple question . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, let him explain first.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : He is replying in the same way in which the question was posed to him. This is his personal explanation . . . (Interruptions) I will take just a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, please wait for some time. He is clarifying it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : He has used the word . . . Let him withdraw that word . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramdas Athawale, every time you are intervening unnecessarily. Please sit down. He is clarifying it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHDUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I want to make a very important and simple clarification. He was making his own statement. In the meanwhile, he was asked to stop. An hon. Lady Member of this House asked him a specific question in this individual capacity. He has replied to it in his individual capacity, not as a Minister. That is very important . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will clarify everything. Please wait. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Let him first withdraw that word . . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : He should simply withdraw it. There is no harm in it . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take just one minute. Please hear me. Both the sides have used that word, and it is removed from the record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : He should withdraw it. He has taken oath in the name of the Constitution. He is speaking something against the letter and spirit of the Constitution. So, he should withdraw it . . . *(Interruptions)* Otherwise, it will send a very wrong signal to the country.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : On the issue of education and employment . . . *(Interruptions)* I was talking of education and employment. Today, the whole country is concerned on the issue of education and employment among the minorities. I was going to discuss this thing. Certainly there is poverty and unemployment in the whole of the country at present. The minorities are worried because of this thing and that problem should be rooted out. There is no problem there in as all the people want this problem to be rooted out. The whole House is concerned about it . . . *(Interruptions)* But the question is that today when this right issue is raised, in the mean time some people raise the other issues. This issue is pinching to the minorities of India, when we raise this issue and want to raise that the minorities of India should involve themselves with their major problems, then such issues are raised in the mean time. Sometime Babri Masjid and sometime Saraswati Vandana. We have not raised this issue. Such people raise such issues:

Such people were thinking that the riots will erupt after this Governments coming in the power. I would like to give some figures. I have the figures with me in respect of the Communal riots took place during the last ten years. Approximately one thousand to two thousand communal riots took place during the last ten years where as I have the record of 162 murders committed during the last 8 months. Besides this the average of other communal incidents occurred per year is from one thousand to one thousand 500 hundred. Where 500 incidents including minor happenings have taken place in whole of the year. The people dividing the country in the name of communalism, Secularism, progressiveness and Castism, and the people dividing the society are certainly worried as to why slaughtering and massacre have not perpetrated in the country. They are worried as to why the grudge has not expended between the Hindus and the Muslims. They are definitely worried that the division of Vote Bank has now ceased to which they have been gaining by dividing the people. They are definitely worried that the pervading hate has now ceased to which they have been spreading in this country and among the people of high society through their banners.

That is a matter of concern and I know that it will continue to be so till we are in power they will be concerned till then as to why the atmosphere of hate is not being heightened in the country . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN Please conclude, Shri Naqvi. . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN Many more Members are there to speak, Mr. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : Right now some Members have expressed their concern about art. They have said that India is a country of the artists. I accept the fact that Muslims have contributed a lot in India's art and culture. I also accept the fact that Muslims have contributed in every field in India.

I would like to conclude after saying one more thing. In Mumbai's film industry Shri Dilip Kumar is a renowned actor and Ms. Meena Kumari was a renowned actress. The Shiv Sena and B.J.P. which have been dubbed as the so-called communalist parties- have reached their climax some ten to fifteen years before, it is not more than that. Shri Dilip Kumar, Ms. Meena Kumari, Ms. Madhubala, and many more persons were in the picture, Shri Dilip Kumar's real name is Yusuf Khan, Ms Meena Kumari's name is Mehruunnisha, like wise Ms. Madhubala too was a Muslim. In the days of the secular government that was ruling

[Shri Mukhtar Naqvi]

before our so called communal rule. Shri Dilip Kumar and Ms. Meena Kumari had to work by changing their real names and since the days of the Shiv Sena and B.J.P. Government from Shahrukh Khan to all other actors, actresses . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. You make everything objectionable. What is objectionable in it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : This is your level of understanding . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : I am giving answers to only those questions that have been raised . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your support is not required, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : This is yours story. what is the harm in listening to it? . . . (Interruptions) It is a very good story . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : When the question of atrocities being committed against the minorities is raised surely not only the whole nation feels ashamed but expresses its concern over this issue. Whenever procession is taken out against the atrocities being committed against the minorities in India, or whenever there is a protest against the murders of minorities, questions are raised in the whole country and world, in this regard. Surely whosoever does it in the name of any party, they put a question mark against all the people of the country. I believe that whenever such questions are raised it would surely not be proper to connect it with any party. So far as the questions raised in the interest of the minorities are . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give chance to you, Shri Owaisi.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : The Area Intensive Programme for educationally Backward and Minorities is the one work that has been done to benefit the minorities, Earlier an amount of 10.99 crore rupees was earmarked for it which has been raised by 25 per cent and an amount of 1300 crore rupees has been provided, 1.73 crore rupees was earmarked for Minorities Education for Madrasas earlier and it has been raised at 6.90 crore rupees by the present government. Madrasas situated all over the country would benefit from it. We have given 200 crore rupees for Coaching Classes Scheme for Minorities which was 70 lakh rupees earlier. Earlier the income limit for it was rupees 24,000 per annum, we have raised it to rupees 44,500 per annum.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, please conclude. The figures are available in Budget documents. Everybody knows it.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, everybody should realise it. That is our humble request.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Hon. Chairman, Sir, we have no information about the budget for minorities, we are hearing about it for the first time . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : I understand that the minorities should not be beguiled on the name of Secularism and Communalism nor inferiority complex be made to enter them. Secularism means that person may go to a tomb and when some one goes to tomb. I feel very happy because I am a Muslim. When someone visits my house, I feel very good. Even a Hindu going to the Mosque, is called secular by us. We give him the certificate of Secularism. In case a Muslim by fault enter into a temple, then the proclamation (fatwa) of alienation (Kufra) is issued. This definition of Secularism and communalism should be changed, because if some persons sit into prepare the definition of Secularism and Communalism in a way so as to create an atmosphere in which minorities and majorities are completely compartmentalised and separated, I think this shall be wrong . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you have taken a lot of time. Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI : I fully agree with the concern of the House. But then we have to take care of all majorities and minorities. When we talk about minorities, then a long list appears which contains Christians and Budhist while at some places Hindus are also in minority. We should think of Hindus of Hindustan who are in minority in Kashmir. Then only you can send a message to all Hindus and Muslims of India that we are concerned about minorities. We can eradicate communalism in the name of Minorities and Majorities only when we be clear in our thinking that we are not doing it for vote, we are not talking about the interest of minorities for vote only. We are not talking about the interest of majorities for vote. We will express this matter honestly that what we are talking is definitely for integrity, for spreading the feeling of love amongst masses and for establishing nationalism. Whatever we are saying is only to develop a feeling so that they may feel proud in saying that we are the inhabitants of this nation, where Ganga flows, where there lies the tomb of Khwaja Saheb, where a Scientist like Abul Kalam is born where Ash-fag-ulla Khan was born. Where Shivaji and all these people like Gandhiji were born. Definitely the issue of communalism and Secularism will be eradicated by itself and the feeling of brotherhood and nationalism will be established only after this spirit comes in. Jai Hind; Vande Matram.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Discussion is going on here, I wonder whether the Home Minister is present or not.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The Home Minister has gone to attend the meeting with Prime Minister scheduled at 6.30 hrs. I am sitting here.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Stop this discussion.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of State for Agriculture will make a statement now. Shri Sompal.

18.55 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Initiatives Taken for Improving the Availability of Fertilisers during Rabi 1998-99

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Members of Parliament have, for some time, been speaking to me personally . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should know what statement he is making. Copies have not been circulated to us . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMPAL : Sir, copies will be made available afterwards. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the statement first. Copies are available here. They will be made available a little later.

SHRI SOMPAL : Sir, the hon. Members of Parliament have, for some time, been speaking to me personally and have been raising the issue regarding availability of Diammonium Phosphate, popularly known as DAP, which is required primarily for basal dose application at the time of sowing of crops. I am myself a farmer. Therefore, I can fully appreciate that the non-availability in adequate quantity of this critical fertiliser can become serious cause of anxiety and worry for the farmers. That is why I thought I should clarify the position on the availability of DAP and other decontrolled fertilisers, besides urea, which is the only controlled fertiliser. At the same time, I thought that I would give them the details of various initiatives by the Government which will help in improving the position further.

I shall first take up the availability position of fertilisers. Urea is a controlled fertiliser. Its availability is adequate in the country. Against the assessed demand of 110 lakh MTs, the estimated availability is 126 lakh MTs. There should, thus, be no apprehension about its availability.

All other fertilisers are decontrolled including DAP, which is basically phosphatic fertiliser with 18 per cent nitrogen and 46 per cent of P2O5, and Muriate of Potash. Their availability is dependent on market forces of demand and supply which operate within the parameters of the Concession Scheme of the Government of India. There were no shortages reported of DAP by any of the States during Kharif, 1998, though there were pockets in which shortages were reported of MOP during that season. MOP

[Shri Sompal]

is entirely imported and the shortages occurred due to lower level of its imports. The availability of MOP has improved considerably since then. For Rabi season, nearly 17 lakh MTs of imports of MOP are lined up for arrival. Already seven lakh MTs have arrived and the balance is in pipeline. There are no reasons thus to worry about its availability.

As regards DAP, the States had projected requirement of 31 lakh MTs for current Rabi season. Against that, the overall availability would be 35 lakh MTs during the season. Thus, on overall basis, the availability in the country would be adequate. However, pockets of shortages had and have been reported from the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana mainly due to the following reasons : (i) There has been bunching of imports of nearly eight lakh MTs during the months of October and November. As a result, DAP could not be pre-positioned. Further, nearly five lakh MTs have been brought to two ports, namely, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Vizag. This has resulted in congestion and consequent delay in movement for these ports. The problem at Vizag port was compounded by the cyclone which affected the movement of rakes for more than 20 days. This has been placed before the House earlier also. (ii) The demand for DAP has increased sharply as the area under wheat sowing has increased from three million hectare in the previous year to 4.6 million hectare as on 23rd November, 1998. The increase in area is due to unseasonal rains which occurred during the month of October.

Recognising these constraints, the Government stepped in and ordered priority berthing of DAP vessels at both the ports. At the same time, the Government ordered evacuation by rail of DAP on priority from both the plants and ports to States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the order of priority of their requirement. I am happy to inform the Members that the entire stock of DAP of 1.50 lakh MTs has been cleared from the JNPT. As a result of speedy evacuation, localised shortages in Punjab and Haryana were redressed. Similar action was planned at Vizag port but the intervening cyclone hampered the operation. The imported DAP at this port is meant primarily for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Efforts have now been stepped up for evacuation of 1.30 lakh tonnes DAP on priority from this port for Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Already by 8th December, 1998, 0.96 lakh MTs have been cleared.

19.00 hrs.

Sir, I must emphasise that the production of DAP in the country during 1998-99 has been of the order of 26.63 lakh MTs which is higher than the production in the

corresponding period of the previous year. The imports of DAP which are of the order of 17 lakh MTs during the year 1998, have been higher by two lakh MTs as compared to that of the previous year. It is the bunching of vessels and the increase in area under wheat during Rabi which has pushed up the peak demand. To mitigate this situation, 55,000 MTs of DAP have been specially contracted from Jordan on priority through Indian Potash Limited. The first shipment of 25,000 MTs will reach by the next week. Majority of the quantities of DAP from this shipment will be sent to U.P. and Rajasthan.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, let the House be adjourned now. One hour is all right, but we cannot sit any more now. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are so many Members to speak on this issue. So many other important subjects are there too.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, extend the time of the House by one hour. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : No, Sir. We have already extended the time by one hour. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am requesting all the Members to cooperate and let the House be extended by one hour more.

(Interruptions)

[Translation] _

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : What I had talked to Mr. Speaker was that this debate would come to an end today since Mr. Advani will reply to it tomorrow (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : How shall the debate come to an end . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Six hours have passed. The debate lasted for three hours yesterday and three hours today . . . (Interruptions) My submission is that government business also has to be taken care of. Generally four to five hours are fixed but here the debate continues for eight long hours.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : How is it possible?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Then please decide to leave out other issues . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : How shall we finish?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We shall soon finish it on Monday.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : It is an atrocity on Members.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Four hours had been fixed but the debate has been continuing; three hours yesterday and four hours today. By now it has taken seven hours . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, this is not proper. That is a wrong thing . . . (Interruptions) The decision was that the sitting of house would be extended by one hour only . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

How will you extend the sitting of house for one or two minutes . . . (Interruptions)

19.03 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : This is most improper, Sir . . . (Interruptions) Every day, the time of the House is extended for one hour . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have to cooperate, otherwise we cannot carry out the Business of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : But Sir, It cannot be done like this . . . (Interruptions) They should circulate it. That is the practice . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I submit that those who want to speak should be allowed to speak today . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Everyday we cannot do this exercise. We have been sitting here since morning. We are not bonded labourers here. One should not consider this demand. This is absolutely wrong. This House has no Business now. Three days have been spent like this.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Sangtam's speech.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : What is the decision now, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : The time of the House is extended by one hour more.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, then we have take up another subject, 'Atrocities on MPs' (Interruptions)

*Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Madhukar Sirpotar, please cooperate. You will get more time. Please take your seat.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, I have to sit up to 10 o'clock in the night . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please be seated.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, this is a wrong practice. All the Members of Parliament have been treated like this. This is most incorrect . . . (Interruptions)

KUMARI KIM GANGTE (Outer Manipur) : Sir, we have not spoken. We, Christians, have not yet been given a chance to speak . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, Home Minister and Prime Minister have gone to attend the meeting of Human Rights Commission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I call Shri Sangtam to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, the presence of the Home Minister is necessary . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on except Shri Sangtam's speech.

(Interruptions)*

19.06 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities Committed on Minorities in Various Parts of the Country - Contd.

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : Sir, today India is the biggest sovereign democratic secular country in the world. India was very much aware that this country did not consist only majority people but it had all different minorities, religions, castes, creed and so on. But, today, it appears that those who have taken law into their hands in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and various other places have drawn the attention of the whole nation.

Sir, I would like to ask why the Home Minister is not present here at this point of time. This is a matter which should have been heard and replied by the Home Minister.

Sir, I am representing Nagaland, which is a small State. Our State has a problem and it is a very sensitive one. Therefore, I request the House to listen to my speech

*Not Recorded.

[Shri K.A. Sangtam]

and give importance to our problem . . . *(Interruptions)* Sir, kindly ask the hon. Members to behave properly in the House. Sir, my speech should be heard not only by the Opposition but also by the Ruling Party . . . *(Interruptions)*

Sir when atrocities had taken place in various places like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, many instances had been cited by the media. Till today not a single statement refuting them has come from the frontal organisations of the BJP . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sir, this subject may be debated upon tomorrow from 2.00 P.M. to 3.30 P.M. and Shri Advani will reply to it at 6.00 P.M. you will have to sit after 6.00 P.M.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow, we have the private Members business.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Let us have private Members' business from 3.30 P.M. to 6.00 P.M. and let there be debate before that. Then at 6.00 P.M., Hon'ble Advaniji will reply. I have no objection if it is done.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : That is all right . . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, we shall sit up to 8 P.M. today . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Sir, in spite of so many accusations, not a single statement refuting them has been made till today by various frontal organisations of the ruling party. In other words, they accept that whatever had been done by them was wrong . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey) : Sir, please give me a chance to speak for five minutes. . . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I want to submit that on many occasions our Members sit and they are not able to speak. I do not understand why there is an objection for extension of time today. Those who want to speak, they can sit. Nobody is asking anybody to be here. It is not compulsory. Why should it be compulsory? Those who want to speak will sit . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar): It is not a one-party business. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR: You can sit whole night. . . *(Interruptions)*

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

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, the House is extended up to 8 o'clock. A number of speakers could not speak . . . *(Interruptions)* We want to know for how much time we have to sit . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The House is extended up to 8 o'clock. Shri Baalu, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What is the fate of us? . . . *(Interruptions)* Now, we have got 45 minutes. Out of 45 minutes, Congress and BJP will share it. What is the fate of us? . . . *(Interruptions)* That is why, we want to have a clarification . . . *(Interruptions)* We are fighting for our time. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Baalu, please take your seat because there are a number of speakers who want to speak. We have to complete the discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sangtam, please continue your speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM : Many a time in any institution when ragging takes place, States are passing Bills to stop this ragging. Here certain organisations are committing atrocities against another minority community, but nothing has been said by the Government. The Government of India has not come out strongly against these anti-social elements. Therefore, I hope that the Government of India should pass very stringent laws to punish those who commit such crimes. They should be given even life imprisonment as this type of action creates enmity between different sections of the society. . . *(Interruptions)*

Now, I would like to mention something about my State, namely, Nagaland. In the recent past, the General Secretary of the B.J.P. Shri Govindacharya has made a statement in the North-East particularly in Nagaland that some missionaries in Nagaland are pouring in money to convert the Hindus into Christians. I feel that these types of inflammatory statements should not be made and not only that those who think that this country should remain intact, they should restrain from making such statements in the future. Not long ago we have overcome a state of head hunting after the advent of Christianity and because

of this we are able to have some sort of civilisation, modernisation and education.

I would like to say here that some inflammatory statements are also made by some of the parties that they would be sending thousands of Hindu *Sadhus* to North-East particularly in Nagaland to convert Christians into Hindus. I think, this is not a very good thing. When people can survive on their own, why should they impose somebody to convert into some other religion.

Therefore, I would suggest that the Government should look into this kind of a statement and anybody who spreads this kind of propaganda and makes statements should be called not to step into these States and let the North-East and Nagaland State remain as themselves and let them enjoy the freedom of religion, etc.

With these few words, since the time is the constraint, I would like to ask the Government to see that a very stringent law is enacted in this country and whosoever creates a sacrilege or tries to suppress another religion should be punished to the maximum possible.

With these few words I would like to end and request the other Members to support me and argue on this point.

DR. BEATRIX D'SOUZA (Nominated) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though India is a pluralistic religious society we have enjoyed religious harmony all these years. Unfortunately, after Independence, Indian society has been polarised into majority and minority and because of this polarisation there is a conflict between the majority and the minority.

The Christian presence in India is 2,000 years old and Christianity would not have taken root in India if it was not for Hindu tolerance. Unlike Christianity and Islam, Hinduism does not have a dogma. It only has a Dharma. This Dharma has allowed Hinduism to be tolerant to other religions.

In recent times, however, there has been a Hindu revival or what is called a Hindu Renaissance. This Hindu revival or Renaissance in its own way is a very good thing. But it should not lead to the establishment of a Hindu Rashtra but it should lead to the establishment of a composite Indian culture, a true *Hindutva* in the proper sense of the world.

Now one reason why the Christians have been targeted is because they see us as foreigners. As I said, the Christian presence is 2,000 years old and it pre-dates formal structured Hinduism at the time Hinduism has got its caste structure. But Christianity thus pre-dates the formal structure of Hinduism by about two centuries. In any case, religious identity does not negate national identity. He can be both Christians and Indians.

Another reason is that we have forced conversions. Now in 2,000 years we have managed to convert only two per cent of the population, we are 2.5 per cent of the population. We have formed no threat at all to the majority community. Even the Muslims are only 15 per cent. So, the majority community should not feel in any way threatened by the presence of the Christians or any further attempts at conversions.

Another thing is that the Christians with this two per cent have done tremendous good for the country and we are a peaceful community. Unnecessarily we have been dragged into the streets. We have now come out on the streets. We do not blame the BJP Government. I do not blame the BJP Government and all right thinking people will not blame the BJP Government or the BJP leadership for these atrocities. The hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Home Minister, the BJP President, they have all disassociated themselves from any of the atrocities committed against the Christians. But one thing is more clear. That is that the BJP leadership did not come out early enough and make a statement allaying the fears of the Christians. If they had come out early enough, the Christians would not have gone to the streets.

I want to make another point clear also : That these Christian rallies have given a wrong impression to Western countries that the Christians are persecuted. *The Washington Post* in America has stated that 98 per cent of the Hindus are persecuting two per cent of Christians. This is a wrong figure.

There have been persecutions. There have been atrocities. There are 90 atrocities in 1998 alone. You cannot say there have not been atrocities against Christians. I will not give any statistics at the moment. But we have given a wrong picture to the Western world. So, what does America say? We have now committed the unpardonable sin of having a bomb and unpardonable sin of persecuting their fellow Christians, which is actually wrong. It is only a small group of Hindu fanatics belonging to a particular group which is responsible for this. But it is the Government's responsibility to enforce the Constitutional safeguards that Christians have. I appeal to the Government to bring out a White Paper on this particular issue as requested by the bishops.

Secondly, I feel that schools should not be closed during these protests. This is my personal opinion. As a former college Professor - I am an educationist - I do not believe that children should be dragged into this matter. This is my feeling and many people agree with me.

Thirdly, minorities have their right to establish and maintain their own schools. At the same time, we get funding from the Government. When we receive their fund, we are accountable to the Government.

[Dr. Beatrix D'Souza]

I would also like to quote the Bible as someone else has quoted the Bible.

Christ has said:

"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

We, in our protests, should not break the law of the land. That is very important.

I would like to finally quote Napoleon. Napoleon has said: "The Church is in the State but the State is not in the Church". That means, the State should not seek to enforce any religious sentiment, any religious hymn on the people.

When I was teaching in college, I did take part in the Saraswati Pooja because I considered Saraswati, as the Goddess of Learning and not as a Hindu Goddess. But the Muslims who are very much against idol worship, will, definitely, not want to have Saraswati Vandhana imposed on them. And I agree. So it is left to the individuals. What I feel is that even this majority, minority, Christian, and Hindu business will carry on if the Government does not bring out a White Paper. Not only our image will be spoiled here but also abroad. I recommend an interfaith dialogue. The problem is that we do not understand other people's religion's. We do not know anything about them. This ignorance leads to conflict. I would request that this interface dialogue should start in our schools. We should learn about other people's faiths in schools. Instead of having Sanskrit and any other hymns imposed, let us learn about each other's faith. Thank you very much.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE (Chimur) : Mr. Speaker, Entire country is viewing the debate on atrocities on minorities which is going on in the highest house of the country. Atrocities inflicted up on Christians, Muslims, Tribals, Dalits, Budhists in many parts of the country were discussed upon here. It is very shameful for the country that this practice of atrocities is still going on. One point was repeated again and again as to what did they do during last fifty years. Mr. Speaker, a system of atrocities has been enforced by those who have ruled over India for the last fifty years and those who are ruling India nowadays.

How much atrocity was inflicted during 700 years was discussed here and motherhood too was mentioned; but they forgot to tell the tale of atrocities inflicted by these very persons upon Dalits, people belonging to Scheduled

Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward communities. The way the culture and system of this country has oppressed the dalits and minorities of the country is very shameful. You may take Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra or even other states which are under the ruling party. Such type of atrocities being inflicted upon minority community, is very shameful.

I want to mention that in Borgaon village of Sangli District in Maharashtra, fifty houses belonging to Dalits and Budhists were burnt to ashes. Eleven Dalits were butchered in Ghatkopar, Mumbai. In this very Delhi when two children named Gita Chopra and Sanjay Chopra were murdered by devils like Billa and Ranga. An homage was paid to those children before the country in this very house but when dalits are massacred, eleven dalits are murdered, Muslims are killed at a place and Christians are attacked upon at other, no effort is made to pay them a minute's homage of silence. All the people should raise their voice unitedly against this discrimination being done. I would like to cite an example of Allahabad. A Sessions Judge belonging to Scheduled Caste was transferred to some other place and he was replaced by a Brahmin judge who got the judge's chair washed with Ganga water before sitting on it. I want to ask Vajpai Govt. and Mr. Advani as to what action has been taken against the Session judge who has cast such a blot on our country.

I want to tell you that this is not a issue of praying because discussion about Saraswati Vandana and Vande Matram takes place very often. They are trying to impose Hindutva and trying to make this nation a Hindu rashtra. Minorities, Budhist and dalits of this country are feeling terrorised. They are prepared for struggle for their existence. Where you neasculinity goes when you talk of seven hundred years, where were you sitting then bearing bangles like women. Today when, we are independent, we too, fought for the independence of the country, and now being a majority you want to surpress minorities dalits and backward classes.

SMT. BHAWANA KARTAM DAVE (Surendranagar) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Please tell him not to bring bangles in the discussion. Do not bring bad name to them . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : A discussion is going on to change the history of this country we should work together to change the future of the country. History can not be changed to distort the truth so you always remembers :

"Khoon To phir khoon Hai, Tapakta Hai
To Jam Jata Hai,
Sitam ka Had Se Badh Jana Tabahi ki Nishani
Hai."

If country is to be protected from devastation and destruction then each and every caste or religion would have to be given right to live in the dignity and respect. All religions and community of this country should be given respect, dignity and protection according to the Constitution drafted by Baba Sahab Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

Speaker Sir, concluding I would like to say that I feel unhappy when we talk about caste and religion. Time is short and I want to finish my speech but they fight only for power in the name of caste and religion. They shed stream of blood for power and chair, be it the issue of Ayodhya or temple. They destroy people, snatch son from mothers, sister from brother, brother from brother. They try to defame our unity and integrity. I want to ask the ruling party when we breathe last we lie in the lap of motherland we may be Brahman or Bania, Thakur, Dalit, Cobbler. This motherland does not ask our religion or caste. We are the children of motherland. So why you create conflicts in the name of caste and religion? Why atrocities are being committed on Christian, Muslims, Buddhist or Dalits of this country. Your demand is Ayodhya. But king Ashoka had made Mahabodhi Budha Vihar of Bodhi Gaya and till today you could not give it to Buddhist. Your habit is to capture but belong to others. You have to change this habit.

So I want to tell all of you that message should go from this discussion that we will not play politics in the name of caste and religion. Whenever question of unity and integrity of country will arise forgetting the past we should come together to save the unity, integrity and humanity of country. You have defamed the country by demolishing the Mosque. You have cast a blot on this country by committing atrocities on the minority and we will not rest till we remove that blot and we will allow such a thing to re-occur. This is my only submission through you, Speaker Sir. I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views. Jai Bhim.

SHRI S.S. OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want only a few minutes. My submission is that the Government should examine as to why the minority community feels that it is living under the shadow of death. Fresh incidents are cropping up. Such as the occupation of Chikmagloor Dargah, the treatment meted out to the Nuns, recitation of Saraswati Vandana and Vande Matram. There are several other problems. The manner in which you are doing all this, there is general uneasiness among the people. If someone issues a fatwa against this, it is highly unjust to search the house of Ali Mian and insult him. Similarly, the Vishva Hindu Parishad announced that Divali like celebration would be held on 6th December. Is it proper? Whatever is being done in this manner, is not right. You talk of minorities. If you ask the sycophants to say something, then you must remember that the entire

country would be watching. If such things take place, what would be the effect on your own party? Remember, you can ask a few persons to say anything you like—such persons come a plenty—But instead of being benefitted, you would harm yourself.

19.37 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I only want to say that a separate Ministry should be formed regarding the problems of the minorities, so that their condition improves and efforts be made to solve the problems of the minorities. Similar thing was done in our State and I had given this suggestion. This has been done there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, takes the example of education we make efforts. Money belongs to us and the college also belongs to us, and you say that fifty per cent (seats) should be given to you. Is this not unjust? Mr. Khurana Sahab, give us your opinion. Under Article 30, of the Constitution, we have the right to own a thing for which we have made efforts and even then you ask for fifty per cent. .
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Fifty per cent of what?

SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Seats in the Medical and Engineering Colleges.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : There is an order of the Supreme Court in this regard.

SHRI S.S. OWAISI : This is exactly what I am saying. If there is the Supreme Court's order, why did you not bring a resolution in this regard to give importance to it, in the absence of which the Muslims of this country feel neglected. Others feel justified in doing anything. But if the Muslims set up anything with their efforts, then you demand fifty per cent (seats). How can this be acceptable? One and a half crore rupees were spent on the Krishna Commission. But you did not accept the report. Was this Commission not constituted under the law of the land? On one side you do not accept the report of the Commission (court) and on the other hand you say that the provision of providing fifty per cent seats is as per the court's decision.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, each state is speaking in a different voice. In Andhra Pradesh, it is being said that they would emphasise on Telugu Talli. If every state, in this country speaks in different voice, then what would happen to the national interest? Where will it stop? And what would be the result? You ponder yourself as to where such thinking would take you. You should control this. It is being said in Andhra Pradesh that they would emphasise on Telugu Talli. Each state is moving in a different direction. What

[Shri S.S. Owaisi]

would happen to the national interest? It is essential to think over it. I want that you should give importance to it, in this way, and put a stop to ugly incidents taking place in the country quickly.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, lastly, I would like to say again that there is a need to form a separate Ministry regarding the problems of the Muslims. If this is done, I think several of your problems would become easy and end of their own. Mr. Cairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

*SHRI AKBAR ALI KHANDOKER (Serampore) : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman Sir, this is my maiden speech in this august House. I am a new member here. There are many senior members sitting in the House. I pay my respect to them and express my gratitude and thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important issue. I am Akbar Ali Khandoker coming from a minority community. I belong to a very ordinary middle class family I have come to Lok Sabha as an elected member and the area or house I come from has no electricity. My village has no proper road. I have come from such an area that has no proper road construction or electricity even after 50 years of independence. If we count from today the days are only 1 year 20 days when the present century will end and we shall enter the 21st century. We know the computer system will also change in the whole world in 2000. Today we feel proud to complete 50 years of independence. But Sir it is really shameful that after celebrating 50 years of independence we are discussing the issue of Hindu, Muslim or Christian.

As our great poet Kazi Nazrul wrote :

Today who is asking the question?

Who is Hindu or who is Muslim?

Oh Boatman, you say they are the children of my motherland.

We can rightly quote the famous lines –

Diverse is the language, diverse is the opinion,
diverse is the dress;

But still amidst diversity there is unity.

Today as a young Muslim of this noble and great country I would like to put a question before the august House. Why this question of Hindu or Muslim should come in our mind? I was a member in the Assembly. After resigning the seat from the Assembly, I contested the Parliamentary election as a Trinamul Congress candidate. When I visited the Muslim area for campaigning I was told

that because of my association with Hindus I could not ask for Muslim vote. When I went to the Hindu area I was informed that I being Muslim could not get vote. I want to know how long these two terms Hindu and Muslim and the division between the two communities will continue in our country? How long the minority has to face discrimination meted out to them? Who has written history? Our country has been ruled by Congress for 40 years in 50 years of independence and CMP has ruled 22 years in West Bengal. I have come from Bengal. If we go through the pages of history we will find that how this issue of Hindu and Muslim has been disturbing our society since long. The day the session started the question of Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh or Mandir and Masjid has been raised in the House disturbing so many important and serious issues. We feel ashamed that even after 50 years of independence we are wasting our time on this trivial question of Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh or Mandir and Masjid. Sir, I am sorry to say that to what level we have lowered ourselves that we are ignoring the important issues and indulging in wasteful discussion. So much of money is spent in single minute of Parliament session causing so much burden on public exchequer. Crores of rupees are being spent for a single sitting of the House. After spending crores of rupees we are discussing this trivial issue of Mandir and Masjid. Have we once pondered and thought why we should raise such issues and waste money on such issues? Why the poor Muslims won't have Madrasa for their education, why they won't have pucca roof instead of thatched roof? Why they cannot lead a better life with better facility? Why their children cannot afford good education in school or colleges? Why their children cannot claim high posts? These serious and important issues are never discussed in the House. We are busy only with the question of Mandir or Masjid. This is indeed a matter of regret that only the question of Mandir or Masjid bothers us. We are least concerned for other serious issues.

Is it my sin that I belong to a minority family? The Government of Left Front is ruling West Bengal for 22 years. I want to relate a particular incident in my district of Hooghly. We are 3 MPs from Trinamul from our district. There was a programme on 15th August for 50 years of independence. But names of only two MPs appeared in the invitation card. My name was missing. Was it missing because I belong to minority group. Then I feel that because I am a Muslim belonging to minority group or Trinamul, my name was missing in the card. I have been visiting room of District Magistrate for 20 years. The peon, sweepers and employees, everyone knows me there. But I am denied admission even when I have been formally invited to attend the formal meeting. I was not allowed to enter the room of the SP although I went to attend the formal meeting and I went there with prior appointment.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

Sir, I can cite many incidences in West Bengal. Sir, please allow me some more time. I am a new comer and this is my maiden speech. If you ring the bell just now, I can't speak anything then. Please allow me some more time. I have just started.

My State of West Bengal is ruled by one party for 22 years. But the incidents related to minority will bring tears in the eyes. Why no protest is uttered when a Muslim lady after being disrobed is forced to march in the street? When a muslim woman's hair is cut with scissors and is made to parade in the street nobody utters any protest? When the houses of minority are burnt in Bikrampur and the only child of a Muslim lady is killed before his mother and not a single drop of water is offered, then no protest is raised. Now I find members and leaders of all the party shedding tear for the plight of the minority. Today I feel ashamed to narrate a horrible incident in Dasghara village of Hooghly District. Only child of a minority parents was forcibly taken out from the car he was travelling in and was flogged continuously. When he was found still alive he was axed to death. This horrible incident happened at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The school children returning from school become unconscious after witnessing the macabre incident. Why then no voice of protest was raised by these people who are shedding tears for the atrocities committed on the minority? Why the culprits were not arrested and they are still roaming scot-free. The question is not which party is ruling where. In our 50 years of independence Congress has ruled for 40 years in the Centre and the Left Front Government has ruled for 22 years in West Bengal and now the BJP with its coalition has been at the helm of affairs for a few months. It is a matter of regret that this issue of atrocity on the minority has been discussed in the previous sessions also. It is being discussed in the present 12th Lok Sabha. I know it will be discussed in the 13th, 14th or the 15th Lok Sabha also. The topic on minority will be discussed in every session but what will be the outcome? We will discuss about our history of independence, we will discuss about the minority. But will these discussions deliver the goods? Will the interest of the minority whether Muslim, Christian or Sikh be protected?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my humble request to you that the discussion on the minority should not be held by dividing this august House. We Trinamul Congress although an allied party of BJP have observed 6th December as Black Day in protest against the demolition of Babri Masjid. Sir, the question may arise how an ally party of the ruling party can observe the demolition of Babri Masjid as Black Day. Sir, I must make it clear that although we are supporting the BJP Government, we will never fail in our duty whenever injustice is being committed. Sir, I humbly submit that time has come when

this issue of the minority has to be discussed in a constructive manner. Let us not divide the House on this serious issue. We must set up a Committee and discuss the issue in such a way so that the minorities can live in peace. We must take some concrete steps and decision so that the interest of the minority is protected. The politics of vote should be discarded at any cost. This game of politics of vote has been going on for so many years. Now let us all try to eliminate this dirty game and come together forgetting our party affiliations and frame out some concrete action plan so that the minorities can forget their fear and apprehension and live in peace.

I have many points to make. But due to paucity of time I have to be brief. So I want to appeal to all of you that please forget the politics of vote bank and come forward to do something constructive for the minorities whether Muslim or Sikh or Christian. I thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to participate on this issue.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity. I think this is called gender equality. Among 545 Members, I am one of the last persons to be called. I thank you for this, though.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kumari Gangte, please come to the subject straight away. You will have to make a very short speech.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : I will try to do that, Sir. But then I have been sitting here the whole day and some people have been given one hour to speak. We have to wait the whole day and then also we are told to hurry up our speech and conclude in a few minutes' time! I think this is very wrong. I think our rights are curtailed here. Please allow me.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, she is very right in saying this.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Though this is my first term, I also have lakhs and lakhs of my people there in my State. I wish to make a complaint in this House that the senior Members are given more time and we the junior ones who might have got more problems than maybe the senior Members, are given very little chance. I am very sorry. I hope something is being done about this.

Sir, I am filled with heaviness of heart that I would have to speak about the atrocities, harassments and tortures of Christians and minorities in a country which has been known for its tolerance and non-violence through out generations. Sir, I wish I would never have to speak on this very unpleasant issue in this august House when the country is faced with so many problems, such as hunger and thirst. I am very sorry that this issue has to be discussed and that time has to be wasted discussing this

[Kumari Kim Gangte]

issue. However, Sir, I appreciate the strong condemnation done by the hon. Prime Minister and the Home Minister and also some leaders of the Ruling Party.

However, I also feel that these condemnations should have been done at the very first incident so that the incidents that followed thereafter might have been stopped. At the same time, it makes me sad to note that some very responsible leaders of this country and an ex-M.P. have justified these acts. Sir, I do not think, any Member of this august House would agree to this inhumanism of attacking Churches, burning of Bibles. I am very sorry to say that the Christian community had to come out on the street. I am born in a Christian family and brought up in Christian school and college. Our teachers told us that we should always abide by the laws of the land apart from serving our God. And, today, it makes me feel very sad that the Christians are compelled to come out on the streets to air their grievances.

Sir, it is not the point of accusing one another. While the ruling and the opposition Members keep on accusing one another, people continue to suffer. Women, children, minorities and the Christians are mentally suffering. They have apprehension that this fundamental rights guaranteed in the Constitution might further be violated. Sir, I come from a Christian Kuki community.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please try to conclude now.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Sir, it is not even three minutes that I have spoken.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, we are giving five minutes to each Member.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Sir, please do not disturb me. I have been waiting for the whole day. I will request the hon. Members of this House to bear with me. I think, they will agree. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Madam, we are waiting for you. But the Chairman is not waiting. . . (Interruptions). Take your own time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, not only others, I am also sympathetic to you.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Thank you, Sir, you have always been sympathetic to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : My only difficulty is that there are another 10 Members here to speak.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : I come from a Christian Kuki community. Let me tell you, whether you know or not, that

75 per cent of the people who fought for this country's freedom under Subhas Chandra Bose, and were Kukis and today about 75 per cent of the Kukis are getting INA *Swatendra Senani Samman*. Likewise, not only the Kuki Christian community but other Christian communities and minorities had also fought for this great country's freedom. Why do we need to be operated open? Why should we be asked to prove our loyalty or nationality today after 50 years of independence when we have sacrificed so much for this country?

Sir, the North-Eastern States comprise of Christians and minorities. I have so much to say but I have been told that I should conclude my speech. So, I shall try to wind up. Sir, during the Chinese aggression when the country was going through one of the toughest stages of its history, our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru with a heavy heart made goodbye to Assam.

But the people did not agree. They stood and fought back and today the North-East, previously called Assam, still remains a part of this country. These very people are Christians and minorities. It is not just the Army that has guarded the borders of this great country but it was these Christians and minorities who had guarded the borders of this country. And today, they are still guarding these borders.

I am afraid to say that if we try to safeguard the integrity of this country in the name of religion, it will only disintegrate. Sir, I am sorry to have come across a writing by Madhav Golwalkar, the second supremo of the RSS which reads as follows. It puzzles me very much. I now quote :

"The non-Hindu people in Hindustan must either adopt the Hindu culture and religion, must learn to respect and revere the Hindu religion or may stay in the country wholly subordinated to the Hindu nation, claiming nothing, deserving no privileges, far less any preferential treatment, not even citizenship rights."

I am afraid, some of the misguided elements and misguided organisations are following this ideology. What I am trying to bring home today to the Ruling Party is that it is the duty of the Government to protect and guard the fundamental rights of the people. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow her to complete her speech.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : I said, I was very sad to come across that this writing because some misguided elements might be following this kind of an ideology thereby disturbing the social harmony. I am not accusing the BJP

particularly defeating or the Congress Party or for other Opposition Parties. My stand is very clear. I stand right in the middle and say that what is important for the Govt. to do is to protect the rights of the people.

Today, while you are accusing one another, trying to argue wasting so much time minorities and Christians, the poor and the down-trodden people continue to suffer. I think, what is important today is that the Ruling and the Opposition Parties should work together and find a solution so that hope is brought back to these minorities without any delay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time now is eight o'clock. Either, we will have to extend the House or we will have to continue tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey): Sir, I will take only five minutes.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): All of us have been waiting for three days to get an opportunity. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : One more hon. Member can speak now. Or, we will have to extend the time. There are many more hon. Members to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnanai) : This discussion must proceed up to the conclusion.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : It is eight o'clock. One more hon. Member can speak but what about us? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Several Parties are yet to be represented in this discussion. There are at least four small parties – the RSP, the Forward Bloc, the TMC and the Muslim League. . . *(Interruptions)*

20.00 hrs.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : We always get only two or three minutes. We can take it up on Monday. This happens every time. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : In the BAC, it was decided to extend the House up to one hour, that is up to seven o'clock. But we have already extended the House up to eight o'clock. I think it is high time that the House should be adjourned now. . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : The Minister is not here . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : We should also be allowed to express our views. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here. If he wants to say anything let him say.

(Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : I have been waiting for the last three days. I should be allowed to speak for at least five minutes. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I say something ?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Please say something for us. Tomorrow is Friday and it would be very difficult for us to find time tomorrow. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have already extended the House up to eight o'clock. Ten more hon. Members want to speak on this subject. So, they would take at least one hour to speak. Hon. Speaker has said that since Shri Sudheeran is leaving tomorrow morning, let him be given five minutes to speak. If the House permits, I will allow Shri Sudheeran to speak for five minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : We have been waiting for so many days. Tomorrow is Friday and it would be very difficult for us. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can sit for one more hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : What is the difficulty ? . . . *(Interruptions)*

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : We can take it up on Monday. . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have to objection . . . *(Interruptions)* listen to. . . *(Interruptions)* you will be raising more issues. Would you like to give up them ? . . . *(Interruptions)* you have raised six issues. Only two have been debated among them. The remaining four will be taken up in the next week. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : If you like. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Follow the agenda passed for the B.A.C., the B.A.C. had fixed for hours.

[English]

We have allotted only four hours for this discussion.

[Shri Madan Lal Khurana]

[Translation]

He will raise the issues just now and at the same time, he would not sit. . . (Interruptions) I am leaving it to the Chair. . . (Interruptions) seven hours have been passed . . . (Interruptions) you take more time. Extend it for further two days. . . (interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ten more hon. Members want to speak on this subject. As I said earlier, it would take at least one hour. It may go beyond one hour also. Then we have to make transport and other arrangements for the staff. That is why the hon. Speaker wanted to postpone it for tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

PROF .A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I have one request to make. This *ad hoc* arrangement should be done away with. We ladies come to the House by 10.30 hours in the morning and sit throughout the day. We do not mind sitting up to 12.00 midnight if advance notice is given. We are prepared to do that but we do not agree to extending the time of the house by an hour or half an hour according to the convenience of certain persons.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Tomorrow being Friday, it will be inconvenient for us. You can then have it on Monday. We do not mind it.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : If we will sit late now, there will be a lot of problem for the staff.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Tomorrow being a Friday, it will be inconvenient for us to continue the discussion tomorrow. We do not mind taking it up on Monday.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : New subjects will be taken up on Monday.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : What to do then? You will take it up on Friday

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have no objection. You can take it up on Monday and Tuesday; but you will have to exclude one.

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Let's see.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : No, not like this

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

20.06 hours

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, December 11, 1998/
Agrahayana 20, 1920 (Saka)*