

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



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

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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CORRIGENDA TO LOK SABHA DEBATES  
(ENGLISH VERSION)

Monday, July 20, 1998/Asadha 29, 1920 (Saka)

....

Co./line	For	Read
2/15	SHRI MOTILAL VOHRA	SHRI MOTILAL VORA
31,32/5	169.96,6	169.72,2
43,44/8 (from below)	193/184	183/184
57,58/5 (from below)	50/10*	50/0*
121/3 (from below)	4445	4446
121/4 (from below)	5446	5445
123/after line 2 add Muzaffarnagar 4990		33
208/9 (from below)	4547	4647
233/33	SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT	SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'
235,236/6	16.58	126.58
242/10	6265	3265
260/20	DR.Y.S.RAJA SEKHAR REDDY	DR.Y.S.RAJASEARA REDDY
266/13 386/16 (from below)	SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA	SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA
281/60 (from below)	(c)	(e)
281/7 (from below)	(b)	(d)

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Monday, July 20, 1998/Asadha 29, 1920 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is high time, the Government of India should notify the scheme on Cauvery and submit it before the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, you can raise it after Question Hour please.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Women in Anganwadi Centres

\*462. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women working in the Anganwadi Centres and facilities being provided by the Government to them;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to regularise the services of these women; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per information available with us approximately 8.28 lakh women are working as honorary Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in Anganwadi Centres in the country. Anganwadi Workers are given an honorarium between Rs. 438-563/- per month and helpers Rs. 260/- per month. Besides, they are entitled to maternity leave two times, Casual leave of 20 days per year, Travelling Allowance/ Daily Allowance for meetings etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount of honorarium mentioned in the reply is quite meagre. In the present price rise it is almost impossible to make them work for such a trivial amount of honorarium. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government would like to raise the honorarium, daily allowances and travelling allowances of the Anganwadi workers? I would also like to know the amount of money being spent on Anganwadi Programme every year?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This question relates to women. Today I am going to allow only the women members.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOTILAL VOHRA : You must allow male members also.

MR. SPEAKER : After women members, I will allow male members also.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The condition of Anganwadi workers is quite deplorable and the honorarium being given to them is meagre. We are in contact with various State Governments on this issue. States of Tamilnadu, Haryana and Maharashtra, have already increased the amount of honorarium. In Tamilnadu it has been revised to Rs. 842 and Rs. 400, that is Rs. 400 for the helpers and Rs. 842 for the Anganwadi workers. Similarly in Maharashtra, the honorarium of the Anganwadi workers and the helpers has been increased by Rs. 175 and Rs. 125 respectively. In Himachal Pradesh and Haryana also it has been increased by more than Rs. 100. On 22nd and 23rd July, we have called a conference of the Ministers of all the States who are looking after the department of women and child welfare. We are going to hold a discussion with them in this regard and then we will work in this direction according to the consensus evolved in the conference.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been answered completely. I wanted to know the amount being spent on this scheme every year?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : In all Rs. 544.8 crores are being spent on it every year.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this scheme is working effectively in some States but in

some States it has just proved to be a white elephant, it just turned out to be ineffective there, nothing has yet been done there. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will review the mode of working of this scheme and would like to introduce some changes in order to improve it? Will the Government implement some action plan to make the present system of Anganwadi more objective?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The question of improvement in the programmes operating under this plan and in their working is quite a comprehensive one. These workers do a variety of work but work relating to education and health are the main items of work. These women perform various important work like providing knowledge about complete nutritional diet, ante-natal and post-natal care, inoculation, child care programmes etc. This organisation, was started as a voluntary organisation but now work load is increasing gradually on these workers and there is a need to form an integrated plan in consultation with the Ministers concerned because their field of work also includes medicines, education and it also includes the work related to the development. Therefore, it is necessary that all the concerned Ministries should sit together and decide to take some steps to make it more effective.

We have received many suggestions in this regard. Some suggestions were also given by the leaders of opposition and I have already told you that we have decided to hold a meeting of the concerned ministers of all the State Governments incharge of these programmes, on 22nd and 23rd of July. We will take steps on the basis of the consensus evolved in that meeting.

[English]

DR. SAROJA V. : Hon Speaker Sir, Anganwadi workers are the grassroot-level functionaries for implementing the ICD Scheme. I appreciate and understand that during the Ninth Five Year Plan, much emphasis has been laid on the social, economic, legal and political arena of women. I also understand that during the Eighth Five Year Plan, there was a ban on increasing the honorarium for the Anganwadi workers. This is a very important programme for the benefit of 8.2 lakh women workers, in three hundred centres throughout the country.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister that during the Ninth Five Year Plan, whether a uniform policy would be adopted throughout the country, because the payment of honorarium and the quality of work differ from State to State. During the meeting on 22nd and 23rd, would the hon. Minister consider increasing the honorarium and also adopting a uniform policy throughout the country for Anganwadi workers?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As I have already indicated that on the basis of the discussion in that meeting, we would consider all aspects of this programme and the way how we could upgrade and increase their honorarium. All these issues would be discussed. On the basis of the opinion formulated in that meeting, we will form the next policy.

As regards Ninth Plan, when the final document comes, then only I could say what would be the position of this programme in the Ninth Plan.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Sir, it was proposed to expand the scope of ICDS. Of course, some States have decided to include adolescent girls in this, that is, girls of the age group of 11 to 18 years, that too, in two phases. That would be done in order to improve the nutritional and health status of girls of this age group, and to provide them the required literacy numerally skills and other skills for earning income.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how many Blocks have been covered and how many adolescent girls have been conferred so far. In view of the fact that the Anganwadi workers have take the extra burden of these adolescent girls, along with children of the age group of 0-6 years, and as the hon. Minister has just now stated that they get honorarium because they are not employed staff, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, would he consider the case of these Anganwadi workers for enhancing the honorarium at par with the minimum wage.

If they are not going to increase it at par with the Minimum Wages Act, then will not the Government deviate the minimum wage Act.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, have you understood her supplementary?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I can understand what she is telling. You see, there is a freeze on ICDS projects. There are only 4,200 blocks in the country.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Only for adolescent girls?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I am coming to that. Then, we are planning to expand this scheme in the Ninth Plan. As regards, Adolescent Girls Scheme, it is presently covering 507 blocks in the country. As regards, your other part of the question, I have already answered it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, you are giving chance only to the women Members.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I am giving chance only to the women Members. After that, I will give chance to the male Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Your support should always be there for them.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Their target is only for 33 per cent reservation. But you have given them hundred per cent reservation.

MR. SPEAKER : At least, some representation should be given in the Question Hour also for the women Members.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing women to put forward their views on the issue related to them. The plans made earlier were quite luring but return was not much. Same is the case with this plan. as everybody has said, and I too hold the same view that the salary given for this job is quite meagre and that is why two or three years ago representatives of all the women's organisations had come to Delhi and met the hon'ble Minister. In view of that I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would consider their case for enhancing their salary so that they are not compelled to come here again and again. The hon. Minister has just stated that he is going to hold a meeting. Will the issue of increasing their salaries be the main agenda of that meeting? My second question is that maternity leave given to these women is not adequate. Will the Government consider to increase the period of maternity leave.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : These are two separate questions. We will discuss the problem of Anganwadi workers in the meeting to be held on 22nd and 23rd. I would like to make it clear that the term salary is not applicable to them. This scheme has been started voluntarily, they are not treated as employees or wage-earners. Yes, if their honorarium has to be increased we will discuss the matter in that meeting. We would also discuss as to how could we bring about improvement in the next five year plan. We would formulate our policy on the basis of the views expressed in the meeting

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity. Our Minister for Human Resource has said about the minimum wage in answer to Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik's question. I want

to know whether it is a wage or an allowance. Are you going to give that minimum sum or not? All the Members, both men and women, want to know about that. It is because the question came from Shri Chinmayanand Swami. So, all the male Members also want to know about that. This is Part (a) of my question. The part (b) of my question is, whether the Government has any intention of privatising Anganwadi. If so, how do you think that their interests will be protected?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : There is no intention to privatise Anganwadi. As regards honorarium, we are going to discuss it with all the State Governments in our next meeting on 22nd and 23rd. Only after taking their views, whatever opinion is filtered there, we will come and frame a policy regarding that.

[Translation]

KUMARI VIMALA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Hon. Minister has admitted that honorarium is very meagre ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : We supported the Women's Reservation Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Now you allow her to ask her supplementary.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : They can raise it; there is no objection.

[Translation]

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, hon. Minister himself has admitted that honorarium is very meagre and they have to perform many other functions such as the work related to the Deptt. of Health. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister whether he would try to contact the Department of Health and the other departments with which they are concerned and ask them to give them honorarium, so that they may get honorarium at least as per the minimum wages.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, so far as first part of your suggestion is concerned, I will discuss with all those Ministries that they should co-operate in this matter. As regards question of honorarium is concerned, decision can be taken only after discussing it with all the State Governments. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has told that they get honorarium per month and twenty casual leaves every year but the



position is not clear about the maternity leave. I presume that they get maternity leave twice in their service period. But if they need maternity leave for more than two times, because there is a no legal control over it what does the Government do in such cases? Second part of my question is that the Government has decided to close some Anganwadis. The workers in these Anganwadis are trained. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any scheme for these workers so as to adjust them somewhere else?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, so far as maternity leave is concerned, it is granted twice for a period of three months during service period. We do not intend to give it for the third time.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : What will they do in such circumstances?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Leave would not be given to them.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : It is not proper.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The other thing is that the honorarium is not given according to the Govt. Service. But with regard to your question regarding their future prospects, I would like to tell that in April 1995 Government have decided that 25% vacancies in Government services would be filled up by the women who were working as supervisors. It is written there. Some State Governments have taken initiative in this regard. So far as the future of other literate Anganwadi workers is concerned, we are going to discuss with the State Governments on 22nd and 23rd in this regard.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : But, what decision will you take about granting maternity leave for the third time?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Why you are taking so much interest for the third maternity leave.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : What you will do in such a situation.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : But the circumstances are not under your control.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : But there is no legal bar also.

MR. SPEAKER : No, not like this. Prof. Kurien.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving so much importance to this question. In fact, you allowed at least 20 minutes for it. I am sorry to say that the Government is not giving that much importance to this issue.

Look at the reply which the hon. Minister, Dr. Murlu Manohar Joshi, a senior Minister, has given to part (b) of the question. part (b) of the question is, "Whether the Government are contemplating to regularise the services of these women" and the answer given is an emphatic 'No'. This shows the callous attitude of the Government towards such an important issue. Anganwadi workers are more than eight lakhs in number. What is their condition? It is most pathetic. They all come from the below poverty line rural background. And they are doing the most important national reconstruction work, in that they are giving training to the pre-primary children. Let us not gloss over this issue. This is an important issue. So far he has replied to so many supplementaries, but he has not come forward with any action plan from the Government's side.

MR. SPEAKER : You put your supplementary.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I am just formulating my question.

He is simply saying that there is some meeting and in that they will decide. I am asking a pointed question: Whether the Government has got an action plan with regard to these anganwadi workers; if not, is the Minister prepared to appoint a Committee to look into the conditions of these poorest of the poor workers of the country, our sisters?

If you are prepared to appoint a Committee, please say in this House and give a specific answer.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : You have raised a question with regard to the plight of women workers but our Government is not responsible for it. This situation has arisen during last 15-16 years. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Please talk like a Minister. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

... (Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I am not yielding.  
 ...(*Interruptions*) Shri Vora, I am not yielding.  
 ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

This situation emerged as a result of the policy framed by you. ...(*Interruptions*) As soon as I started getting representations and the leader of opposition talked to me. I immediately decided to hold a meeting and I am going to talk with the State Governments about their plight. What did you do? You did nothing, I have taken initiatives. ...(*Interruptions*) You are responsible for the present position. ...(*Interruptions*) You should introspect yourself. ...(*Interruptions*) We are discussing and also preparing for discussion. ...(*Interruptions*) we are going to hold a meeting. ...(*Interruptions*) we are thinking over it. We have talked with their delegation and the leader of opposition, but you are saying that we are doing nothing. What were you doing?

#### **Norms for Selection of Artists for TV & Radio**

\*463 DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the eligibility norms for selection of artists for T.V. and Radio;

(b) whether opportunities for the selection of artists are generally cornered by the urban people; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that artists from the rural and backward areas also get the opportunities to refine their talents?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SWARAJ) :

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) The artists' posts in Aakashvani & Doordarshan which include categories such as Instrumentalists, Music Composers, Announcers, News readers-cum-Translators, Translators-cum-Announcers etc. are filled up in accordance with the approved/notified Recruitment Rules and instructions issued from time to time.

(b) and (c) Suitability of the candidate is assessed by the duly constituted Selection Committee on the basis of performance of the candidates in the written test/

interview/audition test irrespective of their rural or urban background. After the formation of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India), these matters are attended to by the Prasar Bharati in accordance with relevant recruitment rules on the subject.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister is an outstanding parliamentarian and an able administrator. I haven't got reply to the main point of my question. My question was what were the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that artists from rural and backward areas also get the opportunities to refine their talents? The reply in this regard is far from satisfactory because after the implementation of Prasar Bharati the artists from rural areas are not getting due share in the programmes of Akashvani and Doordarshan. I will cite an example in this regard. Shri Bhikhar Thakur a great artist of this country, hailed from rural areas of Bihar. He was an illiterate person. But he was an artist of great calibre. There is not dearth of artists in the rural and backward areas of the country today. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps that have been taken to encourage the talented artists from the backward areas of the country and the total number of centres set up in order to select the folk and tribal music for Akashvani and Doordarshan and also whether any fee is being charged from the folk singers belonging to rural areas? This is my question.

SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SWARAJ : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble member wanted to know whether the talented persons of urban background only are given opportunities to appear on Doordarshan and the people belonging to rural areas are being neglected. I have made it very clear in the reply given that in the selection process suitability of the candidate is assessed on the basis of only written and audition tests, irrespective of their rural or urban background. But, when selection is made in different centres for producing local programmes then their background is definitely considered because local flavour is more in local artists, and, therefore they certainly get selected. Your question was about eligibility norms. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : The guidelines are silent in this regard.

SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SWARAJ : There are no guidelines which distinguish between rural and urban background. The hon. Member's question was regarding the eligibility norms and he wanted to know whether opportunities are only accorded to urban talent and rural talent gets neglected. I have given a factual answer to that and stated that guidelines have not been formulated on the basis of either rural or urban background. Selection procedure is such that suitability of the candidate is

assessed on the basis of written test and interview and not on the basis of his background whether it is rural or urban.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : I once again extend my thanks to the hon. Minister. I would like to know from the hon. lady Minister who is endowed with sharp intellect as to why injustice is being done to women in Prasar Bharati because news readers, Salma Sultan, Minu, Gitanjali Aiyer, Usha Albuquerque, Manjri Joshi and Kavery Mookherjee, were removed from news reading simply because the Chief Executive Officer. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is not related to the newsreader, it is regarding the artists.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is related to artists. He has said that people are fed up with their faces. On the one hand we are seeking 33 percent reservation for women and on the other hand women news reader are being sacked on the ground that people are fed up with their faces. I want to know from the minister whether justice will be done to these women news readers? They were very good news readers. It is difficult to find substitutes of their calibre. It does not sound proper to say that the people are fed up. The Chief Executive Officer S.S. Gill has sacked them.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no Please ask supplementary.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : I withdraw the name

MR. SPEAKER : Otherwise I will disallow. You Please ask supplementary.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : I want to know from the Minister whether those news reader will be reinstated?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member would be aware that the Prasar Bharati, after the passage of the Bill has become an autonomous body. The Ministry has no role in selecting or rejecting any news reader or who is to be allotted prime time news reading. Therefore, so far as their reinstatement is concerned, my answer is in the negative because I and my ministry have no role to play in it. This comes under Prasad Bharati Board. The women-news-readers whose names have been mentioned had gone to National Commission for Women with their grievance and the commission has given its comment in the form of a fact finding report. We too have received the comments and they are under consideration. But

before a decision could be taken on the matter, two news readers among them moved the Supreme Court. The matter is sub-judice. Therefore it will not be appropriate for me to make a comment on it at this stage.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : You may exercise your rights.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Now it is not under my jurisdiction.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister even after being assured by the Government that the talents of rural India and artists of different regions of the country particularly from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Bhojpur, would be encouraged and various form of folk songs such as Virha, Lurkayan, Alha-Udal or the Battle of Mahoba, or Cheta would be promoted our traditional art and culture is losing ground. In Bihar our ancestors used to call the artists to perform Cheta, Lurkayan, Bhojpuri and folk dances etc. on marriage ceremonies etc. and people used to honour them. But now, when I invite them to perform these arts, it is treated as a sin. When I tried to patronise them at the Chief Minister's residence the media all over the country covered this news in a tenor which had a tinge of sarcasm and it was stated that Laloo Yadav is having a dance at his residence. I would like to ask from the Hon'ble Minister has she ever pondered over since she is in charge of the concerned department of Government of India or shall we allow our cultural heritage to be sent into oblivion. I know that hon'ble Jaiswalji is a doctor. He was asking. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the question.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am coming to the question. Today vulgar scenes are shown on Doordarshan and in films. Jaiswalji had invited the orchestra party and dancers on the marriage of his son. ...*(Interruptions)* I am asking a question. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Laloo ji plays dholak very well. At the time of answering this question it must also be kept in view. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I don't need your recommendation. ...*(Interruptions)* You need not support Sushma ji also, she will reply this question herself. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Laloo ji, time is short. Please ask your supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : You are being praised.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Today the western countries have monopoly over electronic media. What steps have you taken to turn it towards our own country? What programmes have you drawn to bring Swadeshi Lok Katha, songs, orchestra and artists to the national level and honour them?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the folk songs like cheta, Alha Udal etc. mentioned by Shri Lalujji, are different forms of folk culture. If folk culture is preserved and promoted by the States it flourished. I may not agree with Lalujji on other issues but I fully agree with him on the issue of preservation and promotion of folk culture.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Then it is all right.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : As far as chalking out of programme is concerned, I can convey my views to the Prasar Bharati Board, but for such programmes final decision is taken by the Prasar Bharati Board only because Prasar Bharati is an autonomous institution. As regards your suggestion that more and more programmes based on rural and folk culture should be telecast and less coverage should be given to film based programmes, I regularly keep on briefing them. They will come to know today the views of the Parliament that programmes based on rural culture should definitely be telecast more. As I have already stated in such matters final authority in the matter is the Prasar Bharati Board only.

[*English*]

DR. RAVI MALLU : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am happy that the hon. Minister has agreed about the rural culture and the encouragement of rural culture, but she has left the whole responsibility on the Prasad Bharati. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when the whole House agrees on certain things and if these things are not accepted by the Prasar Bharati, whether those things will be left like that to Prasar Bharati or the Minister has any say in the matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I have not named the Prasar Bharati to give any evasive reply or to get rid of my responsibility. It is a factual position. A bill was passed in this Parliament and Prasar Bharati was constituted as an autonomous corporation. They have to take decision in this regard. Ministry has a very small role in formulating the basis of the programme.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for raising the issue regarding the steps taken for Folk culture. It is essential

to take necessary steps to nourish other cultures also. Though it is a different thing that there is a Lalujji culture also which is difficult to find. Do you feel the need to take some steps in this direction also?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure Shri Sharadji that all the written suggestions that would be given to me for improvement of Lalujji culture will be implemented as it is.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Hon'ble leader of the Opposition may be appointed as conveyor of it so that its details can be worked out.

[*English*]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for everything the Government's reply in that the Prasar Bharati is an autonomous body and the Government has no say in it. The House is supreme. If the Government has no say in it, why are we discussing this subject here? What is the remedy for it? We are talking about the rural background and everything. But if the views expressed by the hon. Members of this House are not implemented by the Prasar Bharati, then what is the role of this House? With regard to the Judiciary also, there is an impeachment provision in the Constitution. If any judge does anything wrong, we can discuss in this House and we can impeach him. It is not that this House has no power if an organisation is autonomous. So, I would like to know what steps have been taken by the Government in this regard?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir as far as factual position is concerned, it is the same as stated. As our colleagues are saying "you passed this Bill." This Bill was passed by the House but not Head of the Government or organisation is empowered to ignore the sentiments expressed in this august House. Therefore, Sir, the views expressed here will be conveyed to them through you. I hope that Prasar Bharati will definitely consider the proceedings of the House and also the views expressed by the Members of the House and will work accordingly.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is a land of villages. This House has expressed its concern many a times for safeguarding the culture of the country. Many a times it has been discussed here that rural culture, and traditions are vanishing. Multi-national companies are coming into our country. ...(*Interruptions*) These companies are posing a threat to our culture, tradition and civilization. Mr. Speaker, Sir, even such type of mentality is also a danger to our country. Just now, hon'ble Minister has stated that Prasar Bharati is a voluntary organisation and is responsible for any decision

taken by it. An hon'ble Member has expressed his anger over it. I also support him. There is no organisation which could take decision against its country and the Government will remain silent for such actions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Government that we are concerned not only about singers and the artists but are also worried about sportsmen living in villages. Village sportsmen in the field of wrestling, kabbadi. ...*(Interruptions)* I am presenting my views correctly. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important issue which I would like to raise in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ask the supplementary question.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now-a-days many social evils are creeping in the society. One of the reasons is that our young generation is hesitant to get into the field of games. Moreover, facilities are not being provided. There is no place for casteism in the field of sports. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to state that social evils like casteism, etc. can be removed to some extent if we promote the games. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether Members of interview board in the Prasad Bharati are well conversant with the rural culture, sports etc. who could choose the village folk artists I would also like to know whether it has been ensured that the people having knowledge of rural subjects are on Prasad Bharati Board? At present, no such person is there and only urban people are there who are unaware of the rural culture but they are the people who take decision for them. Therefore, through you, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister for Communications as to how those artists will be selected in the Prasad Bharati through written test when they are illiterate but have adequate knowledge of their field? Have you made any arrangement for that?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that I have termed there Prasar Bharati as an autonomous body not as a voluntary organisation. It is not a voluntary organisation.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : If I have said so, I take my words back and terms it as an autonomous body.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : It is an autonomous corporation. Prasar Bharati has not taken any decision against the sentiments of the public or the Members of the House or which is in favour of multi-national companies. So far as the question of rural based programmes is concerned, I have stated while replying to Shri Laluji and Shri Jaiswal that the Government itself is of the view that the agricultural and rural folk culture based programmes shown on 'Doordarshan' which is a national broad caster, should be increased. As you have

stated, programmes related to local art, could not be performed by the urban people. Only those local folk artists get selected. ...*(Interruptions)* You must have noticed that highly talented artists though illiterate, present their programmes on Doordarshan and Akashvani. Only study related programmes are not presented by them. ...*(Interruptions)* They get selected by the educated persons. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Even educated persons behaves like uneducated there. These artists are not just illiterate.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : But it is not a solution that to recognise the art of illiterate people or for presenting their programmes on Doordarshan, the selection board should comprise illiterate people.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : I am not saying so.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : It is not true that illiterate but good and talented rural artists are not being selected by the Selection Board. As per our findings, a good number of rural based programmes are being broadcast on Doordarshan and Akashvani. Although Akashvani authorities have stated that there are so many rural based programmes presented on Akashvani but I am not satisfied with this reply. I am also with you. Therefore, I have stated time and again that I am not satisfied with the reply that the rural people have got enough representation and nothing more is required. I agree with you that on the point that if we continue to impress on Prasar Bharati, the rural culture will get more encouragement. We have no difference of opinion on this point and I do express this concern before Prasar Bharati.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Member has said that no discrimination is made between urban and rural artists. In this regard I have to say that discrimination is definitely made between urban and rural artists and as far as Question of Prasar Bharati is concerned, inspite of being an autonomous body, on what basis it chooses programmes? When we see Doordarshan Programme we feel that these programmes are meant only for some High-fi and special classes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This question is not concerned with Prasar Bharati.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister that if discrimination is not made between rural and urban artists then what arrangements Hon'ble Minister can make through Prasar Bharati to provide more and more oppodunties to rural artists for showing their talent?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not say that there is no discrimination, rather I said that urban and rural background is not the basis of selection. Therefore, it is not correct to say that discrimination is being done. But the thing which you have said that whether I will convey this to Prasar Bharati, I will certainly say this and the Government will convey the sentiments of the House.

#### Power Generation

\*464. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :  
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for power generation in MWs in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether adequate allocation has been made to achieve the said targets;

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

(d) whether the Government have sought any external assistance in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to promote captive power plants in the country for the betterment of power supply in the industrial sector; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (g) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (c) The physical and financial targets for the Ninth Plan have as yet not been finalised.

(d) and (e) Negotiations for external assistance for schemes in power sector is an ongoing process. Details of the major new schemes to be undertaken in the Ninth Plan for which negotiations are being held are as follows:

#### Projects under consideration by World Bank and Asian Development Bank

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Executing Agency
<b>World Bank</b>		
1.	Time slice loan for trans network (NE Sasaram HVDC link, CEPA etc.)	POWERGRID
2.	2nd Tranche of time slice loan (Talcher II)	NTPC
3.	Loan for reforms and restructuring Rajasthan State Electricity Board	RSEB
4.	Loan for reforms and restructuring of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	APSEB
5.	Loan for reforms and restructuring of Karnataka Electricity Board	KEB
6.	Line of Credit for PFC	PFC
<b>ADB</b>		
1.	Reforms & Restructuring assistance for M.P.	M.P.
2.	Reforms & Restructuring assistance for Gujarat	Gujarat
3.	Loan for Powergrid	POWERGRID

*Projects short-listed for OECF. Japan under 1998-99 loan package.*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Executing Agency
1.	Bakreshwar Thermal Project Units 1 & 2 (III Tranche)	WBPDCL
2.	Bakreshwar Thermal Project Unit 3 (II Tranche)	WBPDCL
3.	Faridabad Gas Based project II Tranche	NTPC
4.	Simhadri Thermal Project II Tranche	NTPC
5.	Western Yamuna Hydro Electric Project	HSEB
6.	Haryana Transmission Line Project	HSEB
7.	Talcher II HVDC project	POWERGRID

(f) and (g) The State Governments have been advised to create appropriate institutional mechanisms which allow captive power units an easy and automatic entry, by quickly clearing captive power applications and giving such units a rational tariff for purchase of power by the grid and third party access for direct sale of power to other industrial units.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister the time by which annual and financial targets of the Ninth Five Year Plan will be finalised?

Sir, second thing which I want to say is that many States are reeling under power crisis. Even today 25% of total power is generated through hydro-electricity. There is tremendous potential for hydro-electricity in States like Himachal Pradesh. About 22,000 MW of electricity can be generated there. But due to paucity of funds this could not be achieved. I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister whether in the Ninth Five Year Plan Government is considering to give liberal assistance to Himachal Pradesh for the production of hydro-electricity.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ninth Plan would be finalised only after a Plan meeting takes place. At the moment, we are moving on what is called 'working assumptions'. Under the working

assumptions, it is our plan that there should be an additional capacity generation of 40,222 MW added in the Ninth Plan.

With regard to the situation of the imbalances between the thermal and hydel power, it is true that the hydel capacity today is only 25 per cent of the capacity being produced. Normally, it is said that to have a proper balance, we should have 40 per cent hydel capacity because hydel capacity provides the peaking power. Himachal Pradesh does have a tremendous potential of hydel. We will be soon coming out with a hydel policy which, I shall assure the hon. Member, would be targeted towards encouraging hydel generation projects to come up.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member is not putting his second supplementary question. Now, Shri Narendra Budania.

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has said that in Ninth Five Year Plan, new power generation schemes will be launched. Improvement and restructuring of Rajasthan State Electricity Board is mentioned in the projects under consideration by World Bank and Asian Bank. I would like to know how much loan is proposed for this improvement and restructuring? What items of work have been included in the improvement of Rajasthan State Electricity Board and what benefits are likely to be accrued

after the proposed improvement and restructuring. What will be the effect on consumers after the loans are received and improvement made? I have heard that the rates of electricity are going to be increased due to which specially farmers will not be able to use electricity. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether any way-out has been found for providing electricity at cheaper rates to the farmers?

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, his question covers a number of areas. I would like to inform him that the total amount of mega-wattage of additional capacity that we have planned in the working assumptions of Ninth Plan for Rajasthan is 1930 of which, coal is 500 MW and liquid fuel is 1430 MW. There are 18 projects in total.

With regard to the second part of his question, that is, the price of power going up, it is a natural phenomenon if one looks at a couple of things put together.

One of them is the exchange rate which is changing.

Second, the cost of fuel is going up. That is the major problem that we are facing is that of thermal power. With thermal power, our major problem is that the cost of fuel goes up and, therefore, the cost of power goes up. But it is my belief that it will not go up to the extent as predicted often. It would be very much in ratio with increase in the exchange rate and the normal inflation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked my question in three parts but the Hon'ble Minister has given partial reply of one part. The Hon'ble Minister has not uttered a single word about the most important part of my question with regard to Rajasthan State Electricity Board. I want that Hon'ble Minister should give complete reply to all my Questions?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Would you like to respond, Mr. Minister?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : There are three parts of his question. The first part was RSEB which I have skipped. I will ask the hon. member to forgive me for that. There is a reform programme which the RSEB is going through, with the type of restructurisation, bicorporation, and commercialisation. They are also going in for privatisation partly by competitive methods in generation. They are also having plans for distribution

and privatisation. They have decided to go in for independent regulation of transmission and distribution. It is my confirmed belief that an independent regulator would ensure that the consumers' point of view of cost of power is maintained and I can assure him that these steps have been taken. In fact, a new company by the name of Rajasthan State Electricity Corporation was incorporated on the 24th January, 1997 and RSEB will be a vertically integrated power utility discharging the functions of generation, distribution and supply. They have taken various steps, and the World Bank has proposed a loan assistance of US dollars of 600 million over a period of five years, and the loan may be disbursed in four phases, subject to the Government of Rajasthan fulfilling the various conditionalities.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : The hon. Minister has stated that physical and financial targets for the 9th Plan have not been fixed as yet. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the projections of the Power Survey Committee about the requirement for additional capacity during the 9th Plan, and the kind of shortages which we are facing. In view of the shortages, I would like to know whether there is any proposal to reserve the entire gas which is being generated and which is available in the country, for power generation?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The working assumptions that have been made for the periods 1997-98 to 2001-02, that is the 9th Plan, envisage a capacity addition of 40,225 MW as stated by me earlier. This comprises about 11,000 MW in Central sector, 17,589 MW in private sector, and about 10,747 MW in State sector. It is expected that if we achieve these targets only by capacity addition, we should be able to reduce the gap of shortages to 1.4 per cent on account of base load and about 11.6 per cent on account of peak shortages which, I am confident, will be up by improving efficiency both in transmission as well as plant load factor.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Is there any proposal with regard to available gas?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : With regard to gas, I want to assure the hon. member that the power projects are receiving the first priority in so far as allocation of gas is concerned.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of regret that the country is facing acute power shortage though we have capacity to generate electricity through hydel electricity projects in hilly States of the country. For instance, Hon'ble M.P. Shri Suresh Chandelji has said that Himachal Pradesh alone is capable of



producing 20,000 MW of electricity. But due to limited means and paucity of funds full capacity is not being exploited. Through you, I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister whether the Government would provide more financial assistance for the purpose of generation more electricity through hydro-electric projects in such hilly states? Has the Government of India formulated any plan for this purpose and what are the names of hydel power projects for which the Government of Himachal Pradesh have requested to provide financial assistance and the projects for which the Government of India have accorded its approval?

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I think I should inform my hon. friend that this year, we have increased the net budgetary support for the Central PSUs for Hydro Projects to Rs. 4211 crore. The Central Plan Assistance to the State Sector Projects is Rs. 4000 crore. It is not only that we have given additional PFC loan at subsidised interest. The subsidy alone works out to Rs. 200 crore this year. We are starting Advance Action Plan for the Tenth Plan also. Actually we have now cleared 13 projects at the CEA level which amount to about 5051 megawatt. We are updating the DPRs and obtaining clearances for another 10,000 megawatt. The truth is that we are also initiating an idea of National Hydro Development Fund. We are encouraging Inter-State Projects.

Recently, I had been to Himachal Pradesh and had discussions with the officers and the Chief Minister. Along with me, an Inter-Ministerial Group of officers went. We had very satisfactory discussions. In fact, with regard to the long-pending projects which the Himachal Pradesh Government could not take up due to financial constraints, the Central Government has agreed, through the National Hydro Power Corporation, to take them up starting from Chamara-II to Parvati. In fact, in regard to Kol Dam, discussions are taking place. If the existing private bidder does not agree, the NHPC will take up that also. I can assure the hon. Member that by the Tenth Plan, we should be able to exploit substantially the resources of hydro power in Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI A.C. JOS : If you go through the List of Projects for which the Government have sought external assistance, it is very difficult to get. I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing.

Kerala State is a State which is deficits in power and really it is crying for power. We are making all-out efforts for generating power and making our transmission much more streamlined. I would like to know from the Government whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted any scheme which is capable of receiving

external assistance. If not, will the Government be pleased to consider augmentation of the Kayamkulam Thermal Project for which an application has been submitted by the Kerala Government?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : With regard to the State of Kerala, I must go on record to say that the Kerala State Electricity Board is one of the quite professionally-run Electricity Boards. Even with regard to subsidies, in fact, it is one of the most interesting case studies. They give the subsidy directly to the consumers and the consumers pay the fair rate for power—whether it is agriculture or otherwise. We have decided to increase the capacity of the Kayamkulam Project to 2000 megawatts. I think the hon. Member will be pleased to hear that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS : About external assistance, I would like to know whether any application has been submitted by the State Government or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : At the moment, I do not have that information. According to my knowledge, it is not there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you have to put only a pointed supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The total capacity of power generated today in the country is only to the extent of 86,000 megawatt. After fifty years of independence, only 30 per cent of the population is converted. I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing. In order to equipment rural electrification, there was a proposal to set up a National Rural Energy Corporation.

12.00 hrs.

I would like to know whether the Government is actively considering to constitute a National Rural Energy Corporation. There was a hydel project also namely, Telpur Project in the Damodar Valley Corporation which was stopped in the year 1996 by spending Rs. 12 crore. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering restarting the Project by spending another Rs. 50 crore to generate 40 megawatt of power?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, only pointed reply is allowed.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, what he really wants to hear is about the Telpur Dam. I wish to assure the hon. Member that the earlier decision of the Expert

Committee not to go ahead has been revised. The DVC actually belongs to the partner-State Governments. In the event if the partner-State Governments are unwilling to finance it, we will finance it. But at least, the partner-State Governments must be willing to sign the PPA. That is the only condition which I really impose on them.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Loan from ADB for System Improvement Scheme

\*465 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation has sought sectoral loan from the Asian Development Bank to undertake the system improvement schemes;

(b) if so, the total loan required for the upgradation of the system;

(c) whether the modalities have been worked out in this regard and discussions held with the officials of Asian Development Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir, Powergrid Corporation has sought a sectoral loan of US \$ 350 million from ADB to undertake various System Improvement Schemes and Associated Transmission Systems.

(c) and (d): A fact finding mission from ADB held discussions with Powergrid Corporation in May, 1998. The ADB is likely to send an appraisal mission. After the appraisal of the Project and conclusion of negotiation, the ADB Board will take decision regarding funding of the project.

### Indian TV Channels to Uplink from India

\*466. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently allowed uplinking facilities to the Indian T.V. Channels from India;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs have raised objections in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

### Improvement in the Quality of Technical Education

\*467. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any special initiative for making improvement in the quality of Technical education'

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken for the restructuring/strengthening of the Technical Education Board;

(d) the number of proposals received from the Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat and the proposals cleared and pending with the Board out of them;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for the expansion of the Technical education in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) : The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was given statutory status under the AICTE Act 1987 for making improvement in the quality of Technical Education. The AICTE ensures continuous improvement of planned and coordinated development of Technical Education through various Boards of Studies and the National Board of Accreditation. The AICTE has been made fully functional with its own Secretariat and autonomous status. There is no separate Technical Education Board in the Central Government.

(d) 168 proposals from Maharashtra and 45 proposals from Gujarat have been received by the AICTE, the consideration and approval of which would be contingent upon fulfilment of the prescribed procedures, norms and formalities, as laid down in the AICTE Regulations.

(e) and (f) The expansion of Technical Education facilities is considered and regulated by AICTE through its Regulations and guidelines.

[English]

**Surplus Power in Eastern States**

\*468. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the various State Electricity Boards has put in place agreements envisaging selling of 800 MW power from the surplus Eastern region to electricity deficit States;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the quantum of surplus in power in the Eastern States;

(d) whether some of the Eastern States propose to sell power to the States deficient in power; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): The Eastern Region is having a surplus of about 1000 MW during peak hours and about 2500 MW during off-peak hours. The following diversion of surplus power from NTPC stations in the Eastern Region to the extent of available transmission capacity, has been made. The details of allocations as on 4.6.1998 are :—

State/Region	Allocation of power from Eastern Region (MW)
Tamil Nadu	279
Madhya Pradesh	92.5
Gujarat	74
Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	18.5
Manipur	30 (During peak hours)
Andhra Pradesh	185
Assam	124
<b>Total</b>	<b>803</b>

The agreement between NTPC and the State Electricity Boards are based on this allocation.

(d) Damodar Valley Corporation had proposed to sell power to Andhra Pradesh and Assam. GRIDCO of Orissa had also proposed to sell power to Madhya Pradesh. However, these proposals could not materialise mainly on account of non-availability of spare inter-regional capacity.

(e) The following steps have been taken for facilitating export of surplus power from the Eastern Region:

(1) Technical and commercial arrangements have been finalised for inter-regional transfer of power by Central Electricity Authority including formulation of guidelines for generation tariff, transmission/wheeling charges and transmission and distribution losses for export of power from Eastern Region.

(2) Efforts have been made to enhance export of power from Eastern Region to other regions by augmenting inter-regional transfer links. The following inter-regional links are under construction :

- (i) Korba-Budhipadar 220 KV S/C line between Eastern Region and Western Region.
- (ii) Dehri-Sahupuri 132 KV S/C line between Eastern Region and Northern Region.
- (iii) Gazuwaka HVDC back-to-back link between Eastern Region and Southern Region. 400 KV AC link between Gazuwaka (AP) and Jeypore (Orissa) has already been commissioned by POWERGRID. The HVDC back-to-back station of 500 MW capacity at Gazuwaka is scheduled to be commissioned by March, 1999.
- (iv) A new HVDC back-to-back link of 500 MW capacity at Sasaram in Bihar has been planned between Eastern Region and Northern Region.

The links will enhance the transfer capacity for export of power from Eastern Region by about 1200 MW.

**Construction of Bridges/National Highways**

\*469. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the bridges and National Highways constructed in different states, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir during Eighth Five Year Plan and to be constructed during Ninth-Plan;

(b) whether the work undertaken on many of these bridges and National Highways is behind scheduled time;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The details of bridges and improvement schemes completed State-wise during the Eighth Plan are given in Statement enclosed. The Ninth Plan is yet to be finalised.

(b) and (c) Some of the improvement works have suffered time and cost overrun due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, getting environmental clearances, lack of resources, poor performance of contractors, etc.

(d) The following corrective measures have been taken:—

(i) The National Highways Act, 1956 has been

amended to make the procedure of land acquisition fast and smooth.

(ii) Projects for four laning the existing National Highways, the environmental clearance is deemed to be accorded provided twice the number of trees cut are planted afresh.

(iii) FIDIC model construction contract agreements are being adopted in National Highways projects, which are equitable.

(iv) Prequalification of contractors before invitation of tenders.

(v) Efforts are being made to get enhanced allocation for the development and maintenance of National Highways.

(vi) National Highways Authority of India has been created to take up development works on a selective basis.

#### *Statement*

##### *Details of Bridges and Improvement Schemes During Eighth Plan*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Widening to two lanes	Strengthening of (km)	Widening to 4 lanes (km)	Bypass (Nos)	Major bridge (Nos)	Minor Bridges (Nos)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80.3	230.12	17.76		1	15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.25	4				
3.	Assam	41.59	148.98				17
4.	Bihar	12	181.39				11
5.	Chandigarh		3				
6.	Delhi		5.4	7		1	
7.	Goa	7.25	15.95		1	1	2
8.	Gujarat	36.2	221.3	100.65	2	5	9
9.	Haryana		200.65	0.5	3	2	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	109.65	46.81			1	11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Jammu & Kashmir*	110					1
12.	Karnataka	83.2	168.7			2	10
13.	Kerala	7.95	79.9		1	1	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	142.69	189.96			6	34
15.	Maharashtra	13	264.96	6.54		6	43
16.	Manipur	34.1	33.42				
17.	Meghalaya	21.94	34				5
18.	Nagaland						
19.	Orissa	164	171		1	2	23
20.	Pondicherry		9				2
21.	Punjab	6.4	307.23	52.61		4	4
22.	Rajasthan	131	279.5	69		3	14
23.	Tamil Nadu	2.1	534.65	2.2	1	1	15
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16.08	593.68	21		3	11
25.	West Bengal		128.7			2	18
Total		1027.7	3832.06	277.26	9	37	250

\* Works on National highways in Jammu and Kashmir are being executed by Border Roads Organisation except Jammu and Srinagar bypasses which are with State Public Works Department.

#### Deforestation due to Jhum cultivation

\*470. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Jhum cultivation is taking place;

(b) whether the Government have made any assessment on the destruction of forests in different States annually due to Jhum cultivation;

(c) if so, the details thereof according to the latest study, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the Jhum cultivation?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) to (c): A task force in 1983 has assessed annual area under shifting cultivation in the country and Forest Survey of India has estimated shifting cultivation in seven North-Eastern

State in the period 1993 to 1995. The details are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Annual area under shifting cultivation estimated by Task Force in 1983 (sq.km)	Shifting cultivation estimated by Forest Survey of India in the period 1993-1995 (sq.km)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	500	
2.	Bihar	162	
3.	Madhya Pradesh	125	
4.	Orissa	5298	
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	700	75
6.	Assam	696	275
7.	Manipur	900	603
8.	Meghalaya	530	75
9.	Mizoram	630	292
10.	Nagaland	192	573
11.	Tripura	223	—
Total		9956	1875

(d) Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments to improve socio-economic status of tribal families and to protect the hill slopes of Jhum areas through soil and water conservation measures.

#### Posts and Telecom Facilities

\*471. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inadequate post and telecommunication facilities in the country, particularly in Orissa;

(b) if so, the targets fixed and achievements made so far for the expansion and upgradation of Posts and Telecommunications network in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(c) the amount spent in this direction so far in the country during the said period, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal for the upgradation and expansion of post and telecommunication network in the country during Ninth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The Postal Network in the country, which is the largest in the world, comprises more than 153021 Post Offices which cover the entire country. The average population served by a Post Office is 5518 while the average area served is 21.48 Sq. Kms. Orissa is served by a network of 8108 Post Offices and the average population served

per Post Office is 3887 while the average area served is 19.20 Sq. Kms. The State, therefore, compares favourably with the National average.

Status of telecome facilities in the country and that of Orissa as on 31.3.98 area as per Statement-I enclosed.

(b) State-wise targets are not set in Plan proposals of the Department of Posts, however, Postal Circle-wise targets are fixed under several Plan programmes, on the basis of proposals received from the Postal Circles, when Annual Plans are implemented. The Postal Circle-wise targets fixed and achievements made in respect of expansion and upgradation of the postal network during the 8th Five Year Plan period are available Statement-II enclosed.

Targets and achievements in respect of Net switching capacity, telephone connections, and Village Public Telephones State-wise during the 8th Five Year Plan, are as per Statement-III enclosed.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 36790 lakhs was spent in this direction during the 8th Plan period. Available Postal

Circle-wise details of expenditure during the Eighth Five Year Plan period are given in Statement-IV.

Details with regard to telecommunications sector are given in Statement-V.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Details of proposals for upgradation and expansion of the postal network under the Draft Ninth Plan of the Department of Posts are given in Statement-VI Circle-wise targets and achievements under such programmes during 1997-98, the first year of the 9th Plan period, are available at Statement-II. Details of Annual Plan 1998-99 are available at Statement-VIII. Circle-wise targets already allocated, for opening post offices in 1989-99 are at Statement-VIII.

The Ninth Plan proposals for the Department of Telecommunication envisage upgradation and expansion of telecommunication network. Details are given in Statement IX. State-wise Plans are worked out after approval of the Plan proposals.

**Statement I**

*Status of Telecom Services (As on 31.3.90)*

	All India	Orissa
1	2	3
Number of Telephone Exchanges	23, 406	759
Net Switching Capacity (Lakh Lines)	212.61	3.04
Direct Exchange Lines (Lakhs)	178.02	2.66
Village Public Telephone (Nos.)	310637	18575
(Total Number of Villages)	(604374)	(46989)
TAX Capacity (Lakh lines)	12.62	0.26
Public Call Offices	427940	12041
Transmission Systems :		
Coaxial Cable	Rkms	30968

1		2	3
Microwave	Rkm	135262	
UHF	Rkm		
Optical Fibre	Rkms	76261	
<b>Total</b>		<b>242491</b>	

## STD Facility Provided :

District Head Quarters	547 out of 547 All (30)
Sub-divisional Hqrs.	1182 out of 1230 All (58)
Tehsil Headquarters	2564 out of 2686 All (170)
Short Distance Charging Centres	2478 out of 2650 All (120)

**Statement II***Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—All India*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices.	1440/1546	500/402
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub Post Offices.	650/466	50/52
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras.	750/670	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines.	NT/2628	900/479*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks. for Savings Bank work	NT/100	180/146*
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	199/259	124/124
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	866/900	264/308



1	2	3	4
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	75/74	1/1
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/283	350/300
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/15	NT/21
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/48	20/20
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/414	84/54
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/19	4/4
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/1264	265/275
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	6/17

NT No targets fixed Circle wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Andhra Pradesh Circle*

Sl.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	42/26	10/10
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub Post Offices	25/28	2/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines.	NT/206	65/0*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks. For Savings Bank Work	NT/10	10/10

1	2	3	4
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	55/79	12/12
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	60/64	10/10
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	5/5	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/20	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/3	NT/6
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/3	NT/1
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/34	NT/1
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/2	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/146	NT/41
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	2/3

NT No targets fixed Circlewise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes— Assam Circle*

Sl.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	63/145	25/18
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	18/15	2/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/60	50/50
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank work	NT/2	13/13

1	2	3	4
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	16/16	0/0
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	21/22	30/31
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/15	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/3
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/4	NT/4
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/10	NT/4
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/29	NT/21
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circlewise.

# Plan Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Bihar Circle*

Sl.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	193/184	40/31
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	49/25	5/4
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	75/9	Nil*
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/92	30/0 <sup>⊙</sup>
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/6	6/6
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	0/0	2/2

1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	23/21	13/10
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	6/6	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/15	NT/30
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT	NT
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/3	NT/2
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/20	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/2	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/67	NT/24
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/2

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan

@ Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implements the order.

*Information relating to Major Plant Programmes—Delhi*

Sl.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	0/0	5/5
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	41/25	2/2
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	Nil *
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counting Machines	NT/203	55/55
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/5	9/9
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	4/4	3/3
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	76/78	10/13

1	2	3	4
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	2/2	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/9	NT/20
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/0
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/5	NT/1
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/3	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved before 8th plan	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

\* Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Gujarat*

SL.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	59/59	25/18
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	49/32	2/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	65/57	NIL*
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/189	55/55
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/7	10/10
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	8/8	8/8

1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	53/63	22/34
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/20	NT/30
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/4	NT/0
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/68	NT/3
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/1	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/91	NT/13
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved before 8th Plan	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

\* Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth. Plan

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Haryana*

Sl.No	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	28/35	15/13
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	40/24	2/2
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/6	Nil *
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/96	20/20
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/2	6/5
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	2/0	6/6

1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	19/20	5/7
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	2/2	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/10	0/0
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/17	NT/1
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/41	NT/28
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved.	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

\* Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programme—Himachal Pradesh*

Sl.No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	53/128	10/4
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	29/9	2/0
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	99/98	Nil *
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/92	30/30
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/2	5/5
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	5/5	6/6
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	31/31	4/3

1	2	3	4
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	3/3	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/15	
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/3	
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/14	NT/11
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/4	NT/1
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/173	NT/47
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.  
Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Jammu & Kashmir*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	12/28	15/11
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	8/3	1/1
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	Nil *
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/38	10/10
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank work	NT/1	4/4
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	5/0	5/5
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	4/6	4/1



1	2	3	4
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	1/1	4/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/4	
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/0
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/4	NT/0
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/1	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.  
 \* Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Karnataka*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	34/39	30/24
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	42/40	5/5
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	50/35	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/185	60/0*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks. For Savings Bank work	NT/8	14/0*
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	24/34	12/12
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	56/50	8/9

1	2	3	4
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	NT/5	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/21	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/4
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/27	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/2	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/71	NT/16
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved before 8th Plan	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Kerala*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	35/46	10/7
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	36/44	0/0
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	NT/160	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/44	50/10*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank work	NT/7	10/10
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	6/6	11/11

1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	43/43	11/11
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/10	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/26	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/3	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/38	NT/1
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Madhya Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	113/102	37/41
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	37/28	2/2
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	15/15	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/118	80/80
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/6	14/14
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	18/52	0/0
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	46/44	15/9
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	5/5	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/18	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/1

1	2	3	4
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/2
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/13	NT/4
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/7@	NT/3@
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/27	NT/3
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/2

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

@ Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Maharashtra*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	163/172	35/34
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	51/62	3/4
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	20/17	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/318	75/49
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank work	NT/10	15/15
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	6/4	10/10
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	133/139	20/27
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	6/6	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/27	NT/30
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/4	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/35	NT/6
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/93	NT/43

1	2	3	4
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved before 8th Plan	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	2/4

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information Relation to Major Plan Programmes—North East*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	82/79	25/18
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	16/7	3/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra	0/0	Nil#
4.	Installation of Local Area Networks for Savings Bank wrk	NT/1	7/7
5.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/30	40/0*
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	2/2	7/1
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	23/35	0/1
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	0/0	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/2
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/12	NT/4
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/2	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/49	NT/4
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Orissa*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	87/94	27/21
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	NT/12	2/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	69/35	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/98	50/0*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/2	10/10*
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	16/18	6/6
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	21/22	11/14
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	3/3	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/13	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/19	NT/6
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/1
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/94	NT/28
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Punjab*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	27/25	17/12
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	19/18	2/2
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	10/0	Nil #

1	2	3	4
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/130	40/40
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank work	NT/4	6/6
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	18/8	7/7
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	23/27	14/14
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	2/2	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/10	NT/20
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/2	NT/1
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/9	NT/0
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/8	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Rajasthan*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	105/104	33/33
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	43/26	2/1
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	15/15	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/109	45/45
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/6	10/10
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	0/0	7/7

1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	28/38	3/9
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/20	NT/10
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/0	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/3	NT/1
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/45	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/1
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/107	NT/4
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Tamilnadu*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	30/24	21/21
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	24/19	2/3
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/198	50/0*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/7	11/11
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	9/9	10/10



1	2	3	4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	68/73	20/30
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/4	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/20	NT/30
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/6	NT/0
12.	Constructions of Operative Office Building	NT/18	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/25	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved before 8th Plan	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	2/3

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—Uttar Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	206/244	70/57
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	73/40	6/6
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	340/323	Nil #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/184	50/0*
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/10	10/1

1	2	3	4
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	9/8	8/8
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	79/77	42/58
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	7/7	0/0
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/28	NT/30
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/0
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/6	NT/2
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/20	NT/1
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/0	NT/0
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/93	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/3

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

*Information relating to Major Plan Programmes—West Bengal*

Sl. No.	Plan Programme	Eighth Plan Target/Achvt.	1997-98 Target/Achvt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Opening of Extra Departmental Post Offices	117/93	50/24
2.	Opening of Departmental Sub-Post Offices	27/9	3/4
3.	Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras	0/0	NII #
4.	Installation of Multi Purpose Counter Machines	NT/92	45/45
5.	Installation of Local Area Networks For Savings Bank Work	NT/4	10/0*

1	2	3	4
6.	Savings Bank Control Organisation Computerisation	6/6	4/4
7.	Modernisation of Post Offices	50/47	16/17
8.	Installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals	4/3	0/1
9.	Installation of ESMOs	NT/8	NT/20
10.	Computerisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/1
11.	Modernisation of mail offices	NT/1	NT/0
12.	Construction of Operative Office Building	NT/18	NT/2
13.	Construction of Administrative Office Buildings	NT/2	NT/1
14.	Construction of Staff Quarters	NT/111	NT/0
15.	Computerisation of PLI	Achieved	NT
16.	Computerisation of RPLI in Regions	NT	0/0

NT No targets fixed Circle-wise.

# Scheme being reviewed, not included under Ninth Plan.

\* Shortfall due to inability of vendor to fully implement the order.

### **Statement III**

#### *State-wise Targets and Achievements of Eighth Five Year Plan*

Sl. No.	State	Net SW. Capacity		Telephone Connections		Village Public Telephones	
		Targets	Achvt.	Target	Achvt.	Target	Achvt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	648284	732807	514300	571040	16650	10635
2.	Assam	74547	95952	59100	76312	7170	6866
3.	Bihar	127368	265904	101000	201129	25984	9558
4.	Gujarat	794586	711837	630400	581854	16500	10307

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Haryana	290612	307206	230600	225430	6162	5285
6.	Himachal Pradesh	71110	136800	56400	101052	3950	3265
7.	J & K	53214	65855	42300	36734	2205	1668
8.	Karnataka	599556	724362	475700	598262	13700	15029
9.	Kerala	492341	717662	390600	548404	18	18
10.	Madhya Pradesh	402767	587053	319600	419336	34456	27075
11.	Maharashtra	2036556	1998069	1670700	1660723	27000	21006
12.	North East	31635	85052	25100	61067	4317	2683
13.	Orissa	61574	149331	48900	118261	18300	12998
14.	Punjab	499997	578792	396700	490699	12550	10077
15.	Rajasthan	417947	528412	331600	424029	19900	14877
16.	Tamil Nadu	777358	1007214	634200	804844	12700	9196
17.	Uttar Pradesh	530707	827829	421000	636450	74158	29155
18.	West Bengal	220015	512518	181800	411592	17800	9241
19.	Delhi	1141800	927460	970000	764898	9	9

**Notes:—**

1. Gujarat includes Dadar, Diu, Daman and Nagar Hevell.
2. Kerala includes Lakshadweep—U.T.
3. Maharashtra includes Goa and Mumbai M.T.N.L.
4. North East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.
5. Punjab includes Chandigarh—U.T.
6. Tamil Nadu includes Pondicherry—U.T.
7. West Bengal includes Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar.
8. Targets for VPTs are the total of Annual targets for the Eighth Plan.

**Statement IV****Circle-wise Expenditure during the 8th Five Year Plan  
for Opening of Post Offices**

S.No.	Name of Circle	Funds Spent (Amount in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42.12
2.	Assam	128.19
3.	Bihar	480.95
4.	Delhi	29.19
5.	Gujarat	33.54
6.	Haryana	35.42
7.	Himachal Pradesh	70.38
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.60

1	2	3
9.	Karnataka	107.12
10.	Kerala	81.11
11.	Madhya Pradesh	94.64
12.	Maharashtra	75.92
13.	North-East	38.73
14.	Orissa	67.95
15.	Punjab	44.25
16.	Rajasthan	106.25
17.	Tamil Nadu	31.97
18.	Uttar Pradesh	211.25
19.	West Bengal	95.80
Total		1781.38

**Details of expenditure incurred on Modernisation of Post Offices  
during the 8th Five Year Plan in the period 1994—97**

(In Rs. Lakhs)

S.No.	Circle	Expenditure			Total
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	64.51	195.26	147.92	407.69
2.	Assam	6.51	43.01	55.35	104.87
3.	Bihar	4.81	37.71	47.78	90.30
4.	Delhi	67.48	141.55	119.74	328.77
5.	Gujarat	27.50	96.74	117.97	242.21
6.	Haryana	16.65	23.52	28.15	68.32

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	24.50	51.72	25.70	101.92
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.78	13.27	14.03	31.08
9.	Karnataka	22.09	133.55	135.06	270.70
10.	Kerala	6.50	96.99	116.63	220.12
11.	Madhya Pradesh	30.30	108.22	76.12	214.64
12.	Maharashtra	85.96	257.99	235.03	578.98
13.	North-East	9.36	6.90	14.95	31.21
14.	Orissa	32.77	95.56	49.25	117.58
15.	Punjab	13.03	43.96	73.52	130.51
16.	Rajasthan	20.08	93.85	83.00	196.93
17.	Tamil Nadu	82.52	144.95	156.52	383.99
18.	Uttar Pradesh	65.74	190.70	208.79	465.23
19.	West Bengal	25.65	107.25	128.82	261.72
Total		609.74	1862.70	1834.33	4306.77

**Statement V**

*Statement showing Actual Expenditure for  
8th Five Year Plan 1992-97*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Actual Expenditure
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	10.24
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2040.95
3.	Assam	332.01

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	896.93
5.	Gujarat	1981.38
6.	Haryana	790.84
7.	Himachal Pradesh	577.08
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	187.85
9.	Karnataka	1882.84
10.	Kerala	2242.77

1	2	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1752.32
12.	Maharashtra	2822.08
13.	North-East	296.72
14.	Orissa	538.13
15.	Punjab	1456.27
16.	Rajasthan	1335.79
17.	Tamil Nadu	2617.34
18.	U.P (E)	1687.55
19.	U.P (W)	596.00
20.	West Bengal	1171.81
21.	Other Ancillary Units	4007.20
Total		29222.88

The above figures do not include CDOT and petty works.

#### **Statement VI**

##### *Brief Note on Targets Included in the Draft Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002) Proposal of the Department of Posts*

The Ninth Five Year Plan of the Department seeks to expand the scope and coverage of the programmes of modernisation through induction of new technology initiated during the Eighth Plan period alongwith provision of basic postal facilities in areas where these are not available. Development and marketing of new services specially for the business/professional sectors and modernisation of specific agency functions are priority areas identified with the objective of increasing revenue generation. Human resource development through appropriate training for skill upgradation, Streamlining of management functions, development and maintenance of appropriate buildings for the modernised systems and provision of staff quarters for the employees are among the identified priorities of the plan.

Scheme-wise details of targets proposed under the Ninth Plan in order to achieve the stated objectives of the 9th Plan are given below.

#### *Scheme 1 : Expansion of Postal Network*

1. Opening of 2500 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices
2. Opening of 250 Departmental Sub Post Offices
3. Infrastructural equipment for 24000 Extra Departmental branch Post Offices

#### *Scheme 2 : Upgradation of Technology*

1. Installation of 4000 computer based multi-purpose counter machines including 2100 machines for Local Area Networks for Savings work computerisation.
2. Upgradation of existing facilities and extension of Satellite Money Order Service.
  - (a) Setting up of one HUB
  - (b) Setting up 2000 Extended Satellite Money Order Centres
  - (c) Upgradation of all the existing 75 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs)
  - (d) Installation of 200 VSATs
  - (e) Modernisation of money transfer system in 50 offices
3. Supply of mechanical equipment to Post Offices
  - (a) 10000 hand chancellers
  - (b) 100 stamp cancelling machines
  - (c) 500 electronic franking machines
  - (d) 30 tying and bundling machines
4. Modernisation of 500 Post Offices and 5 major Head Post Offices.
5. Materials Management.
  - (a) Supply of 4 diesel fork lift trolleys
  - (b) Computerisation of the remaining 15 Postal Stores Depots and networking of all 46 PSDs with the Directorate.
  - (c) Training in systems operation to 150 officials.

*Scheme 3 : Human Resource development.*

1. In-service training for 250 Grp. 'A' Officers
2. In-service training for 15,750 supervisors
3. Computer training to 12,000 officials
4. Refresher training for Savings work to 20,000 officials
5. Decentralised training for 1,00,000 Extra Departmental Branch Post Masters.

*Scheme 4 : Modernisation of Mail Processing.*

1. Modernisation of 100 mail offices
2. Upgradation of Operational Equipment for Sorting
  - (a) Setting up 3 Automated Mail Processing Centres (AMPCs)
  - (b) Provision of Optical Character Reader facility in the existing AMPCs
  - (c) Supply of culling, facing and cancelling machines in the existing AMPCs
3. Supply of 500 mopeds for delivery of mails
4. Computerisation of 25 Transit Mail offices
5. Computerisation of 69 Head Record Offices
6. Modernisation of registration sorting work in 22 offices
7. Modernisation of the delivery system for registered mails in 50 offices.
8. Upgradation and expansion of Mailnet system at 40 centres
9. Railway Mail service Vans
  - (a) Fabrication of 28 RMS Vans
  - (b) Modification of existing RMS Vans
10. Purchase of 30 Mail Motor Service Vehicles  
Modernisation of Foreign Mail Processing
  - (a) Computerisation and networking of the Directorate and Head Record Offices for international mail
  - (b) Implementation of the Universal Postal Union Project for installation of the international track and trace system.

*Scheme 5 : Business Development and Marketing.*

1. Computerisation of 40 Premium Product Cells in nodal offices and networking
2. Computerisation of 50 Speed Post Concentration Centres
3. Modernisation of 5 business offices for Speed Post
4. Mail Networks between the Business Development Directorate and units in the Circles
5. Mechanisation of pick up and delivery at 40 centres
6. Bagging/containerisation in 5 metros
7. Refresher training for 500 employees working with premium products.
8. Mass mailing, inserting and sealing equipment for 3 centres
9. Customer care centres in all Postal Divisions

*Scheme 6 : Computerisation of Savings in Post Offices*

1. Savings Bank Control Organisation computerisation in 500 Head Post Offices
2. Computerisation of savings work in 700 important Post Offices
3. Training of 950 officials in systems operation

*Scheme 7 : Postal Life Insurance*

1. Computerisation of rural PLI work in 30 Regions
2. Upgradation of computer system in all Circles
3. Training in computers to 200 officials
4. Training in marketing to 100 officials
5. Training in insurance to Extra Departmental Agents and Departmental officials
6. One market survey.



**Scheme 8 : Philately**

1. Computerisation of 52 existing and 200 new Bureaux
2. Training of 500 officials in promotion of philately

**Scheme 9 : Postal Buildings and Staff quarters**

1. Completion of operative office buildings
  - (a) 400 Post Offices
  - (b) 20 Mail Offices
2. Completion of 7 administrative office buildings
3. Completion of 950 staff quarters

**Scheme 10 : Streamlining of Administrative and Financial Management.**

1. Development of MIS interlinking all Regional and Circle Head-quarters with the Directorate
2. Computerisation of accounting/budget functions in all Circles
3. Computerisation of administrative branches in the Directorate.

**Statement VII****Targets Under Annual Plan 1998-99****Scheme I — EXPANSION OF POSTAL NETWORK—  
Outlay Rs. 5.03 crore.**

- (i) Opening of post offices 500 Extra Departmental Branch offices (EDBOs) and 50 Departmental Sub Post Offices (DSOs).
- (ii) Infrastructural equipment for EDBOs for 2700 EDBOs.

**Scheme II — UPGRADATION OF TECHNOLOGY  
— Outlay Rs. 20.03 crore.**

- (i) PC based Country Machines — 500 Multi Purpose Counter Machines and 100 Local Area Networks for saving work.
- (ii) Satellite Money Order Service.

1. Installation of 250 Extended Satellite Money Order Centres
2. Installation of 20 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs)
3. Upgradation of 30 VSATs

**(iii) Modernisation of 50 post offices****(iv) Mechanical equipment**

1. 10000 machine engraved hand cancellers
2. 20 stamp cancelling machines
3. 150 electronic franking machines
4. 30 tying & bundling machines

**(v) Networking of Postal Stores Depots****Scheme III — HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT  
— Outlay Rs. 2.94 crore.**

- (i) In-service Training for 300 officials
- (ii) Computer training for 1500 officials
- (iii) Management Development Programme for 25 officers
- (iv) Refresher Training for Saving Bank/Certificate work for 4000 officials

**Scheme IV — MODERNISATION OF MAIL  
PROCESSING — Outlay Rs. 12.72 crore**

- (i) Computerisation of 5 Transit Mail Offices
- (ii) Registration Sorting Computerisation in 5 offices
- (iii) Computerisation of 10 Head Record Offices
- (iv) Modernisation of 20 mail offices modernisation
- (v) Modernisation of Registration delivery system in 10 offices
- (vi) Upgradation of Mailnet at 15 centres
- (vii) Fabrication of 12 Railway Mail Service (RMS) Vans
- (viii) Modification of 20 existing RMS Vans
- (ix) Supply of 6 Mail Motor Service Vehicles
- (x) Supply of 75 mopeds for delivery work

**Scheme V—BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING—Outlay Rs. 4.25 crore.**

- (i) Computerisation of Premium Product Cells in nodal offices at 8 centres and networking
- (ii) Computerisation of 10 Speed Post Concentration Centres
- (iii) Setting up 40 computerised Customer Care Centres
- (iv) Mechanisation of pick up and delivery at 5 centres
- (v) Refresher training for 100 officials working in premium products
- (vi) Setting up 1 mass mailing, inserting and sealing centres

**Scheme VI — COMPUTERISATION OF SAVINGS BANK IN POST OFFICES — Outlay Rs. 1.25 Crore.**

- (i) Savings Bank Control Organisation computerisation in 100 offices
- (ii) Training of 250 officials in systems operation

**Scheme VII — POSTAL LIFE INSURANCE — Outlay Rs. 4.35 Crore.**

- (i) Computerisation of Rural PLI work in 24 Regions
- (ii) Upgradation of computer systems for PLI in 4 Circles

- (iii) Training in computers to 25 departmental staff/officers
- (iv) Training in marketing/sales promotion/publicity to 25 officials
- (v) Training in insurance to 10000 officials

**Scheme VIII — MODERNISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHILATELY — Outlay Rs. 0.85 crore.**

- (i) Computerisation of 20 Philatelic
- (ii) Tools and equipment for 25 Bureaux
- (iii) Training of 125 officials

**Scheme IX — POSTAL BUILDING AND STAFF QUARTERS — Outlay Rs. 39.80 crores.**

- (i) Complete construction of 26 operative office buildings
- (ii) Complete construction of 185 staff quarters
- (iii) Complete construction of 3 administrative office buildings

**Scheme X — STREAMLINING OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT — Outlay Rs. 3.78 crores.**

- (i). Computerisation of accounts/budget work in Circles
- (ii) Computerisation of 4 Administrative branches in the Directorate

TOTAL OUTLAY — RS. 95.00 Crores

**Statement - VIII***Circle-wise Allotment of Targets Under Annual Plan 1998-99*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Targets for opening other Areas	Allotted EDBOs* Tribal Areas	Total	Targets for opening other Areas	Allocated DSOs** Tribal Areas	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	3	10	1	1	2
2.	Assam	40	10	50	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Bihar	42	18	60	2	1	3
4.	Delhi	20	—	20	3	—	3
5.	Gujarat	32	8	40	2	—	2
6.	Haryana	15	—	15	3	—	3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7	3	10	1	1	2
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	20	10	30	1	—	1
9.	Karnataka	8	2	10	5	—	5
10.	Kerala	10	—	10	2	—	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	30	20	50	1	1	2
12.	Maharashtra	46	14	60	3	—	3
13.	North-East	31	19	50	1	2	3
14.	Orissa	6	4	10	1	1	2
15.	Punjab	15	—	15	2	—	2
16.	Rajasthan	16	14	30	1	1	2
17.	Tamil Nadu	7	3	10	2	—	2
18.	Uttar Pradesh	66	12	78	6	—	6
19.	West Bengal	32	8	40	3	—	3
Total		450	148	598	41	9	50

\* Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices

\*\* Departmental Sub Post Offices

**Statement IX**

*Proposals in the 9th Plan (1997—2002)  
for Upgradation and expansion of Telecom Network  
(Salient Points from the Objectives of the Proposals)*

**A. UPGRADATION**

- \* Replace life expired and unserviceable analogue systems and Technologically obsolete switches with digital switches.
- \* Manual Trunk Services in SSA Headquarters to be computerised.
- \* Computerised billing and accounting, Commercial activities, records of cable network and Directory Enquiry Services.
- \* Modernise Fault Repair Service.
- \* Introduce Wireless in local loop. H.D.S.L., A.D.S.L. and Optical Fibre technologies will be gradually in the local network.
- \* Introduction of better and reliable technologies for providing Village Public Telephones.
- \* Provide all exchanges with reliable media.
- \* Provide diversity in transmission network between Trunk Automatic Exchanges.
- \* Introduce Network Management System for control and management of network.
- \* Provide single window customer service centres.

**B. EXPANSION PLANS**

* Net Switching Capacity (Lakh lines)	230
* Direct Exchange Lines (Lakh lines)	185
* TAX (Lakh lines)	18
* Village Public Telephones (Thousands)	239
* Transmission Systems	
Microwave Rkm	} 90,000
UHF Rkm	
Optical Fibre Rkm	1,40,000
<b>Total :</b>	<b>2,30,000</b>

**Preservation of Coral Reef**

\*472. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has agreed to provide financial assistance to preserve the coral reef in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the total assistance proposed to be provided for the purpose; and

(c) the details of such coral reef found in other parts of country and assistance provided for their preservation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a): No, Sir. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as an implementing agency of Global Environmental Facility (GEF) has acted as a facilitator in securing financial assistance from GEF for a project to develop a management plan for selected sites of coral reefs in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) The total assistance proposed to be provided for this project is US \$ 345,000.

(c) A statement enclosed.

**Statement**

The major coral reef formations in India are located in the Gulf of Manner, Palk Bay, Gulf of Kutch, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep Islands.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests provides financial assistance to management action plans of State Government and Union Territory Administration concerned for conservation and management of coral reefs under the scheme entitled "Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs"

The financial assistance provided for management action plan of coral reefs under the scheme in the eighth Plan and 1997-98 is as under

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Coral reef	Assistance provided during Eighth Plan and 1997-98	
1. Gulf of Kutch		11.33
2. Andaman and Nicobar		24.39
3. Lakshdweep		31.50
4. Gulf of Mannar		10.51

**Hike in DU Fees**

\*473. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI AJIT JOGI :

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

(a) whether several Delhi University colleges have resorted to an increase of fees under various heads, some of which have been introduced this year itself;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the move has been opposed by the public;

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

(f) whether any relief against these enhanced fees is to be given to students from the weaker sections and reserved categories;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (h): According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi some colleges of the University have increased the charges like Development charge, Science charge, Sports charge, Maintenance charge, Students Union fund, etc., to improve the infrastructural facilities. A couple of colleges have, however, introduced a new charge also named Establishment fee to meet the additional cost of staff salary as a result of revision of their pay scales. There is no information on opposition of the fee hikes by the public. However, the charge on Establishment has been opposed by the students. The Delhi University authorities are also not in favour of charging any amount from the students for the purpose of payment of enhanced salaries of the staff and have taken up this issue with the concerned colleges. The colleges have agreed to review their decision and have assured that no amount of students' fund would be spent on salaries of the staff. The University has also made a request to the college that increase in the fee should be combined with more and more freeships and scholarships to alleviate the hardship of poor and deserving students.

**Counter Guarantees to Thermal Power Projects**

\*474. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given counter guarantees to M/s. Hinduja in connection with their Thermal Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also giving similar guarantees to the public sector undertakings; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): The Government has recently approved extension of counter-guarantee in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s. Hinduja National Power Company Limited (HNPC) in Andhra Pradesh through a revised procedure. It has, *inter-alia*, been decided that counter-guarantee will be given only for the event of termination and will be limited to the outstanding foreign debt only.

There are alternative security mechanisms for the central public sector undertakings in the power sector.

**Pension for Outstanding Sports Persons**

\*475 SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced a scheme of pension for the outstanding sports persons of the Olympian standard;

(b) the number of persons benefited under the system; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the quantum of pension and the number of beneficiaries under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir, A plan scheme entitled 'Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sports Persons' is being implemented by the Government. Under the scheme, pension is provided to the medalists in Olympic Games, World Cup, World Championship in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines

and in the Asian games at the following rate :

- (i) Medalists at the Olympic Games Rs. 2000/-p.m.
- (ii) Gold Medalists at the World Cups/World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines Rs. 2000/- p.m.
- (iii) Silver and Bronze Medalists at the World Cups/World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines Rs. 1500/- p.m.
- (iv) Gold Medalists at the Asian Games Rs. 1500/- p.m.

(b) 20 sports-persons are being provided pension under the existing scheme.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to increase the quantum of pension. As and when medal winners of the above mentioned categories emerge, the number of beneficiaries will increase.

#### **Enforcing of Model Code of Conduct during Election**

\*476. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the model code of conduct announced by the Election Commission of India is enforceable after the programme of election is made available to the Government; and

(b) if so, the mechanism evolved by the Government to make the model code of conduct binding on State Governments and enforceable in its true sense?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b): The issue of legal enforceability of Model Code of Conduct is *sub judice* before the Supreme Court of India.

#### **Adult Education Scheme**

\*477. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) the States where Adult Education Scheme is being implemented at present:

(b) the expenditure incurred under the Scheme during each of the last five years, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited by it, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether in many States the funds meant for scheme are being misutilized; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the quality persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): The particulars of States where the National Literacy Mission is implementing various schemes under Adult Education and the amounts released during the last five years are enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) A statement is enclosed as Statement-II.

(d) and (e) The Schemes are implemented by State/ UT Governments. As and when complaints are received, they are passed on to them for taking appropriate action at their end.

#### **Statement I**

#### **Funds Released to States for Adult Education**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	1846.70	1370.68	884.21	1081.06	922.25
Arunachal Pradesh	28.73	71.56	25.63	20.72	3.67

1	2	3	4	5	6
Assam	125.21	1159.04	361.09	194.29	86.97
Bihar	1109.93	1628.87	1977.84	1062.52	446.98
Goa	15.37	11.59	5.95	3.32	0.56
Gujarat	1079.70	884.50	262.98	458.78	112.34
Haryana	181.05	243.01	175.31	57.12	77.50
Himachal Pradesh	80.07	109.15	26.43	49.18	112.82
Jammu & Kashmir	84.47	190.40	132.70	50.47	38.02
Karnataka	1683.64	1041.84	319.58	350.16	303.29
Kerala	122.71	57.32	7.00	537.97	15.35
Madhya Pradesh	1455.12	2821.52	977.67	548.58	459.47
Maharashtra	1453.16	1024.55	1153.63	432.83	746.29
Manipur	28.18	72.67	17.62	20.63	17.94
Meghalaya	19.47	29.08	127.74	112.45	16.85
Mizoram	2.66	16.42	2.29	0.57	34.23
Nagaland	26.31	39.73	47.81	56.90	32.34
Orissa	614.12	606.36	801.36	310.13	196.62
Punjab	25.00	277.61	370.34	135.00	211.14
Rajasthan	784.58	1745.00	1681.76	1304.62	820.35
Sikkim	5.25	11.22	—	11.22	—
Tamil Nadu	1200.00	1594.58	1212.48	261.21	554.00
Tripura	224.18	6.77	0.10	4.73	27.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttar Pradesh	2555.48	2805.58	1888.01	943.27	537.23
West Bengal	719.86	1583.69	308.40	728.11	502.82
Chandigarh	28.66	25.62	20.12	41.37	20.00
Delhi	117.17	120.77	322.58	158.57	173.87
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	18.24
Daman & Diu	1.96	0.56	0.50	—	—
A & N Islands	9.81	12.15	8.12	12.56	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.84	0.83	—	—	—
Lakshdweep	1.57	7.41	1.62	4.32	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>15630.96</b>	<b>19570.08</b>	<b>13120.87</b>	<b>8952.66</b>	<b>6488.44</b>

**Statement II****Number of Persons Made Literate since the Launching of National Literacy Mission**

S. No.	State/UT	Persons made literate
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	81,14,950
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	59,612
3.	Assam	10,76,090
4.	Bihar	50,96,209
5.	Goa	71,237
6.	Gujarat	60,92,278
7.	Haryana	3,27,272

1	2	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5,39,426
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,63,892
10.	Karnataka	40,08,810
11.	Kerala	15,60,152
12.	Madhya Pradesh	53,82,572
13.	Maharashtra	54,26,098
14.	Manipur	67,371
15.	Meghalaya	84,420
16.	Mizoram	61,919
17.	Nagaland	63,123



1	2	3
18.	Orissa	22,68,114
19.	Punjab	5,53,922
20.	Hajasthan	36,85,458
21.	Sikkim	13,604
22.	Tamil Nadu	64,62,081
23.	Tripura	3,81,351
24.	Uttar Pradesh	75,58,629
25.	West Bengal	89,02,352
26.	A & N Islands	14,492
27.	Chandigarh	41,404
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7,662
29.	Daman & Diu	3,451
30.	Delhi	3,81,286
31.	Lakshdweep	986
32.	Pondicherry	99,965
	Total	6,85,70,188

#### Scientific and Technological Research

\*478 SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :  
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the basic scientific and technological research during the last few years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment about it and its impact on the quality of research in the country;

(c) the extent to which the private sector is involved in furtherance of the basic research in India; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the research components in the universities, national laboratories and other research organisations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d): Views have been expressed at different forums indicating that there has been a decline in the basic scientific and technological research during the last few years. There are a few private sector organisations devoted to basic scientific and technological research in the country. These are engaged in areas like medical research, pharmaceuticals, agricultural research, agro-chemicals, genetic research, etc.

Taking note of these views, a set of initiatives have been taken by the Government to strengthen research components in Universities, National Laboratories and other research organisations. Some such measures are : R&D project support to scientists including special opportunities to young scientists; introduction of the Swarnajayanti Fellowships in Basic research; Fund for improvement of infrastructure for S&T in Universities and related institutions; doubling of post and pre-doctoral research fellowships; encouraging active scientists through Visiting Fellowships schemes; encourage active scientists through Visiting Fellowships Scheme; Opportunities at graduate/post graduate levels to have contacts with eminent scientists at reputed institutions/national labs within the country to get a first hand exposure to the latest advances in the area; opportunities for industry to promote basic research e.g. in Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Instrument Development; and recognition of in-house R&D units in industry, recognition to private bodies as Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations (SIROs) etc.

#### Report of the Enquiry Committee on Kandla Port Tragedy

\*479. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received report of the Enquiry Committee which was asked to go into the Kandla Port tragedy;

(b) if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(c) the action taken to implement the suggestions made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b): No Enquiry Committee was set up to go into Kandla Port tragedy. A High Level Fact Finding Team was asked to look into the sequence of events and find out how such a high loss of life took place in Kandla area of Gujarat on account of the recent cyclone. The Report of the Team is awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Projects in Communication Sector

\*480. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :  
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the American Sanctions and the Moody's grading of India's credit rating has severely hit the projects in the communication sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a flow of 19.36% of foreign direct investment in the communications sector in the country;

(d) if so, whether in this sector the major players, the US based companies and the EXIM Bank and OPIC have suspended the credit guarantees; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to meet the fate of the communication projects?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b): The impact of American Sanctions on the Communication Sector, in general, is expected to be marginal.

As regards downgrading of India by Moody's the likely adverse impact of increase in cost of borrowing will be felt only by those projects which seek project funding from external sources.

(c) The total FDI approved for Telecommunication Sector upto the end of March, 1998 is Rs. 30,725.34 crores which is 19.36% of the total FDI approved. However, the actual inflow for the period for Telecommunications Sector is Rs. 2,508.60 crores, which is 7.05% of the total inflow.

(d) So far a few cases of denial of credit/guarantee on part of U.S. based financial institutions have come to notice.

(e) The general approach of the Government in countering the effect of sanctions is to try to get a better understanding of our position on the part of the other countries and also to encourage private capital flows to substitute for whatever reduction takes place in flows affected by sanctions.

#### Social forestry Projects

\*481. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of social projects started during the last three years in each State:

(b) the financial assistance provided for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the achievements made under these projects in each State?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Annual targets are fixed for afforestation and tree planting activities under the 20-Point Programme in two parts: the first is for seedling distribution for planting on private lands and the second is in terms of afforestation on public lands, including forest lands. Plantations undertaken as part of social forestry are included therein.

(b) The total financial assistance provided to each of the States during the last three years under the afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment & Forests is given in Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The State-wise targets and achievements for the last three years under the 20-Point Programme are given in Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement I**

*Statement showing the Financial Assistance provided to the States/UTs during 1995-96 to 1997-98*

S. No.	Name of State	Financial Assistance Provided (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1022.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	333.51
3.	Assam	531.47
4.	Bihar	311.25
5.	Goa	49.09
6.	Gujarat	810.74
7.	Haryana	1321.92
8.	Himachal Pradesh	961.47
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1555.51
10.	Karnataka	1508.72
11.	Kerala	504.72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2029.72

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	500.75
14.	Manipur	1208.98
15.	Meghalaya	181.85
16.	Mizoram	1135.63.
17.	Nagaland	57.46
18.	Orissa	575.84
19.	Punjab	989.01
20.	Rajasthan	1942.86
21.	Sikkim	1017.45
22.	Tamil Nadu	489.49
23.	Tripura	397.24
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2645.98
25.	West Bengal	842.61
Total		22925.30

**Statement II****Statewise/Yearwise Targets and Achievements for Afforestation/Tree Planting Activities Under 20 Point Programme during 1995-96 to 1997-98**Area in Hectares  
Seedling in Lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1995-96				1996-97				1997-98			
		Targets		Achievements		Targets		Achievements		Targets		Achievements	
		Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribu- tion (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1100.00	45000.00	1436.40	75782.00	1100.00	50000.00	1425.30	114667.00	1100.00	50000	2027.29	135185.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	9078.00	7.00	9078.00	6.00	9500.00	6.00	6613.00	7.00	10000	16.00	6317.00
3.	Assam	27.50	27500.00	27.09	16497.00	25.00	27500.00	48.68	18517.70	25.00	27000	25.00	3642.00
4.	Bihar	825.00	55000.00	161.20	5423.00	500.00	40000.00	78.50	9296.00	500.00	40000	110.33	14222.00
5.	Goa	38.50	2090.00	25.72	1327.00	30.00	1800.00	23.00	1351.00	30.00	1800	13.74	1123.30
6.	Gujarat	1650.00	59400.00	1707.65	67101.73	1908.00	66597.00	2110.20	89393.00	1900.00	65000	1919.04	62866.00
7.	Haryana	250.00	29700.00	51.94	39438.00	200.00	32000.00	73.73	23235.00	200.00	32000	33.57	17931.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	22.00	26200.00	35.74	29976.00	20.00	28000.00	26.98	27503.00	20.00	30000	30.38	28000.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.00	22000.00	60.51	23000.00	60.00	24000.00	59.85	24927.00	60.00	24000	60.00	22125.00
10.	Karnataka	495.00	52800.00	310.88	65712.00	400.00	65000.00	235.75	80637.00	400.00	65000	256.35	52423.05
11.	Kerala	330.00	17600.00	45.60	15302.49	180.00	19000.00	45.46	15168.00	180.00	19000	10.96	3350.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	495.00	148500.00	599.22	156553.45	450.00	150000.00	169.88	117623.00	450.00	150000	457.73	139211.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13.	Maharashtra	1100.00	133100.00	1017.96	120136.00	1150.00	126000.00	864.16	10781.00	1150.00	126900	938.02	91910.23
14.	Manipur	33.00	11000.00	11.85	9105.00	25.00	12000.00	15.50	12230.00	25.00	12000	7.06	4403.00
15.	Meghalaya	82.50	22000.00	87.98	3274.00	40.00	18000.00	47.80	1622.00	40.00	18000	71.33	3978.00
16.	Mizoram	22.00	19800.00	22.49	12205.00	22.00	19800.00	67.59	9327.00	22.00	19800	10.97	8589.00
17.	Nagaland*	82.50	8250.00	74.70	44.00	60.00	8000.00			60.00	8000		
18.	Orissa	330.00	79200.00	576.02	12110.00	300.00	79000.00	811.88	93371.00	300.00	79000	436.70	83825.00
19.	Punjab	49.50	18700.00	80.16	10526.00	52.00	20000.00	88.56	8825.00	52.00	20000	65.86	5046.00
20.	Rajasthan	330.00	86900.00	388.32	95280.00	380.00	76550.00	399.41	83440.00	400.00	83000	370.64	58166.00
21.	Sikkim	22.00	10120.00	25.00	10120.00	22.00	110000.00	22.00	9586.00	22.00	11000	22.58	9666.86
22.	Tamil Nadu	1100.00	82500.00	1112.10	92208.00	1100.00	85000.00	1104.64	73501.00	1100.00	85000	1146.10	94325.00
23.	Tripura	23.65	8500.00	21.72	12078.59	23.00	10080.00	41.19	9034.00	40.00	10000	78.58	8650.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2000.00	101200.00	2285.43	84326.97	2200.00	110000.00	2121.24	92790.00	2200.00	110000	1977.70	88052.00
25.	West Bengal	833.80	41800.00	681.19	38509.00	825.00	44000.00	556.00	21500.00	825.00	44000	228.00	18285.00
26.	A & N Islands	5.00	3300.00	5.40	3831.00	5.00	3300.00	5.05	4019.86	5.00	4500	1.38	3462.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	495.00	0.00	140.00	6.10	500.00	0.19	666.00	0.10	500	0.56	66.00
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.95	1100.00	13.85	980.00	16.00	100.00	10.00	300.00	16.00	1000	7.00	300.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.10	185.00	1.93	41.00	2.00	100.00	3.18	3.00	2.00	50	0.40	138.00
30.	Delhi*	15.00	500.00	26.81	1072.00	25.00	1060.00	23.42	936.00	25.00	1000	3.64	
31.	Lakshadweep	4.51	68.00	4.62	69.00	5.00	72.00	4.22	62.00	5.00	75	1.97	22.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.40	220.00	5.71	182.00	5.00	78.00	5.15	78.33	5.00	75	6.73	58.71
<b>Total</b>		11354.91	1123784.00	10911.99	1105431.23	11136.10	1137797.00	10494.51	941002.89	11186.10	1146800	10335.63	965636.15

\* Complete Progress Reports from Nagaland and Delhi for 1997-98 have not been received.

### Setting up of University Campus

4598. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision in the relevant act for opening University campus in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hill areas under Assam University, Silchar;

(b) if so, the details of such provisions alongwith formalities and procedures required to be fulfilled for opening such campus; and

(c) the stand of the Government to set up such a University campus in the Hill areas of Assam for rapid and quality growth of higher education there?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) There is a provision under sub-clause (2) of the clause (3) of the Assam University Act to establish campuses at such other places within its jurisdiction as the University may deem fit. The jurisdiction as mentioned in clause (6) of the Act extends to the Cachar, Karimganj, North Cachar Hills, Karbi Anglong and Hailakandi Districts of the State of Assam.

(c) Assam University being an autonomous body is empowered to set-up campuses in the Hill areas as the University may deem fit.

### Rural Electrification

4599. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG :  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :  
SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in Orissa till the end of June 1998;

(b) the number of villages brought under electrification in other States till then;

(c) the targets fixed for electrifying the remaining villages in every State;

(d) the projection made by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for the electrification of villages during the Ninth Plan; and

(e) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) In Orissa, 33625 villages have been electrified till March, 1998. (Figures are provisional).

(b) 468235 villages have been reported electrified in other States (excluding Orissa) and Union Territories till March, 1998 (Provisional) according to available information. The State-wise achievements are given in Statement-I

(c) Targets for electrification of villages under the Rural Electrification Corporation programme for 1998-99 are given in Statement-II.

(d) and (e) The Planning Commission is yet to finalize the programme for rural electrification for the 9th Five Year Plan. Rural Electrification is a continuing process and the remaining villages in the country will be electrified in the 9th and subsequent Five Year Plans depending upon generation capacity, the transmission and distribution facilities in the States and other relevant inputs.

### Statement I

#### Progress in electrification of villages upto March, 1998

S. No.	States	Total No. of villages (1991 Census)	Achievements as on 31.3.98 (Prov.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26586	26586
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3649	2112
3.	Assam	24685	18999
4.	Bihar	67513	47839
5.	Goa	360	360
6.	Gujarat	18028	17936
7.	Haryana	6759	6759
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	16635
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	6301
10.	Karnataka	27066	26446
11.	Kerala	1384	1384

1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71526	67959
13.	Maharashtra	40412	40412
14.	Manipur	2182	1940
15.	Meghalaya	5484	2494
16.	Mizoram	698	682
17.	Nagaland	1216	1193
18.	Orissa	46989	33625
19.	Punjab	12428	12428
20.	Rajasthan	37889	35252
21.	Sikkim	477	405
22.	Tamil Nadu	15822	15822
23.	Tripura	855	803
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112803	87079
25.	West Bengal	37910	29319
Total		586165	500770
UTs		1093	1090
G. Total		587258	501860

**Statement II**

*Electrification of villages proposed under Rural Electrification Corporation Programme for the year 1998-99*

S. No.	States	No. of Villages
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100
3.	Assam	50

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar		500
5.	Goa*		0
6.	Gujarat*		0
7.	Haryana*		0
8.	Himachal Pradesh*		0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir		10
10.	Karnataka*		0
11.	Kerala*		0
12.	Madhya Pradesh		350
13.	Maharashtra*		0
14.	Manipur		40
15.	Meghalaya		40
16.	Mizoram		15
17.	Nagaland*		0
18.	Orissa		500
19.	Punjab*		0
20.	Rajasthan		500
21.	Sikkim*		0
22.	Tamil Nadu*		0
23.	Tripura		20
24.	Uttar Pradesh		500
25.	West Bengal		175
26.	Delhi*		0
Total		-	2800

\* States which have declared cent percent village electrification level

**Power Reforms in A.P**

4600. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to assist Andhra Pradesh in Power reforms initiated by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the projects which the Union Government have agreed to provide financial assistance;

(d) whether the State had planned to generate additional 16,000 MWs of power during the Eighth plan but could not achieve the same; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the proposed plan of the State Government during the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought World Bank assistance for undertaking reforms and restructuring of its power sector and has also passed. The Andhra Pradesh Electricity Reforms Bill, 1998 which is awaiting Presidential assent. The Bill provides for establishment of Electricity Regulatory Commission in the State and unbundling of the SEB into separate entities for generation, transmission and distribution. Government of India have supported the reforms in the power sector initiated by the State Government.

(c) Details of on-going externally aided projects in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.5.1998 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) As against a capacity addition target of 1303.6 MW for the Eighth Plan the Achievement was 1482.4 MW. Capacity addition programme for the Ninth Plan has not been finalized.

**Statement***List of Ongoing externally Aided Projects in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.5.1998*

All figures in million in donor currency

Name of Project	Loan amount	Donor	Terminal date	BE for the year	Disbursement (Apr. 98 to May, 98)	Cumulative disbursement upto May, '98	Undrawn balance (as on May, 98)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
400 KV Srisaïlam Left Bank Trans. Scheme	3806	OECE	19.04.00	2695	51.677	559	3247
400 KV Srisaïlam Left Bank Power House Trans. Scheme	9546	OECE	12.04.01	2000	133.487	470.892	9075.108
Srisaïlam Left Bank Power Stn. Proj.	26101	OECE	31.12.98		18.170	25675.579	425.421
Srisaïlam Left Bank Power Stn. Project.	22567	OECE	12.04.01	9752.326	799.269	16984.435	5582.565



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Srisaïlam Left Bank Power Stn. Project.	144999	OECF	16.02.03		3.215	692.109	13806.89
Kathagudam 'A' Th. Power Stn. Proj.	5092	OECF	12.04.02	891.00		3191.253	1900.747
Simhadri & Vizag Trans. System.	10629	OECF	19.02.03	594			10629.000
AP Energy Efficiency Project.	42.7	U.K	31.12.98	2.684		4.50	38.200

[Translation]

#### Forest Area in U.P

4601. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of forest area in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether the existing forest area conforms to the International Standards;

(c) if not, the steps taken to increase the forest area in Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the achievements made in this regard at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report 1997, the recorded forest area in Uttar Pradesh is 51,663 sq.km which is 17.54% of the total geographical area of the State and the forest cover is 33,994 sq.km which is 11.5% of the total geographical area. The district-wise forest cover in Uttar Pradesh is given in the Annexure.

(b) No international standard has been prescribed about the forest area. However, the National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages that the national goal should be to have

a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest/tree cover.

(c) The major steps taken to increase forest cover during the Eighth Five Year Plan are as under:

- (i) Afforestation programmes were undertaken by the State Government from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India and World Bank.
- (ii) Village communities were involved in protection and regeneration of degraded forests as per Joint Forest Management guidelines.
- (iii) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is being implemented to regulate the diversion of forest land.
- (iv) The network of protected areas has been established.

(d) During the Eighth Five Year Plan period, State Government has taken up plantations over an area of 72,025 ha. of public lands including forest lands and have distributed 3015 lakhs seedlings for planting on private lands. The State Government has constituted 4021 Villages Forest Committees for protection and regeneration of degraded forest as per Joint Forest Management Guidelines. An area of 13,487.57 sq.km has been brought under protected area network.

**Statement***District-wise Forest Cover in Uttar Pradesh as per 1997 Assessment*

(in sq.km)		
District	Geographic Area	Forest Cover
1	2	3
Agra	4,027	179
Aligarh	5,019	2
Allahabad	7,261	51
Almora	5,385	2,537
Azamgarh	4,234	3
Beharaich	6,877	803
Ballia	2,982	—
Banda	7,624	603
Barabanki	4,401	22
Bareilly	4,120	—
Basti	3,733	12
Bijnore	4,561	338
Budaun	5,168	10
Bulandshahar	4,352	22
Chamoli	9,125	3,152
Dehradun	3,088	1,570
Deoria	5,446	8
Etah	4,445	8
Etawah	4,326	142
Faizabad	4,511	4

1	2	3
Farrukhabad	4,274	7
Fatehpur	4,152	3
Firozabad	2,361	29
Garhwal	5,440	3,176
Ghaziabad	2,590	11
Ghazipur	3,377	1
Gonda	7,352	602
Gorakhpur	6,272	469
Hamirpur	7,165	181
Hardoi	5,986	18
Hardwar	2,360	585
Jalaun	4,565	132
Jaunpur	4,038	6
Jhansi	5,024	143
Kanpur-Nagar	1,065	5
Kanpur-Dehat	5,111	5
Kheri	7,680	1,310
Lalitpur	5,039	536
Lucknow	2,528	29
Mainpuri	2,760	—
Mathura	3,811	16
Mau	1,713	4
Meerut	3,911	28
Mirzapur	4,522	738

1	2	3
Moradabad	5,967	21
Nainital	6,794	3,568
Pilibhit	3,499	706
Pithoragarh	8,856	2,996
Pratapgarh	3,717	2
Rai Bareli	4,609	13
Rampur	2,367	36
Saharanpur	3,689	325
Shahjahanpur	4,575	97
Siddharthnagar	3,495	24
Sitapur	5,743	13
Sonbhadra	6,788	2,450
Sultanpur	4,436	13
Tehri Garhwal	4,421	2,560
Uttar Kashi	8,016	3,099
Unnao	4,558	14
Varanasi	5,091	524
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,94,411</b>	<b>33,994</b>

[English]

#### VLPTs/LPTs in A&N Island

4602. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether VLPT and LPT centres in A & N Islands are not functioning properly and frequent breakdown of transmission of Doordarshan occurs;

(b) if so, the steps taken to set right the centres;

(c) whether satellite earth stations in A & N Islands do not function well and authorities are not prompt to repair such stations; and

(d) if so, the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b): All the LPTs/VLPTs in A&N Island are reported to be functioning normally, at present.

(c) There is no earth station in A&N Island.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### LPTs in Gujarat

4603. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Low Power Transmitters not functioning satisfactorily in Gujarat at present;

(b) the details of their present transmission ranges and capacity thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the transmission range of those transmitters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) All the Low Power Transmitters in Gujarat have been reported to be functioning normally.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The scheme for setting up of High Power Transmitters at Surat and Vadodra in replacement of the existing Low Power Transmitters, are presently under implementation.

[English]

#### Opening of Post Offices in Kerala

4604. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices, branch/sub-post offices proposed to be opened in Kerala particularly in Ponnani region during 1998-99, district-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the improvement of postal services including modernisation of post and mail offices in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) In 1998-99 the target for opening of Post Offices in Kerala Circle is as follows:

2 Sub Offices, 10 branch Offices.

In Ponnani Region (Tirur Postal Division) there is no justified proposal pending for Opening of Post Offices.

(b) 54 Post Offices, 3 mail offices and 1 foreign Post have been modernised in Kerala as shown below:

Region	Mail Office	POs	Foreign Post
Southern	1	17	—
Central	1	20	1
Northern	1	17	—

*Steps Proposed :*

This Circle proposes to extend the modernisation scheme so as to cover the entire postal network. However, this will be taken up in a phased manner depending upon the funds and resources made available each year.

**AIR/Doordarshan Kendras damaged due to Cyclone in Gujarat**

4605. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the installations of AIR and Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat State have been damaged by recent cyclone; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cyclone caused extensive damage to All India Radio Transmitter at Bhuj and TV Transmitters at Jamnagar, Versavel, Porbandar, Mangrol, Morbi, Rapar

and Dwarka. At All India Radio, Bhuj, power supply was disrupted, FM link antenna and radio networking dish were damaged and water entered in diesel room and transmitting equipment. Staff quarters were also affected. At various TV Transmitters, masts were uprooted/broken, direct Reception Sets damaged and rooftop of diesel generator rooms blown away.

**Construction of bypass under BOT in A.P.**

4606. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) the total length of bypasses constructed during the last three years under Built Operate and Transfer Scheme in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of proposals pending with the Government at present from Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Nil

(b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

**Sources of Power Supply in Chandigarh**

4607. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Union Territory of Chandigarh is not having any source of its own for getting electricity as a result of which it has to purchase power from different sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up power project in Chandigarh and for giving the Union Territory its share in various power plants in the neighbouring states; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Chandigarh is meeting its energy requirement from its allocated share of 83.8 MW from the Central generation stations in the Northern Region from Bhakra Beas Management Board and assistance from neighbouring States/region. During the period April-June, 1998, the energy shortage in Chandigarh was 1.1% and there was no peak deficit.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal of the Government to set up any power project in Chandigarh. However, Chandigarh will get its due share from the central sector projects.

#### **Loss of Foodgrains at Kandla Port**

4608. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of total loss of foodgrains at Kandla Port in the recent storm;

(b) the compensation paid/to be paid to the owners/exporters of foodgrains;

(c) whether the rice belonging to private parties were insured against damage/natural calamity/loss during storage/transit at the port; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :  
(a) In the recent storm, a total of 32958 tonnes of foodgrains were damaged at the Kandla Port.

(b) to (d): The settlement of claims/compensation for the damage/loss during storage/transit at the Port is generally made between the owners/exporters of the foodgrains and the concerned insurance companies. The representatives of the Insurance Companies are negotiating the claims for damage to the foodgrains with the exporters/owners at Kandla.

#### **Anganwadi Workers**

4609. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of honourarium paid to Anganwadi Workers and their helpers at present:

(b) whether they are seeking the status of Government employees and had given a memorandum to the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the time by which they would be declared Government employees;

(d) whether the Government would also fix working hours for them; and

(e) if so, the likely date by which a decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Anganwadi Workers are given an honorarium between Rs. 438-563/- per month and anganwadi helpers are paid fixed amount of honorarium of Rs. 260/- per month.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Scheme provides that Anganwadi Workers and Helpers will be honorary workers.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **National Action Plan for Pollution**

4610. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised a time bound National Action Plan for implementation and control measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of lacunae identified during review of performance of the State Governments in implementation of the schemes; and

(d) the details of measures proposed to ensure better performance and efficient execution of the programmes/schemes to deal with the environmental problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): The Government have formulated a time bound National programme for abatement of Pollution in respect of certain core activities posing pollution problems. The salient features of the Action Programme include the following:

- Ensuring pollution control in respect of highly polluting industries;
- Installation of adequate pollution control facilities in respect of industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes;
- Restoration of environmental quality in critically polluted areas;
- Implementation of vehicular pollution control programme in the mega cities in a phased manner;

- Sector specific pollution control programmes for thermal power plants;
- Adoption of cleaner technologies/waste minimisation in small scale industries;
- Assessment and control of noise pollution.

The Government have recently formulated a comprehensive and time bound National Programme for Control of Pollution (NPCP) covering various activities relating to industrial, vehicular, air, water and noise pollution, management of municipal solid waste, preparation of standards, environmental epidemiological studies, hazardous and bio-medical waste management, highly polluting industries and thermal power plants. NPCP was circulated in the Conference of the Chairmen and Member-Secretaries of State Pollution Control Boards held on 14.7.1998 in New Delhi. The National Programme for Control of Pollution would be finalised soon after receiving the comments/views of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(c) and (d) The pollution control activities/programmes are being reviewed periodically by the State Governments and the Central Government through the Central Pollution Control Board. The review of the schemes has identified certain lacunae which include lack of infrastructural facilities, constraint of resources, shortage of professional manpower and absence of comprehensive pollution control programme. The Government is providing financial assistance to the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees for strengthening their laboratories to enhance the analytical and monitoring capabilities including training of officials.

#### Public Telephone in Rural Areas

4611. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Panchayat Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh where telephone facility is not available;

(b) the number of Panchayat Headquarters where telephone facility has been provided connected by tower system and cable lines, separately; and

(c) the time by which the work of laying cables is likely to be completed in those Panchayat Headquarters which have been connected by tower system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) Total 9,128 Panchayat Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh are without telephone facility.

(b) The telephone facility on tower, cables and Overhead Lines are as under :

Tower	11,052
Cable	Nil
O/H Line	10,496

(c) There is no such plan.

#### Lack of School Buildings and Teachers

4612. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no buildings for Government primary schools in most of the rural areas in Uttar Pradesh and students are taught in the open and there is also acute shortage of teachers; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): According to the 6th All India Educational Survey 1993 (AIES), there are 2404 Primary schools in Uttar Pradesh as on 30.9.1993, where classes are being held in open spaces.

33283 class rooms in primary schools have been constructed under the scheme of Operation Blackboard. Funds for construction of primary school buildings under the scheme are provided on a sharing basis by the State and Central Governments.

Under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, 8891 posts of teachers have been sanctioned in single teacher primary schools to make them double teacher schools. 11800 posts of third teacher have also been sanctioned in primary schools with enrolment exceeding 100.

Appointment of teachers and construction of primary school buildings has also been taken up under the Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Project and District Primary Education Programme.

[English]

#### Engineering Colleges

4613. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government and Private Engineering colleges in the country;

(b) the total number of students admitted each year in all these colleges; and

(c) the number of applications pending with AICTE for approval till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): Total numbers of Government and Private Engineering Colleges in the country and the sanctioned intake are as under:

	Engineering Colleges	Sanctioned intake
Government	207	47202
Private	361	38522

(c) Number of cases pending final approval after consideration of the viability of the proposals is given below, State-wise:

1. Madhya Pradesh	1
2. Orissa	1
3. Uttar Pradesh	4
4. Delhi	1
5. Haryana	1
6. Punjab	1
7. Tamil Nadu	1
8. Andhra Pradesh	9
9. Kerala	3
10. Maharashtra	8
11. Gujarat	1

#### Violation of Rules

4614. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 849 dated June 1, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1 Kasaragod, Kerala has violated the decision of the Government by stopping admission from the current academic year onwards; and

(b) if so, the action taken against those found responsible for it?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Kasaragod is a project sector school funded by Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI). The admissions for Class-I have been stopped by the Principal of the School, on a request from Project Authorities. Hon'ble Kerala High Court has directed the Ministry of HUMAN Resource Development to consider this issue and take a decision within three months i.e. latest by 11.9.98. Meanwhile, the matter has been considered in the Ministry and admissions to Class-I are being restored for the present.

#### Complaints against Officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

4615. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 789 dated November 24, 1997 and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): A statement containing the requisite information/details is attached.

**Statement****Vidyalaya Sangathan**

Sl. No.	Name and designation of Officer	Specific complaints	Action taken
1	2	3	4
1.	Sh. Puran Chand, Jt. Commissioner (Acad.)	Delay in finalisation of report of up-gradation upto XII level under +2 in respect of Rockwood School, Noida. (+2 Scheme).	Based on detailed reply of Sh. Puran Chand, the matter was closed.
2.	Dr. P.C. Sharma, Education Officer	Harrasment with the family of Sh. T.S. Giri, Tech. Officer.	Based on parawise comments on the complaints, the matter was closed.
3.	Sh. V.K. Gupta, Asstt. Commissioner, (Admn.)	Undue favour of candidates in appearing Departmental Exam of Supdt. (Admn.)	In lack of evidence the matter was not regarded for investigation. Accordingly the matter was closed.
4.	Sh. K.K. Bhatt, Ex-Asstt. Commissioner (Delhi Region)	Irragularity in transfer.	Being pseudonymous complaint the matter was closed.
5.	Sh. C. Bheemanna, Ex-Jt. Commissioner (Admn.)	Undue favour and misuse of his position	Case referred to the Vigilance Deptt. of Ministry of H.R.D. for follow up action.
6.	Dr. T.N. Goswami, Dy. Commissioner (Admn.)	Irregular admissions and appointments of his four daughters	Based on Inquiry Report the irregular admissions has been cancelled. Regarding irregular appointments the matter is enquired into by the Asstt. Commissioner concerned being the competent authority.
7.	Sh. A.K. Saxena, Exe. Engineer, KVS	Misbehaviour with senior Officer	Based on explanation of Shri Saxena, the matter was closed.
8.	Sh. Puran Chand, Jt. Commissioner, (Acad.)	Regarding purchase of computers on higher rates.	Preliminary Enquiry Report received from C.B.I and the same is under investigation by C.B.I.
9.	Sh. S.D. Sharma, Ex-Education Officer	Financial irregularities etc.	Asst. Commissioner (Delhi Region) has been asked to settle the points where ever possible and forward the paras having vigilance angle, for processing the case.
10.	Dr. (Smt.) S. Crover, Principal.	Irregular purchase and poor administration	Report received and submitted for closure of case as the charges are not proved.



1	2	3	4
11.	Smt. S.S. Sampson, Principal (Retd.)	Irregular purchase.	Detailed inquiry ordered.
12.	Dr. V.P. Garg, Principal.	Irregularity in Bank operation and admission on fake Transfer Certi- ficates	Detailed enquiry is under process.
13.	Sh. N.N. Mishra, Principal	Regularisation of period of absence of Smt. S.L. Trivedi TGT (Maths.)	Fabricated complaint. May be treated as closed.
14.	Smt. S. Malhotra, Principal (Retd.)	Harrasment to Group 'D' employee	Action Taken by Asstt. Commissioner hence to be treated as closed.
15.	Smt. Usha Swamy, Principal	Illegal activities such as not allowing subject teachers for checking C.B.S.E. papers.	Matter is <i>sub judice</i> .
16.	Dr. Niharika, Principal	Harrasment to group 'D'	Inquiry conducted by Asst. Commissioner and two group 'D's have been transferred.
17.	Dr. Niharika, Principal	Harrasment to a student, Pawan Bhatia (SC)	Reply has been sent to SC/ST Commission on 28.1.1997
18.	Smt. S. Gangal, Principal (Retd.)	Non-attending the Vidy- alaya during summer vacation and passing out the failed students.	Inquiry Report received. Asstt. Commi- ssioner has recommended for closure of case. File is submitted to the higher authority.
19.	Sh. S.S. Sehwat, Principal.	Misconduct sale of book written by him	Comments received from Principal and are being examined by Asstt. Commi- ssioner (Delhi).
20.	Smt. A.N. Siddiqui, Principal.	Commission and Omission and Irregularities in purchase.	Report awaited from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi Region.
21.	Sh. R.S. Ram, Principal	Irregularities in National Open School Funds	Report received and case closed. Action has been taken against teacher concerned by Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi Region.
22.	Sh. R.P. Saini, Principal	Extn. of bus route	Report from Asst. Commissioner, Delhi is awaited.

1	2	3	4
23.	Sh. S.S. Tomer, Principal	Unsatisfactory studies in school.	Report received. Asstt. Commissioner has recommended for closure of case as no charge is proved. File submitted.
24.	Sh. Anil Kumar Upadhyaya, Principal	Harrassment to teachers and students and illegal admissions.	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi awaited.
25.	Smt. Rekha Kumar, Principal	Harrassment and torture to Sh. RK Goel, PGT (Hindi)	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi awaited.
26.	Sh. R. Kumar, Principal	Sexual harrassment to teachers and unhygienic laboratories.	—do—
27.	Smt. Nirmal Gopal, Principal	Locking of Vidyalaya telephone and Principal Room.	Report is under process.
28.	Sh. R.K. Choudhary, Principal.	Irregularities in admissions.	Case is under investigation by Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi.
29.	Smt. Rekha Kumar, Principal.	Result of a student of Class-IX.	Matter is under investigation.
30.	Smt. S. Kapoor, Principal	Misuse of Vidyalaya tele- phone by the office bearer of AIKVTA	—do—
31.	Miss. S. Malhotra, Principal (Retd.)	Issue of Chargesheet to Group 'D' while on extem- sion period as Principal	Clarification has been sought from KVS (Hqrs.) on the issue whether she was competent to exercise such powers.
32.	Smt. Usha Swamy, Principal	Tempering of Library Record.	Comments called for by Asstt. Commissioner Delhi Region. The matter is pending in the Court as intimated by Delhi Region.
33.	Sh. C.D. Dhingra, Principal	Corrupt practices	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi Region is awaited.
34.	Sh. S.M. Ghosh, Principal (Retd.)	Financial Irregula- rities.	Report & Comments of Asstt. Commissioner, Dehi received recently which being examined.
35.	Sh. V.P. Gard, Principal	Financial irregularities and embezzlement etc.	Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi Region has been asked to give his comments on the report.

1	2	3	4
36.	Sh. P.L. Dhingra, Principal.	Harrasment etc	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi Region is awaited.
37.	Sh. G.H. Yadav, Principal	Irregularities in admission.	—do—
38.	Sh. R.K. Gautam, Principal	Irregular purchases, out of turn allotment of Quarter, and fake entry in Transfer Certificate.	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi asked by Estt. 2 Section is awaited.
39.	Sh. K.K. Jhingran, Principal (Retd.)	Irregular purchases, out of turn allotment of Quarter, and fake entry in Transfer Certificate.	Report from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi asked by Estt. 2 Section is awaited.
40.	Sh. G.H. Yadav, Principal	Irregularity in admission	Related record is awaited from Asstt. Commissioner, Delhi by Acad. Branch.
41.	Sh. D.L. Kapoor, Principal	Atrocities on the student.	Comments of concerned officer awaited by Acad. Branch
42.	Dr. P.L. Dhingra, Principal	Poor administration etc.	—do—
43.	Dr. (Smt.) Niharika, Principal	Indiscipline	Comments of concerned officer awaited by Acad. Branch.
44.	Sh. R.K. Choudhary, Principal	Partiality in annual Exam. Result.	—do—
45.	Sh. Z.S. Chikara, Principal	Partiality in annual Exam. Result.	—do—
46.	Smt. Asha Mohan, Principal	Poor administration	—do—
47.	Sh. M.L. Sharma, Principal	Shortcomings in the admission list of 1st Class.	—do—
48.	Sh. R. Kumar, Principal	Indiscipline in Vidyalaya.	No substance was found in the complaint. Matter closed.

Name and Dasignation of the Officer	Specific Complaints	Action Taken
1	2	3
Smt. Lizzie Jacob, Ex-Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Manipulating official trips outside Delhi with husband who is J.S. in the Department of Animal Husbandary, Ministry of Agriculture.</li> <li>* False T.A. claims.</li> <li>* Misuse of official vehicle.</li> <li>* False certificate regarding air journey</li> <li>* Extension of Consultants' tenure against rules.</li> <li>* Submission of false medical certificate.</li> <li>* Unauthorised trips outside Delhi.</li> <li>* Irregular purchase of Air Conditioner for office room.</li> <li>* Bungling of CLASS Project and swindling of funds.</li> <li>* Unjustified and irregular appointment of consultants.</li> <li>* Fraudulent purchase of computers.</li> <li>* Appointment of insurance agency without following the extant procedure of getting competitive rates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Original files/documents received from Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan being examined in the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.</li> </ul>

#### Waiting List for Telephone Connections

4616. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections in Tamil Nadu at present, district-wise,

(b) the number of telephone connections allotted during the last three years, district-wise; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to clear the waiting list in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) Details of waiting list as on 30.6.1998, districtwise are given as per Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Details are given as per Statement-I' enclosed.

(c) 3.95 lakh new telephone connection are planned to be provided during 1998-99 to clear the waiting list in Tamil Nadu.

#### Statement I

Waiting List as on 30-06-1998

Name of SSA/District	Waiting List as on 30-06-1998
1	2
Chingleput	9199
Coimbatore	40577
Cuddalore	13432
Dharmapuri	11118
Erode	10158
Karaikudi	10554
Madurai	26316

1	2
Nagercoil	10298
Nilgiris	4412
Pondicherry	5537
Salem	26127
Thanjavur	17656
Kumbakonam (CRDA)	13707
Tirunelveli	7112
Tiruchy	30934
Totcorin	7264
Vellore	20867
Virudhunagar	8671
Chennai	75254

**Statement II**

(b) *Telephone connections allotted during last three years.*

Name of SSA/ District	Net DEL Achievement 95-96	Net DEL Achievement 96-97	Net DEL Achievement 97-98
1	2	3	4
Chingleput	5770	10306	14014
Coimbatore	31286	37770	39101
Cuddalore	6266	10120	17708
Dharmapuri	2050	6061	10548
Erode	11216	19815	16740
Karaikudi	3660	9207	9335
Madurai	13341	21800	31234

1	2	3	4
Nagercoil	4503	6008	12010
Nilgiris	2415	4115	4047
Pondicherry	4250	6580	6345
Salem	19296	17017	31234
Thanjavur	9837	6738	10005
Kumbakonam (CRDA) —		5304	7943
Tirunelveli	9405	11031	11045
Tirochy	10400	15559	32786
Totcorin	3884	5916	8875
Vellore	6175	10940	15853
Virudhunagar	3300	5729	5555
Chennai	60348	80066	80160

**Power Generation**

4617. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether China propose to extend assistance to some State Governments in power generation as reported in the *Statesmen* dated May 8, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to seek any technical assistance from the developed countries to overcome the power shortage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): The Government of Kerala/Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) has signed two MOUs with the International Network on Small Hydro Power (IN-SHP), an international organisation for the promotion of small hydro power worldwide, with its headquarters in China, for the demonstration of the Chinese methodology of integrated development of small hydro power in Kerala. IN-SHP has offered to mobilise

export credit for equipment. The Chinese National Machinery Import and Export Corporation (a Chinese Government undertaking under the Ministry of Foreign Trade) have offered to implement Tenughat Stage-II (2x210 MW) in Bihar on turn-key basis through long term credit facility from Chinese Government. A similar offer has been made for implementation of Ib Valley Stage-II (2x210 MW) to Government of Orissa.

(c) and (d) As a part of the ongoing economic cooperation, technical assistance is received from various developed countries such as U.S.A., Canada Japan, Sweden, Australia, U.K. etc. in the fields of training, consultancy and institutional capacity building.

#### **District Advisory Committees in Kerala**

4618. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of district telephone advisory committees in Kerala units have not been reconstituted even after the expiry of their respective period;

(b) if so, the names of the districts where these have not been constituted; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be reconstituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b). Out of eleven Telephone Advisory Committees (TAC) in Kerala Telecom Circle only one TAC namely Canannore TAC has not been constituted so far.

(c) The TAC is likely to be formed as soon as the recommendations of CGM and Hon'ble M.Ps/Union Ministers are received and examined.

#### **Movement of Timber**

4619. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the para 34-A of interim orders dated January 15, 1998 passed by the Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition No. 202 of 1995;

(b) if so, whether the order/direction also applied to timber released prior to issuing of the above order; and

(c) if not, the reasons for detaining the movement of such released timber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir, there is no para 34A in the order of Supreme Court dated 15.1.1998 in Writ Petition No. 202/95.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Rise in Prices of Newspapers**

4620. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether small and medium newspapers are under tremendous economic strain in view of the unprecedented rise in the prices of newsprint; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to control newsprint prices?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) There has not been any rise in newsprint prices produced by domestic mills during the last three years.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **NGO's Role for Working Women Hostels in Bihar**

4621. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI PITAMBER PASWAN :

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

(a) the details of working women hostels set up with the active participation of NGOs as well as with the State Government of Bihar so far;

(b) the amount of grant given to NGOs during the last three years in this regard;

(c) whether any request is still pending with the Government grant for setting up more such hostels in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) 8 Working Women's Hostels have been sanctioned in Bihar to Non-Governmental Organisations under the Department of Women & Child Developmental Scheme of Assistance for Construction/Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children. Details are

enclosed as statement. No hostel has been sanctioned under the Scheme to the Government of Bihar.

(b) Only non-recurring grant is payable under the above Scheme towards cost of building construction and land. The Scheme does not involve payment of recurring or annual grants. An amount of Rs. 79,387/- was released to one of the NGOs during 1995-96 as the final instalment of the approved non-recurring construction-grant under the Scheme.

Further, a total amount of Rs. 37,333/- was sanctioned to 3 NGOs in Bihar during 1997-98 under the

scheme of grant-in-aid for running/maintenance of working women's hostels being implemented by the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi.

(c) to (e) No proposal is pending under the Scheme of Assistance for Construction/Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children from Bihar.

Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi has received 3 proposals under its scheme of providing grants for running/maintenance of working women's hostels. The Board is collecting the requisite information for consideration of these proposals.

### **Statement**

#### *Details of Working Women's Hostels Sanctioned in Bihar*

Sl. No.	Name of Organisation	Year of sanction.	Location of Hostel	Sanctioned Capacity	
				WW	DCC
1.	Working Women's Hostel, Patna.	1974-75	Patna	21	—
2.	Sulabh Shauchalaya Sansthan, Patna.	1979-80	Ranch	98	—
3.	Tilothu Mahila Mandal, Rohtas, Bihar.	1988-89	Tilothu Village Rohtas.	40	—
4.	Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Mithila.	1998-89	Madhubani	30	30
5.	Vanavasi Seva Kendra, Rohtas.	1988-89	Nawhatta Rohtas.	48	—
6.	St. Joseph's College, Torpa, Ranchi	1989-90	Torpa, Ranchi.	120	30
7.	S.P.S. Women's College, Munger, Bihar.	1990-91	Jamui, Munger.	40	15
8.	Rajendra Shiksha Evam Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Sitamari, Bihar.	1990-91	Sitamari.	87	30
Total :				482	105

**Use of Electronic Voting Machines**

4622. DR. SAROJA V. :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

(a) the total number of electronic voting machines purchased by the Election Commission with the date of purchase and cost thereof;

(b) the number of electronic voting machines out of them put to use and the number of times these were put to use;

(c) the amount so far spent on their storage and maintenance; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to use these machines?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) 1.5 lakh electronic voting machines at the cost of about Rs. 75 crores were acquired by the Election Commission in the year 1989-90. 444 machines were earlier acquired by the Election Commission at a cost of around rupees Twenty five lakhs during the period 1982-1984.

(b) Electronic voting machines were tried for the first time in 50 polling stations of Parur Assembly constituency in Kerala in May, 1982 and subsequently in 10 more constituencies in different States as per details given in the Statement enclosed. The machines acquired in 1989-90, however, have not been so far, put to use.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Election Commission have informed that it is making all efforts to use the electronic voting machines in a few selected constituencies for the Assembly elections with would be due towards the end of the year.

**Statement***Constituencies where Electronic Voting Machines were used*

Name of the State	Nature of Election	No. & Name of Constituency where Voting Machines were Used.	Month & Year of Election	Number of Machines Used.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Kerala	General	70-Parur A.C.	May, 1982	50
2. Nagaland	—do—	10-Northern Angami A.C.	Nov. 1982	12
3. Andhra Pradesh	—do—	191-Shadnagar (SC) A.C.	Jan, 1983	126
4. Karnataka	—do—	84-Shanthinagar (SC) A.C.	Jan., 1983	75*
5. Tripura	—do—	9-Banamalipur A.C.	Jan., 1983	12*
6. Delhi	—do—	1-Sarojini Nagar M.C.	Feb, 1983	26*
7. Delhi	—do—	3-Gole Market (SC) M.C.	Feb, 1983	27*
8. Delhi	—do—	5-Delhi Cantt. M.C.	Feb, 1983	25*



	1	2	3	4	5
9.	Arunàchal Pradesh	Bye election	22-Roing A.C.	April, 1983	25
10.	Bihar	—do—	199-Chandi A.C.	June, 1983	159
11.	Tripura	—do—	18-Charilam A.C.	Nov., 1983	19

A.C. = Assembly Constituency, M.C. = Metropolitan Council  
 \* One common machine was used in two polling station located in the same premises.

#### Security Arrangements on National Highways

4623. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of vehicles have been ambushed, goods looted and many lives lost on National Highways in Manipur due to lack of proper security arrangements;

(b) if so, the Government propose to constitute a National Highway Protection Force on the lines similar to that of Railway Protection Force in Manipur area as Manipur is not connected with any rail-link to ensure the safe movement of goods/passengers in the State; and

(c) if not, the other measures proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the lives and goods of commuters in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Maintenance of law order is a State subject.

(b) There is no such proposal with Ministry of Surface Transport.

(c) This is a state subject.

#### Cooperation on Navigation between India & Nepal

4624. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India and Nepal have any proposal to establish co-operation on the navigation aspects of river system of both the countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to set up a Joint Committee to look into the matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Terms of Reference and constitution of the joint study team to study navigational possibilities in Gandak and Kamali rivers are being finalised by both countries jointly.

[Translation]

#### Cyclone Forecast

4625. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to extend the range of existing radars on the Western Coast in view of the heavy loss caused recently by the cyclone in Saurashtra and the Kutch areas so that weather related information and forecast could be made effectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): The range of the existing cyclone detection radars on the western coast is 500 kms. However, the detection of meteorological targets by such radars is limited to 400

kms. range because of the earth's effective curvature. This is a physical limitation which cannot be overcome by technical upgradation. The India Meteorological Department makes full use of Weather Satellite imagery for detection & tracking of cyclonic storms in the Indian seas beyond the radar range for providing warnings and forecasts.

[English]

#### **Agra Bench of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal**

4626. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agra Bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has been constituted to hear and determine appeals w.e.f 1.10.1997;

(b) if so, whether it has become functional;

(c) if not, whether its entire work is stand-still; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to make Agra Bench functional?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d): The Agra bench of the Tribunal, which is recently constituted has not become functional so far for want of suitable office accommodation. Under the standing instructions of the Tribunal the appeals and applications pertaining to the Agra Bench which have become due for hearing and also other urgent matters like stay petition etc. can be heard and disposed of by the Delhi Benches of the Tribunal. Therefore, there is no stand-still in the work of the Bench. The Agra bench will become fully functional as soon as necessary office accommodation is finalised.

[Translation]

#### **Direct Local Call Facility**

4627. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the direct telephone service between Unnao-Kanpur-Suklaganj has been converted into S.T.D. service over looking the interest of the subscribers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No, Sir. Only change in access code has been made from 8 to 910 for Kanpur and 918 for Unnao & Suklaganj for both STD/Non-STD subscribers. However, there is no change in the pulse rate of 90 seconds for calls between Kanpur—Unnao & Kanpur—Suklaganj.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, as per the revised policy for defining local area to be effective from 15.8.99, calls between Unnao & Suklaganj to Kanpur and vice versa will be charged at basic pulse rate of 180 seconds instead of existing pulse rate of 90 seconds.

#### **Power Projects in Rajasthan**

[English]

4628. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted some new power projects to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of power projects cleared during the current year and the time by which the remaining Power Projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Details of new power projects in Rajasthan which are under examination in CEA are given below:

Project	Capacity	Est. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA
Ramgarh COGT (RSFB)	71	341.9	5/98
Mathiana Integrated Solar CCPP (Rajasthan Energy Development agency)	140	958.6	6/98

(c) Two projects namely Barsingsar lignite based scheme of 500 MW and Dholpur CCGT of 702.7 MW have been cleared by CEA during the current year. The two schemes referred to in part (a) & (b) of the question

would be cleared by CEA after due appraisal and subject to tying up of inputs such as fuel linkage, compliance of section 29 of Electricity (Supply) Act etc. by the project proponents.

*(Translation)*

**Setting up of TV Transmitter at Mirzapur, U.P.**

4629. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a TV transmitter at Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Mirzapur lies in the coverage range of the High Power TV Transmitter at Varanasi.

**Limit for IPFI in Power Projects**

4630. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed limit of 40% for the Indian Public Finance Institutes in Power Projects, based on indigenous equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a representation for relaxation of the limit and also to exclude the funding from Indian Commercial Banks while calculating aggregate exposures of IPFIs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): The private power policy *inter-alia* stipulates that an amount of exceeding 40% of the total outlay may come from Indian public financial institutions, but the remaining amount should be met from other sources.

(c) to (e) Government of Gujarat has requested that independent Power Producers sourcing equipment from indigenous suppliers should be exempted from the 40% limit and also that Indian Commercial Banks be excluded from this limit. This request is under consideration.

**Four Lane Highway between Delhi to Haridwar**

4631. SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plan to construct four lane Highway between Delhi and Haridwar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) to (c): Delhi to Ghaziabad portion of National Highway No. 24 is already four-laned. There is no proposal to four-lane the Ghaziabad-Haridwar portion which has recently been declared as a National Highway.

**Doordarshan Kendra Gulbarga**

4632. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which Gulbarga Doordarshan Kendra was commissioned;

(b) whether the said Doordarshan Kendra is providing any independent programme for Hyderabad Karnataka region;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Gulbarga Doordarshan Kendra is functioning as per the requirement of the present kendras to conduct different programmes;

(e) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to rebuild the Kendra according to present needs; and

(f) the number of sanctioned posts existing there and the number of vacancies not filled so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SHUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a): Studio facility at DDK, Gulbarga has recently been commissioned on 1.6.1998 in place of the HPT (1KW) which was functioning w.e.f. 3.9.1997.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. DDK, Gulbarga which is situated in Hyderabad-Karnataka region, provides 30 mts. independent programmes for this region every Monday.

(d) The Kendra is functioning for the purpose it has been set up.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) There are 95 sanctioned posts out of which 81 are filled and 14 are vacant.

[*Translation*]

#### Introduction of B.Ed. Course in IGNOU

4633. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University proposes to introduce the B.Ed. course from the next year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): According to information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, the University is considering to launch Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Programme from the year 1999 subject to clearance from Distance Education Council and National Council for Teachers Education.

[*English*]

#### Internet Policy

4634. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Government's Internet Policy; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to formulate a new policy for this purpose in the light of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's ruling regarding the earlier policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) A policy decision has been taken by the Government to privatise the provision of Internet Services. Detailed

guidelines and licensing conditions for Internet Service Providers were announced on 15.1.98. However, the TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) vide its order dated 17.2.98 invalidated the Internet Licensing Policy on the ground that prior recommendations of TRAI regarding terms and conditions of Licenses were not obtained. The Department of Telecommunications had filed an appeal against the decision of TRAI in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the Court has pronounced its Judgement on the issue on 16-7-98 and set aside the order of TRAI. The full text of the judgement is awaited. The Government will take further action in the light of the Court's judgement.

(b) No, Sir, Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

#### Opening of Post Offices

4635. SHRI SHANKER PRAŚAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding the opening of Post Office and making adequate arrangements for distribution of Post in Uttar Pradesh particularly in district Varanasi;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to open post offices in the State and particularly in the district Varanasi;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### Ancient Monuments Under ASI

4636. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the ancient monuments and places of worship under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India at present and the location thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether in many cases the boundaries of such places have been extended beyond their prescribed limits and such extended areas are being utilised for other purposes;

(c) if so, the details of such cases;

(d) whether the Government propose to free such land from encroachment and put a ban on its misuse;

(e) if so, the time by which the same would be done and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A list of such monuments is given in the statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f): Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of Monument	Location
1	2	3
<b>Assam</b>		
1.	Siddol	Sibasagar District Sibasagar
2.	Vishnu dol	—do—
3.	Devidol	—do—
4.	Sivdol	Gaurisagar
5.	Sivdol	Beghringing Distt. Dergaon
6.	Sri Suryapahar	Devasthan Distt. Goalpara
7.	Bordol Temple	Biswanathghat Distt. Sonotpur
8.	Ganesh Temple	Kamakhya Hill Distt. Kamrup
9.	Panbari Mosque	Panbari Distt. Dhubri
10.	Idgah at Panbari	Panbari Distt. Dhubri
11.	Chaturdas Devata Temple	Udaipur Distt. South Tripura

1	2	3
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>		
NIL		
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Doddeswara Temple	Hemavati, Anantapur District
2.	Siddeswara Temple	Hemavati, Anantapur District
3.	Malleswara Temple	Hemavati, Anantapur District
4.	Malikarjuna Temple	Kambadur, Anantapur District
5.	Virabhadraswamy Temple	Lepakshi, Anantapur District
6.	Chintalarayaswamy Temple	Tadpatri, Anantapur District
7.	Rameswargswamy Temple	Tadpatri, Anantapur District
8.	Venkateswara Vishunu Temple	Mangapuram, Chittoor District
9.	Sivakesavaswamy Temple	Pushpagiri, Cuddapah District
10.	Trikuleswara Swamy Temple	Pushpagiri, Cuddapah District
11.	Vaidyanadheswaraswamy Temple	Pushpagiri, Cuddapah District
12.	Kodandaramaswamy Temple	Peddarnudium, Cuddapah District
13.	Old Vishnu Temple	Peddarnudium, Cuddapah District
14.	Narasimha Temple	Peddarnudium, Cuddapah District

1	2	3
15.	Kodandaramaswamy Temple	Vonimitta, Cuddapah District
16.	Visvanadhaswamy Temple	Sivalapalle, Cuddapah District
17.	Sowmyanadhaswamy Temple	Nandalpur, Cuddapah District
18.	Jagadamba Temple in Golconda Fort	Hyderabad, Hyderabad District
19.	Muthalingeswara Group of Temples	
20.	Bhimaswara Temple	Samalkota, Godavari District
21.	Bhimeswaraswamy Temple	Draksharama Godavari District
22.	Golingeswara Group of Temples	Biccavolu, East Godavari District
23.	Umamaheswaraswamy Temple	Yaganti, Kurnool District
24.	Belabrahma Temple (Navabrahma group of Temples)	Alampur, Mahaboobnagar District
25.	Kapoteswaraswamy Temple	Chejerla, Guntur District
26.	Ramalingeswaraswamy Temple (on ancient mound)	Velpur, Guntur District
27.	Bhavanarayaswamy Temple	Bapatla, Guntur District
28.	Ramalingeswara group of Temples	Satyavolu, Guntur District

1	2	3
29.	Thousand Pillared Temples	Hanamakonda, Warangal District
30.	Ramappa Temple	Palampet, Warangal District
		Bihar
		NIL
		Delhi
1.	Babar's Mosque at Palam	
2.	Sunehri Masjid near Red Fort	
3.	Qudsia Masjid near I.S.B.T. (Kashmiri Gate)	
4.	Safdarjung Tomb near Safdarjung Airport	
5.	Kotla Firoz Shah near Ambedkar Stadium	
6.	Khairul Manazil Mosque at Purana Qila	
7.	A'isarwala-ki-Mosque at Humayun's Tomb, Nizzammuddin.	
8.	Nili Mosque, Hauz Khas.	
		Gujarat
1.	Achyit Bibi's Mosque	Ahmedabad
2.	Ahmed Shah's Mosque	-do-
3.	Baba Lauji's Mosque	-do-
4.	Babji's Masjid	-do-
5.	Ada Hari's Mosque	-do-
6.	Dastur Khan's Mosque	-do-
7.	Haibat Khan's Mosque	-do-
8.	Jami Masjid	-do-
9.	Malik Alam Mosque	-do-

1	2	3
10.	Mahatiz Khan's Mosque	Ahmedabad
11.	Qutab Shah's Mosque	-do-
12.	Rani Rupavati's Mosque	-do-
13.	Rani Sipri Mosque	-do-
14.	Shah Alam's Mosque	-do-
15.	Shah Khupai's Mosque	-do-
16.	Kaji Chisti's Mosque	-do-
17.	Sidi Saiyed Mosque	-do-
18.	Small Stone Mosque	Paladi, Ahmedabad
19.	Small Stone Mosque	Isanpur
20.	Great Mosque	Sarakhej
21.	Saiyed Usman's Mosque	Ahmedabad
22.	Jami Masjid	Mandal
23.	Kazi Masjid	Mandal
24.	Saiyed Masjid	Mandal
25.	Jami Masjid	Dholka
26.	Bahlothan Gazi Mosque	Dholka
27.	Jami Masjid	Cambay
28.	Jami Masjid	Bharuch
29.	Rahmat Bibi Masjid	Mangrol
30.	Raveli Masjid	Mangrol
31.	Jami Masjid	Mangrol
32.	Ratneshwar Mahadev Temple	Ratanpur

1	2	3
33.	Rudramata Temple	Desar
34.	Mahadev Temple	Bavka
35.	Kashi Vishvanath Temple	Padarsingh
36.	Jain Temple	Talaji
37.	Gahteswar Mahadev Temple	Sarnal
38.	Dwarkadhish Temple	Dwarka
39.	Rukmini Temple	Dwarka
40.	Kalika Mata Temple	Navi Dhrevada
41.	Nikanteshwar Mahadev Temple	Sunak
42.	Jasmalnathiji Temple	Asoda
43.	Limboji Mata Temple	Delmal
44.	Ananteswar Temple	Anandpur
45.	Sun Temple	Than
46.	Sanderimata Temple	Sander
47.	Nikanteshwara Mahadev Temple	Ruhavi
48.	Sivalmata Temple	Sunak
49.	Some Ruined Hindus's Temple	Pavagadh Hill
50.	Mataimata Temple	Palodar
51.	Holy Jesus Church	Moti Daman
52.	Chapel of Our Lady of Rosario	Moti Daman
53.	Church of Our Lady of Rosario	Moti Daman
54.	Jami Masjid	Diu
55.	Saint Paul Church	Diu

1	2	3
	Haryana	
	NIL	
	Himachal Pradesh	
1.	Ganesh Temple	Bhamour, Distt. Chamba
2.	Lakshmi (Lakhna Devi Temple)	-do-
3.	Mani Mahesh Temple	-do-
4.	Narsingh Temple	-do-
5.	Shri Brijeshwar Temple	Bhardiath, Chamba District
6.	Shri Banshi Gopal Temple	Chamba, Dist. Chamba
7.	Shri Chamunda Devi Temple	Chamba
8.	Shri Lakshmi Narain Group of Temple	Mohalla Hatnala, Chamba
9.	Shri Sita Ram Temple	Mohalla Bangota Distt. Chamba
10.	Shri Han Rai Temple	Chamba
11.	Shri Shakti Devi Temple	Charni, Distt. Chamba
12.	Asha Puri Temple	Ashapuri, Distt. Kangra
13.	Temples of Baijnath and Sidnath	Baijnath, Distt. Kangra
14.	Rock Cut Temple with sculptures lying in and outside	Masrur, Distt. Kangra
15.	Narbhanshwar Temple including paintings therein as well as subsidiary shrines within the compound wall	Sujanpur

1	2	3
16.	Temple of Gauri Shankar with sculptures lying in and outside	Daseal, Distt. Kulu
17.	Temple of Basheshwar Mahedeo	Hatt, Dajaura, Distt. Kulu
18.	Miniature stone saive Temple	Jageshukh, Distt. Kulu
19.	Temple of Gauri Shankar with its sculptures	Nagar, Distt. Kangra
20.	Hidimba Devi Temple	Manali, Kangra Kulu
21.	Panchvaktra Temple	Mandi, Distt. Mandi
22.	Trilokinath Temple	-do-
23.	Ardhnareshwara Temple	-do-
24.	Buddhist Monastery	Tabo, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti
25.	Phoo Gumpha	do
26.	Mirkula Devi Temple, Udaipur	District Lahaul & Spiti
Jammu & Kashmir		
1.	Detha Mandir	Banday, District Baramulla
2.	Ancient Temple	Bunlyar, District Baramulla
3.	Ancient Temple	Billawar, District Kathua
4.	Trilochannath Temple	Basholi, Distt. Kathua
5.	Rock Cut Sculpture	Mulbag, District Kargil
6.	Buddhist Monastery	Lamayuru, District Khalsi
7.	Buddhist Monastery	Likir, District Khalsi
8.	Buddhist Monastery	Aichi, District Khalsi



1	2	3
9.	Buddhist Gonpa	Di Phyang, District Leh
10.	Ancient Palace	Leh, District Leh
11.	Old Castle	-do-
12.	Ancient Palace and Sharine	Shey, District Ladakh
13.	Hemis Gonpa	Hemis, District Ladakh
14.	Ancient Gunpha	Thiksey, District Ladakh
15.	Shrine of Four Lords	Teemo, Hill District Ladakh
16.	Pathar Masjid	Srinagar, District Srinagar
17.	Khanquah of Shah	-do-
	Shankracharya	-do-
	Oendrethan Temple	-do-
	Devi Bhawati Temple	Thalora
		<b>Kerala</b>
	Karasanatha Temple	Thrissur
2.	Siva Temple	Peruvanam
3.	Siva Temple	Chemmanthitta
4.	Siva Temple	Pattimaneh
5.	Rama Temple	Tiruvanchikulam
6.	Vishnu Temple	Triprayar
7.	Siva Temple	Kadavallur
8.	Siva Temple at Pattambi	Netrimangalam
9.	Jain Temple	Kitanganem
10.	Parasurama Temple	Tiruvallam
11.	St. Francis Church	Cochin

1	2	3
		<b>Karnataka</b>
1.	Old Jaina Temple (Locally called Kamatabesti)	Belgaum Fort Distt. Belgaum
2.	Temple known as Basti Gudi.	Deogaon
3.	Old Temple of Ishwara (15th Century).	Denalevalli.
4.	Temple of Panchalinodav.	Huli.
5.	Old Jaina Temple in the Jungle.	Nandegad.
6.	Jaina Temple of Muktaswara	Waldund.
7.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Ambali Distt. Bellary.
8.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Anguru.
9.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Bagali
10.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Halavagalu
11.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Herahadagali
12.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Hoovinhadagal
13.	Parvathi & Karthikaya Temple.	Sandur
14.	Malikarjuna Temple.	Kuruvatti
15.	Suryanarayana Temple.	Magalam.
16.	Kalleswara Swamy Temple.	Mallar
17.	Bhimtwara	Nilgonda
18.	Narasimhaswamy Temple	Rangapuram.
19.	Saraswathi Temple	Singasetnanahali.

1	2	3
20.	Gopalakshna swamy Temple.	Thimmakpur
21.	Shiva Temple	Thimmakpur Distt. Bellary
22.	Great Mosque in Gulbarga Fort.	Gulbarga Distt. Gulbarga.
23.	Mosque in Madarasa of Md. Gawan.	Bidar, Distt. Bidar.
24.	Raneshwar Temple	Bevoor.
25.	Ancient-Hindu Temple	—
26.	Tank with Colonnadas at Banashanhari	—
27.	Old Jaina Temple on top of Hill (Melgudi)	Hallur.
28.	Viswaswara Temple with two big <i>swarapals</i> & main entrance to the courtyard.	Hallur
29.	Nagnath Temple.	—
30.	Shankarling Temple.	Nimbal
31.	Chandrashekar Temple near Sangameswara Temple	Pattadkal.
32.	Galaganath Temple	Pattadkal
33.	Great Temple of Virupakaha	-do-
34.	Jaina Temple including mission area	-do-
35.	Jambulinga Temple	-do-
36.	Kadashiddeshwara Temple	-do-
37.	Kshviswaswara Temp	-do-
38.	Temple of Malikanjana	-do-

1	2	3
39.	Temple of Papanatha	Pattadkal
40.	Temple of Sangameswara	-do-
41.	Tandev Temple with its compound & wall.	Idnikot.
42.	Amritheswa Temple	Amrithapur Distt. Chikmagalur.
43.	Veeranarayana Temple	Bellavadi.
44.	Vidhyashankara Temple	Singeri
45.	Hartharawara Temple	Distt. Chitradurga Harthar.
46.	Akkatangi Temple & Asoka inscription on Emmathan- anagundu.	Siddapur. Distt. Chitradurga.
47.	Banashankari Dvi Temple	Amargol Distt. Dharwad.
48.	Shankaralinga	-do-
49.	Anrateswara Temple	Anrigeri
50.	Kalameswara Temple	Balambid
51.	Nagareswara Temple/ Aravattu Kambadagudi.	Bankapur.
52.	Mukteswara Temple	Chevdandpur
53.	Doddsappa Temple	Dambal
54.	Someewara Temple	Dambal
55.	Saraswathi Temple	Gadag
56.	Galageswara Temple	Galaganath
57.	Someewara Temple	Gadag
58.	Tarakeswara Temple	Hangal

1	2	3
59.	Old Ruined Temple	Hangal
60.	Someswara Temple	Haralehalli
61.	Sideshwara Temple	Mawal Distt. Dharwad.
62.	Jaina Basti	Lakkundi
63.	Kashiviswaswara Temple	-do-
64.	Kumbargen Ishwara Temple	-do-
65.	Mankeshwara Temple at Mushinbhavi	-do-
66.	Mushinbhavi Temple	-do-
67.	Naganatha near the Jaina Temple	-do-
68.	Naneshwara Temple	-
69.	Temple of Sarveswara	-
70.	Kadambeswara Temple	Rattihalli
71.	Basavanna dev Temple	Tambur
72.	Chandramuleshwara Temple	Unkal
73.	Ishwara Temple	-
74.	Kesava Temple	Belur
75.	Lakshmidevi Temple	Doddagaddavali
76.	Adinatha basti	Halebid
77.	Hoysaleswara Temple	Halebid
78.	Kedareswara Temple	-do-
79.	Parswanatha basti	-do-
80.	Santhinatha basti	-do-

1	2	3
81.	Buchaswara Temple	Korevangala
82.	Nageswara & Chennaksava Temple	Mosale.
83.	Lakshminarasimha Temple	Nuggahalli.
84.	Sadaashiva Temple	-do-
85.	Akkana Basti	Sravanabelagola
86.	Chandragupta basti	-do-
87.	Chaundaraya basti	-do-
88.	Gommateswara Statue	-do-
89.	Parsvanatha basti	-do-
90.	Sri Channakes Temple	Azalikeri
91.	Ramalingeswara Temple	Aveni Distt. Kolar
92.	Kolaramma Temple	Kolar
93.	Someswara Temple	-do-
94.	Bhoganandiswara Temple	Nandi
95.	Malikarjuna Temple	Basarol Distt. Mandya.
96.	Panchalingeswara Temple	Govindanahalli.
97.	Lakshminarayana Temple	Hosaholalu
98.	Narayanawamy Temple	Malikote
99.	Kesava Temple	Nagamangala
100.	Panchakuta Basti	Kambadahalli.
101.	Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple	Marhalli

1	2	3	1	2	3
102.	Lachminarayana Temple	Sindhagatta	123.	Vardhamana Swamy Temple	Astur, Distt. Bidar.
103.	Sri Karthirva statue in Narasimha Temple.	—	124.	Veerabhadra Temple	—
104.	Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple	—	125.	Kadareswara Temple	Beligavi Distt. Shimoga
105.	Nambinayana Temple	Tonnur	126.	Fortress & Renuka Temple	Chandragutti
106.	Sidu Malikarjuna Temple.	Battadapur. Distt. Mysore.	127.	Bastis & inscriptions.	Huncha
107.	Sri Vijaya arayana Temple	Gundlupet	128.	Aghoreswara Temple	#Gidari
108.	Arakeswara Temple	Halealur	129.	Rameswara Temple	Kaladi
109.	Srikanteshwara Temple	Narjangud	130.	Kaitabheswara Temple	Kubatur
110.	Krithinayana Temple	Talkad	131.	Parsvanatha basti	-do-
111.	Vaidyeswara Temple	do	132.	Rameswara Temple	-do-
112.	Gowrigwara Temple	do	133.	Rameshwara Temple	Kudli
113.	Madhukeswara Temple	North Kanara Sanavasi	134.	Temples & inscriptions	Kuppegedda
114.	Joshi Shankar Narayana Devasthan	Bhatkal	135.	Malikarjuna & Rameswara Temples.	Nadakalei
115.	Ketpal Narayana Devasthan	-do-	136.	Ananthapadmanabha Temple with ancient dalan's ruins around excluding the chandrasala blug.	Karkala Distt. South Kanara
116.	Parwanatheswara basti	-do-	137.	Chaturmukha Temple	-do-
117.	Narasimha Devasthan	-do-	138.	Jaina statue of Gommateswara	-do-
118.	Raghunath Devasthan	-do-	139.	Mangaladevi Temple	Mangalore
119.	Santappa Naik Tirumal Devasthan.	-do-	140.	Channigaraya Temple	Aralaguppa Distt. Tumkur.
120.	Veenupaksha Temple	Silgi	141.	Channakesa Temple	Nagalapur.
121.	Basti Chandranatha Deva	Hadvalli	142.	Kadareswara Temple	-do-
122.	Ahmed Shah Wali-ur-Rahman's & Syed Shah Krimani Tomb	Astur, Distt. Bidar.			

1	2	3
143.	Three stone built Jaina Temple standing in a courtyard on the south of the village, in front of the central temple is a large inscribed slab measuring 3.6' x 2.7'.	Mulur Distt. Coorg
144.	Jumma Masjid	Sampgaon Distt. Begaum.
145.	Ataukhan's wives tombs.	Bijapur Distt. Bijapur
146.	Ali-shaid pir's Masjid.	-do-
147.	Asar Mahal	-do-
148.	Andu Masjid.	-do-
149.	Bulhari Masjid	-do-
150.	Choti Asar Mahal	Bijapur, Distt. Bijapur.
151.	Dakhani Idgah	-do-
152.	Jod Gumbaz	-do-
153.	Jumma Masjid	-do-
154.	Atsulkhan's Cenatoph	-do-
155.	Moti Darga	-do-
156.	Mubarak Khan's Mahal.	-do-
157.	Mulla Mosque	-do-
158.	Tomb No. 22	-do-
159.	Yusuf's Old Jami Masjid.	-do-
160.	Kanjiri or Malik Jahan Begam's Tomb.	do
161.	Mausoleum of Hyder Ali father	Kolar, Distt. Kolar.
162.	Gubbaz containing tomb of Tippu Sultan	Mandya, Srirangapatna

1	2	3
163.	Jumma Masjid.	Mandya, Srirangapatna
164.	Jumma Masjid.	Turkur, Sira
165.	Malik Rehan Darga	-do-
		Madhya Pradesh
1.	Jain Temple	Damoh Distt. Kundaipur
2.	Sidheswar Temple	Nemawar, Dewas Distt.
3.	Neelkantheshwar Temple	Mandu, Distt. Dhar
4.	Temple of Gouri Shankar	Bheraghat Jabalpur District
5.	Brahmanical Rock Cut Temple	Dhamnar, Mandsaur Distt.
6.	Amlesh Alles Namlleshwar Temple	Omkarleshwar Distt. Khendwa
7.	Siva Temple	Bhojpur, Distt. Raisen
8.	Udayeswar Temple	Udaipur, Vidisha Distt.
9.	Matangeshwar Temple	Khajuraho, Distt. Chhatarpur
10.	Bhojshala Kamal Maula's mosque	Dhar, Distt. Dhar
11.	Lal Ki Masjid	Dhar, Distt. Dhar
12.	Jama Masjid	Chanderi, Distt. Guna
13.	Tomb of Mohd. Ghaus	Gwalior, Distt. Gwalior
14.	Tomb & Mosque of Baljati Shah	Dhamoni, Distt. Sagar
15.	Chaumukh Nath Temple	Nachna, Distt. Panna

1	2	3
	<b>Maharashtra</b>	
1. Cave and Temples		Hchandraga, Ahmednagar
2. Temple of Amruteshwar		Ratanwadi, Ahmednagar
3. Temple of Mallikarjuna		Tahakari, Ahmednagar
4. Temple Shrined Temple		Karjat, Ahmednagar
5. Temple of Shiva		Karjat, Ahmednagar
6. Old Temple of Mahadeo		Kokanthan, Ahmednagar
7. Damri Masjid		Ahmednagar
8. Devi Temple		Toka, Ahmednagar
9. siddeshwar Mahadeo Temple		Toka, Ahmednagar
10. Dhakeshwar Caves		Dhoka, Ahmednagar
11. Temple of Shiva		Pamer, Ahmednagar
12. Hemadpanti Temple		Bamini, Ahmednagar
13. Jain temple		Gothan, Ahmednagar
14. Daleshwar Temple		Padgaon, Ahmednagar
15. Jogeshwari temple Caves		Jogeshwari, Bombay Sub.
16. Temple of Changdeo		Changdeo, Jalgaon
17. Eiddeshwar temple		Waghali, Jalgaon
18. Temple of Devi & Sambha		Dighi, Jagaon
19. Mahadev Temple		Sangameshwar, Jagaon
20. Seven Mohammedan Tombs		Thalner, Dhule

1	2	3
21. Three Mohammedan Tombs		Thalner, Dhule
22. Temple of Mallikarjuna		Gothan, Distt. Ahmedabad
23. Temple of Devi		Katrabad, Distt. Ahmedabad
24. Mandapeashwar Caves		Mandapeashwar, Distt. Bombay sub. Distt.
25. Mahadeo Temple		Jalgaon
26. Madhal Devi Temple		Waghali, Distt. Jalgaon
27. Siddeshwar Temple		-do-
28. Temple of Changdeo		Changdeo, Distt. Jalgaon
29. Shrine of Bhavani		Alibag, Distt. Raigad
30. Temple of Ganpati Panchayat		Alibag, Distt. Raigad
31. Kolaba Fort		-do-
	(i) Temple of Kanhoba	
	(ii) Temple of Mahadev	
	(iii) Shrine of Maruti	
	(iv) Tomb of Mahamman Saint	
	(v) Padmavatis Shrine	
	(vi) Shrine of Yeshwant Dari	
32. Kotali Fort		Ambiwali
33. Elephanta Caves		Ambiwali
34. Fort		Birwadi
35. Gherasurgad or Surgad Fort		Gherasurgad
36. Ghosalgad Fort		Ghosala
37. Awchitgad		Medhe

1	2	3
38.	Kopeshwar Mahadev Temple	Khidrapur, Distt. Kolhapur
39.	Hemadpanti Manikeshwar Mahadev or Triple Shivnad Temple of Mahadev	Lodge, Distt. Nasik
40.	Hindu Temple	Ambegaon
41.	Pandutena Caves	Ambad
42.	Temple of Gondeshwar Mahadev	Sinnar
43.	Temple of Aishwar	Sinnar
44.	Caves	Ankari
45.	Hindu Temple	Ankai Deasthan
46.	Shivneri Ganeshlena Caves Bhimashankar and Manmodi Tuljalena Caves	Junnar, Distt. Pune
47.	Habsi Gumbaj	-do-
48.	Small Darga near Babshi	-do-
49.	Pateleshwar Caves	Pune
50.	Shelarwad Caves	-do-
51.	Dilawarkhan's Tomb	Rajgurunegar
52.	Karla Caves	Karla
53.	Fort	Lohogad
54.	Fort	Visapur
55.	Bhuleshwar Mahadev Temple	Yawat (Malshiras)
56.	Mosque at Dabhol	Dabhol, Distt. Ratnagiri
57.	J. Mahadeo Temple	Dabhol
58.	Krishnabai Temple	Old Mahabaleshwar

1	2	3
59.	Fort	Amala, Distt. Thane
60.	Vasai Fort & Portugees	Vasai, Distt. Thane
61.	Sonar Bhat Mound	Gas, Distt. Thane
62.	Burud Kot Mound	Marades
63.	Temple of Ambamath	Ambamath, Distt. Thane
64.	Bhavani Temple	Barakali, Distt. Akola
65.	Old Temple	Dhoira, Buldhana
66.	Mahadev Temple	—
67.	Balgaon Temple	Balgaon
68.	Sakogaon Temple	Sakogaon
69.	Daltya Sudan Temple	—
70.	Moti Samadhi	Deolgaon Raja
71.	Mosque	Rohinkhed
72.	Old Tomb	Mehakar
73.	Modern Temple of Jagannath	—
74.	Ancient Buddhist remains	Mansar Khairi, Distt. Nagour
75.	A portion of porch of a temple	Ramtek, Distt. Nagour
76.	Mahadev Temple	Ghoghra, Distt. Nagour
77.	Hemadpanti Temple	Ner Parsopant Distt. Yeotmal
78.	Mahadev Temple	Rui-wai, Distt. Yeotmal
79.	Hemadpanti Temple	Tapona, Distt. Yeotmal

1	2	3
80.	Mahadeo Temple	Yeibara, Distt. Yeotmal
81.	Mahadeo Temple	Raut Sawangi
82.	Mahadeo Temple	Chandrapur, Distt. Chandrapur
83.	Achaleshwar Temple	-do-
84.	Mahakali Temple	-do-
85.	Ramdigi Temple	Nimdhala Fort, Distt. Chandrapur
86.	Ramdigi Temple	Neri, Distt. Chandrapur
87.	Kashvnath Temple	Churul, Distt. Chandrapur
88.	Old Mahadeo Temple	Rajagarh, Distt. Chandrapur
89.	Temple of Mahadeo	Mahadwari, Distt. Chandrapur
90.	Old Temple	Palebaras, Distt. Chandrapur
91.	Chandikadevi Temple	Ghutkala, Distt. Chandrapur
92.	Bhandareshwar Temple	Wairagarh, Distt. Gadchiroli
93.	Group Temple of Markandi	Markanda, Distt. Gadchiroli
94.	Two Temple	Thanagaon, Distt. Gadchiroli
95.	Old Temple	Armoni, Distt. Gadchiroli
96.	Old Mahadeo Temple	Wardha, Distt. Chandrapur

1	2	3
97.	Tomb of Begami	Ghodeshwar, Distt. Solapur
98.	Sidheshwar Temple	Machnur, Distt. Solapur
99.	Temple of Mahadeo	Mahalung, Distt. Solapur
	(i) Temple of Vitthoba	
	(ii) Mahaden Stones	
	(iii) Temple of Devi (Yamai)	
100.	Old Temple with Viragal Stones Old Double Shrined temple Old Temple Viragals	Velapur, Distt. Solapur
101.	Ghrishneshwar Temple	Elkora, Distt. Aurangabad
102.	Temple of Ukkadeshwar	U'Khad Pimori, Distt. Beed
		Orissa
1.	Durga Temple	Rameswar, District Cuttack
2.	Panchapandava Temple	Ganeswarpur, District Cuttack
3.	Bhringeeswar Mahadev Temple	Bejrakote, District Cuttack
4.	Gangadheswamy Temple	Kottakol Distt. Ganjam
5.	Gagadiswarswamy Temple	Kottakola, District Ganjam
6.	Bhima Temple	Mahendragiri, District Gajapati
7.	Kurti Temple	Mahendragiri, District Gajapati
8.	Yudhishtir Temple	Mahendragiri, District Gajapati
9.	Jagannath Temple	Jaipur, District Jaipur



1	2	3
10.	Simhanath Temple	Gopinathpur, District Cuttack
11.	Bhubaneswar Mahadev	Balia District Jagatsinghpur
12.	Bhaskaraswar Temple	Bhubaneswar, District Khurda
13.	Brahmeswar Temple	—do—
14.	Megheswar Temple	—do—
15.	Rameswar Temple	—do—
16.	Anant Vasudev Temple	—do—
17.	Vaital Deul	—do—
18.	Lingaraj Temple	—do—
19.	Markaneswar Temple	—do—
20.	Sisireswar Temple	—do—
21.	Mukteswar Temple	—do—
22.	64 Jogini Temple	Hirapur, District Khurda
23.	Daksha Prajapati Temple	Benupur, District Puri
24.	Twin Temples of Siddheswar and Niklamadhav	Gandharadi District Boudh
25.	Group of Siva Temples	Boudh, District Boudh
26.	Lord Jagannath Temple	Puri, District Puri
27.	Varahi Temple	Chaurasi, District Puri
28.	Ancient Sculpture Shed in Danteswari Temple	Barsoor, District Bastar
29.	Mahadev Temple	Bastar, District Bastar

1	2	3
30.	Bairamdev Temple	Bhairagarh, District Bastar
31.	Narayan Temple	Narayanpel, District Bastar
32.	Kari Mahadev Temple	Semur, District Bastar
33.	Brick Temple (Sevari)	Kharod, District Bastar
34.	Mahadev Temple	Pali, District Bilaspur
35.	Brick Temple, Keshav Temple	Sheorinarayan, District Bilaspur
36.	Pataleswar Temple	Malher, District Bilaspur
37.	Temple Belpan	District Bilaspur
38.	Ruined Siva Temple	Debaloda, District Durg
39.	Mahadev Temple	Narainpur, District Raipur
40.	Suryanarayan Temple	Narainpur, District Raipur
41.	Rajiv Temple and Group of Temple	Rajim, District Raipur
42.	Ramachandra Temple	Rajim, District Raipur
43.	Old Siva Temple	Gandai, Rajnandgaon
<b>Pondicherry</b>		
1.	Moolanathaswamy Temple	Bahour
2.	Mahadeva Temple	Madagadpettu
3.	Panchanadeswara Temple	Tiruvandarkoil
4.	Varadaraja Perumal Temple	Tiruthuvanal
5.	Swayambunathaswamy Temple	Nedungadu
6.	Ekambareswara Temple	Settur

1	2	3
	<b>Rajasthan</b>	
1.	Hanuman Temple, Arthuna	Tehsil Garhi, Distt. Banswara
2.	Somnath Temple	Deosomnath, Distt. Dungarpur.
3.	Hanuman Temple, Deeg Bhawan.	Deeg, Distt. Bharatpur.
4.	Usha Temple, Bayana Fort	Bayana, Distt. Bharatpur.
5.	Jagat Shiromani Temple	Amber, Distt. Jaipur.
6.	Laxmi Narain Temple	Amber, Distt. Jaipur.
7.	Ancient Temples at Jaisalmer Fort	Jaisalmer, Distt. Jaisalmer.
8.	Harshnath Temple	Sikar, Distt. Sikar
9.	Ganesh Temple, Ranthambhor Fort	Ranthambhor, Distt. Sawai Madhopur.
10.	Kalka Mata Temple Chittorgarh Fort	Chittorgarh, Distt. Chittorgarh
11.	Samdeshwar Mahadeo Temple Chittorgarh Fort.	-do-
12.	Mira Temple, Chittorgarh Fort	-do-
13.	Sat Bis Devni, Chittorgarh Fort	-do-
14.	Adinath Jain Temple Chittorgarh Fort.	-do-
15.	Tulcha Mata Temple, Chittorgarh Fort.	-do-
16.	Jayamal Kalla ki Chhatri Chittorgarh Fort	-do-
17.	Neelkantheswar Mahadeo Temple, Chittorgarh Fort	-do-
18.	Annapurna Mata Temple Chittorgarh Fort.	-do-

1	2	3
19.	Hanuman Temple, Bhatner Fort.	Hanumangarh, Distt. Hanumangarh.
20.	Krishna Temple, Bhatner Fort	-do-
21.	Shiva Temple, Bhatner Fort.	-do-
22.	Devi ka Mandir.	-do-
23.	Shila Pir (Sultan Pir) Bhatner Fort.	-do-
24.	Adhai-din-ka-Jhoora	Ajmer, Distt. Ajmer.
25.	Jama Masjid, Amber.	Amber, Distt. Jaipur.
26.	Dargah at Ranthambhor Fort	Ranthambhor, Distt. Sawai Madhopur.
27.	Temple at Atru	Atru, Distt. Kota
28.	Siva Temple at Kanswa	Kanswa, Distt. Kota.
29.	Siva Temple Charchoma	Charchoma, Distt. Kota.
30.	Old Temple near Chandrabha	Jhaina Patan, Distt. Jhalawar.
31.	Temples at Kumbhalgarh Fort	Khumbhalgarh, Distt. Rajasamand.
32.	Ancient Sculptures, Kalyanpur.	Kalyanpur, Distt. Udaipur.
33.	Hanumanji Temple at Jawahar Burj.	Bharatpur Fort, Distt. Bharatpur.
34.	Yaksha, Noh.	Noh, Distt. Bharatpur.
		<b>Sikkim</b>
1.	Dubdi	District Sikkim, Sikkim.
		<b>Tripura</b>
		—NIL—

1	2	3
	Tamil Nadu	
1. Nityakalayswamy Temple	Tiruvendhrai	Changalpettu-Mgr. Distt.
2. Ganesh Temple	Mamasapuram	—do—
3. Tiruputiswara Temple	Vayalur	—do—
4. Munkudumiswara Temple	Ponvikainthekalathur	Changalpettu-Mgr. Distt.
5. Siva Temple	Tenneri	—do—
6. Kanthalingswara Temple	—do—	—do—
7. Dharmeswara Temple	Marimangalam	—do—
8. Vaikuntaperumal Temple	Uthirapuram	—do—
9. Venkatesaperumal Temple	Tirumukudal	—do—
10. Kalasanthia Temple	Kancheepuram	—do—
11. Vaikuntaperumal Temple	—do—	—do—
12. Methangaswara Temple	—do—	—do—
13. Mukteswara Temple	—do—	—do—
14. Iravateswara Temple	—do—	—do—
15. Piravateswara Temple	—do—	—do—
16. Jvarahaswara Temple	—do—	—do—
17. Brihadiswara Temple	Thanjavu	Distt. Thanjavur
18. Ariavateswara Temple	Darasuram	Distt. Thanjavur
19. Schwarz Church	Thanjavur	—do—
20. Ramapada Mandapam	Kodikkadu	—do—
21. Brihadiswara Temple	G K C Puram,	Tiruchi Distt.
22. Siva Temple	Valikantapuram	—do—
23. Erumbeswara Temple	Tiruvarumbur	Distt. Tiruchi

1	2	3
24. Jain Statues	Jeyamkonden	Distt. Tiruchi
25. (Mosque inside) Fort	Rajangudi	—do—
26. Somaskhan Mosque	Vallapuram	—do—
27. St. Mary's Church	Madras	Distt. Madras
28. Jalakanteswara Temple	Vellore	Distt. North Arcot (Ambedkar Distt.)
29. Old Mosque inside Fort	—do—	—do—
30. Subramanyeswamy Temple	Vallimalai	—do—
31. Somasitha Temple	Melpadi	—do—
32. Jain Temple	Tirumalai	Tiruvannamalai- Sembuvanayur Distt.
33. Rock cut Temple and Sculptures	Siyamangalam	—do—
34. Narasimhaswamy Temple	Namakkal	Salem Distt.
35. Ranganathaswamy Temple	—do—	—do—
36. Channisesava Temple	Chinnakavandanur	—do—
37. Chennarayerumal Temple	Adiyamankottai	Dharmapuri Distt.
38. Sugrivaswara Temple	Sircarperiya- palayam	Periyar Distt.
39. Jain Temple	Metupudur	Periyar Distt.
40. Muruganatha Swamy Temple	Metupudur	Coimbatore Distt.
41. Siva Temple	Annamankurichi,	Distt. Pudukkottai
42. Sundaresaperumal Temple	Inumbanadu,	—do—
43. Rock cut Siva Temple	Devamalai	—do—
44. Baksubramanyam Temple	Kannanur	—do—
45. Uthamanatheswara Temple	Koelathanyam,	—do—

1	2	3
46. Sirkangaswamy Temple	Kuduminamalai	Distt. Pudukkottai
47. Rock cut Siva Shrine	Malayalkoil	—do—
48. Rock cut Siva and Vishnu Temple	Malayadipatti	—do—
49. Siva and Pillayar Temple	Marondi	—do—
50. Menandar Pillayar Temple	Moinlavayal	—do—
51. Siva Temple	Nirpaleri	—do—
52. Rajendrachol Iswara Temple	Ponnarasavally	—do—
53. Rock cut Shrine of Pushpevanaswara	Puvalekudy	—do—
54. Stone Idols of Vishnu and Devi and Siva Temple	Rasipuram	—do—
55. Bhumsvara Temple	Sevaku	—do—
56. Siva Temple	Tennabgudi	—do—
57. Sanctum of Siva Temple	Tirukalambur	—do—
58. Sunderaswara Temple	Tirudatalai	—do—
59. Rock cut Siva and Vishu Temple	Tirumayem	—do—
60. Uttamanathaswamy Temple	Keeranpur	—do—
61. Rock cut Cava Temple	Kunnanderkottai	—do—
62. Cholawaramudayar Temple	Tiruppur	—do—
63. Siva Temple	Todaiyur	—do—
64. Siva Temple	Varappur	—do—
65. Agastiswara Temple	Vellanur	—do—
66. Two Lion Pillars of Subramanya Temple	Viralimalai, Distt. Pudukkottai	

1	2	3
67. Siva Temple	Viakur	Distt. Pudukkottai
68. Siva Temple	Aryur	—do—
69. Vishnu and Sridevi Idols	Sengirai	—do—
70. Rock cut Cave Temple	Kunnajudi	—do—
71. Kalabamudayar Temple	Irumbanadu	—do—
72. Idols in southern Bund of Theppakulam	Madarapatti	—do—
73. Kamalakanni Amman Temple	Gingee	Villouram-Ramasamy Padayachiar Distt.
74. Saad-Al-Ullah Khan Mosque	—do—	—do—
75. Talagiriswara Temple	Panamalai	—do—
76. Nithiwaraswamy Temple	Srinuethan	—do—

**Uttar Pradesh**

1. Two Large Caves known as Rikhiyan	Barha-Kotra, Distt. Banda
2. Neelakantha Temple	Kalinar Fort, Distt. Banda
3. Remains a large Temple	Ramanagar Distt. Banda
4. Temple of Devi Chandra Maheshwari	Distt. Banda
5. A Shiva Temple inside Jhansi Fort	Distt. Jhansi
6. Jarai Ka Matha	Barwasagar, Distt. Jhansi
7. Ancient Brick Temples	Kanchilipur, Distt. Kanpur
8. Ancient Pillar Lala Bhagar	Distt. Kanpur
9. Group of ruined brick temple of the 10th century locally called as Teligathi.	Bhagupur, Distt. Sultanpur

1	2	3
10.	Jami Masjid, Banda	Distt. Banda
11.	Hathikhana Mosque or Jaichandi Mosque	Hathgaon, Distt. Fatehpur
12.	Old Nawabi Mosque	Akbarpur, Distt. Faizabad
13.	Tomb and Mosque of Haji Iqbal	Distt. Faizabad
14.	Jami Masjid,	Mahoba, Distt. Mahoba
15.	Mosque at Orai	Distt. Jalaun
16.	Jama Masjid	Distt. Lucknow
17.	Jama Masjid	Distt. Lucknow
18.	Masjid connected with Asaf-ud-Daula	Distt. Lucknow
19.	Tehsin Ali's Mosque	Distt. Lucknow
20.	Tomb of Bahu, Begam	Faizabad, Distt. Faizabad
21.	Tomb of Shuja-ud-Daulah	Faizabad, Distt. Faizabad
22.	Tomb of Nawab Sadar Jahain	Pihani, Distt. Hardoi
23.	Maqbara of Nawab Diler Khan	Shahabad Distt. Hardoi
24.	Ibrahim Chisti's Tomb	Distt. Lucknow
25.	Karbala	Lucknow
26.	Imambara Amin-ud-Daula	Distt. Lucknow
27.	Imambara of Asaf-ud-Daula	Distt. Lucknow
28.	Kaz-main building	Distt. Lucknow
29.	Malka Jahan's Karbala	Distt. Lucknow

1	2	3
30.	Nasir-ud-Din Haider's Karbala	Distt. Lucknow
31.	Tomb of Ghazi-ud-din Haider	Distt. Lucknow
32.	Tomb of Lotan Bagh	Distt. Lucknow
33.	Tomb of Muhammad Ali Shah	Distt. Lucknow
34.	Tomb of Qardan Mohammad	Bangar Mau, Distt. Unnao
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Madanmohan, Medangopal	Bishnupur
2.	Radhashtyam	Bishnupur
3.	Radhabinod	-do-
4.	Radhamadhab	-do-
5.	Laji	-do-
6.	Malleswar Temples	-do-
7.	Ratneswar Temple	Jagannathpur
8.	Shyamsunder Temple	Medanpur
9.	Ancient Temple	Bahulera
10.	Saleswar	Dihar Distt. Bankura
11.	Sareswar	-do-
12.	Jatardeul	Jata in Distt. South 24 Parganas
13.	Radhabinod Temple	Joydebkendul
14.	Temple of Basuli	Nanoor in Distt. Birbhum
15.	Group of Five Temples	Kaina
16.	Seven other Temples	Kaina

1	2	3
17.	Group of four Ancient Temples	Begunia
18.	Redreswar Temple	Bamunera
19.	Tomb Baharamsalka	Burdwan
20.	Shanalgan	Burdwan
21.	Nawab Kulbuddin	Burdwan
22.	Brindaban Chandra Math	Guptipara
23.	Hansowari	Bansberia Shrine

1	2	3
24.	Basudev Temple	Bansberia
25.	Mosque of Zafarkhan Gazi	Triveni Distt. Hooghly
26.	Charbangala Group of Temples	Baranagar
27.	Bhabaniswar Temple	Baranagar
28.	Dargah of Shah Ata	Gangarampur Distt. Dinajpur
29.	Coronation Throne	Yukson Dubdi Monastery

#### Manermali Hydel

4637. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the work on the Manermali Hydel Electric Power Project was started in U.P.;

(b) the phase-wise details of its schedule of completion;

(c) the measures being adopted by the Government for its completion and the time by which this project is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Government have taken any initiative to remove the obstacles coming in the way of its completion; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): The work on the Maneri Bhalil Stage-II Hydro-electric Power Project in Uttar Pradesh was started during the year 1979-80 and was scheduled to be completed in 8 years. Due to paucity of funds with the State Government, the progress was slow and works were stopped in the year 1993-94. The project is being revived by the State Government and expected to be completed in 2002.

(c) to (e): The various measures being taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for completing the project, *inter-alia* include obtaining financial assistance from the Power Finance Corporation, setting up of a committee for one time settlement of pending claims, preparation of a revised detailed project report for submission to CEA, etc.

[English]

#### Making Hindi Compulsory for Appointment

4638. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the knowledge of Hindi has been made compulsory for the recruitment of teachers of all categories in Kendriya Vidyalayas since 1986;

(b) whether as a result of it even highly qualified candidates are not able to apply for the post of teachers;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposed to scrap this clause; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) In accordance with the Recruitment Rules, competence to teach through Hindi and English is one of the essential

requirements for the posts of Primary Teacher, Trained Graduate Teacher and Post Graduate Teacher in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The medium of instruction is Hindi for Social Studies and English for Mathematics and Science in all Vidyalayas throughout the country.

**Power Tariff in India for Industrial and Domestic Purpose**

4639. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the average power tariff in India as applicable to Industrial and Domestic Consumers is higher

than the other countries especially our neighbour countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): the average Power Tariff in the country is dependent upon its cost of supply (cost of generation plus cost of transmission & distribution), electricity pricing laws and regulation. The cost of supply is dependent upon many factors such as technology, funding pattern, interest rate, hydro-thermal mix, price and source of fuel, completed cost, the geographical area, load density, taxes & duties etc. These factors render comparability of the tariffs of different countries difficult.

The details of average power tariff applicable to domestic and industrial consumers in India and some other countries including our neighbour countries are given in enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Power Tariff in India for Industrial and Domestic Purposes*

S. No.	Country	Year	Domestic C.L. = 1.8 KW Energy 100 KWH/Month		Industrial C.L. = 800 MW MD = 600 KW Energy 0.2 MU per month	
			US C/KWH	EQ.P/KWH	US C/KWH	EQ.P/KWH
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	India	1998	2.6	92	6.1	218 (c)
2.	Bangladesh	1992	3.8	136	5.6	200 (c)
3.	Pakistan	1992	1.6	57	2.8	100 (c)
4.	Sri Lanka	1992	3.5	125	5.2	186 (c)
5.	Malaysia	1996	8.0	286	9.7	346
6.	China	1994	2.7	96	2.8	100
7.	Philippines	1997	6.4	228	9.7	346

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Singapore	1996	10.5	375	8.3	296
9.	USA (b)	1996	8.7	311	6.6	236
10.	UK	1996	17.6	628	11.6	414
11.	Germany	1995	8.0	286	4.3	161
12.	Japan (a)	1992	22.0	785	16.0	571

- (a) Fig. are arithmetic average of all power supply utilities.  
 (b) Arithmetic average of ten cities in USA.  
 (c) Average for medium and HT Industries combined.

1 US \$ = 35.70

C.L. = Connected Load.

M.D = Maximum Demand.

Source = Council of Power Utilities — Electricity tariff in selected countries.

[Translation]

#### Power Projects in the Private Sector

4640. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:  
 SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power projects in the private sector in the country have not achieved the desired success and are facing difficulties in achieving the targets fixed;

(b) if so, whether the basic facilities provided by the Government and the State Governments to the private sector are not being utilised by them properly;

(c) the names of projects lagging behind the schedule, state-wise;

(d) the details of power projects in the private sector for which Memorandum of Understanding have been signed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e): Government of India is monitoring 95 proposals on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Letter of Intent (LoI), etc. route costing more than Rs. 100 crores for setting up power projects in the private sector totalling a capacity of 47871.54 MW at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,96,748,715 crores. Of these, as on date, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded techno-economic clearance to 44 proposals. CEA, while according techno-economic clearance, prescribes commissioning schedules in respect of each power project from the date of financial closure. However, in spite of the facilities provided by the Government and the State Governments, a large number of these sanctioned projects have failed to come up and are facing difficulties in adhering to the commissioning schedules on account of the private promoters not being able to achieve financial closure. Details of the sanctioned project which are yet to achieve financial closure are given in attached statement.



**Statement****TEC Cleared Projects which have not Achieved Financial Closure**

S.N.	Name of the Project	CAP(MW)
1	2	3
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>		
1.	Baspa Stage-II HEP (M/s JPIL)	300
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
1.	Vishnuprayag HEP (M/s JPIL)	400
2.	Rosa TPP (M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers)	567
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
1.	Dholpur CCGT (M/s RPG Dholpur Power Co. Ltd.)	702.7
2.	Barsingsar TPP (M/s Hindustan Vidyut Corporation Ltd.) on ICB route	500
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
1.	Maheshwar HEP (M/s S. Kumars Ltd.)	400
2.	Korba (East) TPP (M/s Daewoo Power)	1070
3.	Bina TPP (M/s Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd.)	578
4.	Narsinghpur CCPP (M/s GBL Power)	166
5.	Korba (West) Extn. (M/s ITPL)	420
6.	Guna CCGT (M/s STI Power India Ltd.)	347.25
7.	Pench TPP (M/s Pench Power Ltd.)	500
8.	Bhilai TPP (M/s Bhilai Power Supply Comp.)	574
9.	Raigarh TPP (M/s Jindal Power Ltd.)	550
10.	Bhander CCGT (M/s Bhandar Power Ltd.)	342
11.	Pithampur DGPP (M/s Shapoorji Pallonji Power Co. Ltd.)	119.7
12.	Ratlam DGPP (M/s GVK Power (Ratlam) Ltd.)	118.63

1	2	3
13.	Khandwa CCGT (M/s Madhya Bharat Energy Corp. Ltd.)	171.17
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
1.	Bhadravati TPS (M/s Central India Power)	1072
2.	Patalganga CCGT (M/s Reliance Patalganga Power Pvt. Ltd.)—on ICB route	447.1
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Vizag TPS (M/s HNPCL)	1040
2.	Ramagundam Extn. (M/s BPL Group)—on ICB route	520
3.	Kondapally CCGT (Lanco Industries Ltd.)—on ICB route	350
4.	Krishnapatnam 'B' TPP (BBI Power Krishnapatnam Co.)—on ICB route	520
<b>Karnataka</b>		
1.	Mangalore TPS (M/s Cogentrix)	1013.2
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
1.	Neyveli TPS—Zero Unit (M/s. ST-CMS)	250
2.	Pillaiperumalnallur CCGT (M/s PPN Power)	330.5
3.	North Madras TPS-II (M/s Videocon Power)	1050
4.	Tuticorin TPP St. IV (M/s SPIC)	525
5.	Samayanallur DGPP (M/s Balaji Power Corp. Ltd.)	106
6.	Samalpatti DGPP (M/s Samalpatti Power Co.)	106
<b>Orissa</b>		
1.	Ib Valley TPS (Units 3 and 4) (IB Valley Cor.)	420
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Balagarh TPS (M/s. Balagarh Power Com.)	500
2.	Bakreshwar TPP (Bakreshwar Power Gen. Co. Ltd)	420
<b>Bihar</b>		
1.	Jojobera TPP (M/s Jamshedpur Power Co.)	240
Total 35 projects (Hydro + Thermal) : 16,736 MW		

*[English]***Verification of Marks**

4641. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the CBSE for verification of papers of Xth class examination held in March, 1998;

(b) the details thereof, subject-wise;

(c) whether it is a very large number creating a new record in the history of CBSE examinations; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): As per information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), 13189 candidates have submitted applications for verification of marks in one or more subjects after the declaration of results of Class-X examination conducted by the Board in 1998. The last date for receipt of applications was 14.7.1998. The final figure may vary after taking into account those applications which are received late due to the impact of the postal strike. The subject-wise details of the requests received for verification of marks are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d): In spite of the fact that the number of candidates appearing in Class-X Examination of the Board has gone up, the number of candidates applying for verification of marks has not shown any increase in comparison to previous two years.

**Statement**

*Subject-wise details of the requests received for Verification of Marks after the declaration of results of Class-X Examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education in 1998*

Subject	No. of Requests Received
1	2
English A	3349
English B	990
Hindi A	1784

1	2
Hindi B	501
Gujarati	12
Urdu	02
Punjabi	52
Bengali	03
Tamil	17
Sindhi	02
French	44
German	07
Russian	06
Sanskrit	395
Mathematics	4776
Home Science	01
Science (with practicals)	3236
Social Science	4898
Science (without Practical)	11
Elements of Business	14
Marathi	03
Manipuri	02
Malayalam	12
Kannada	05
Nepali	01
Oriya	02

**Upgradation of BPO in Maharashtra**

4642. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for upgradation of branch post offices in Maharashtra especially in Khed, Nasik, Pune and Dhuley region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be upgraded;

(d) whether the Government of Maharashtra has demanded for opening of some more branches of post offices in some other places of the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (e): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Stadia in Orissa**

4643. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stadia constructed in Orissa with Central assistance so far;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to set up some more stadia in 1998-99 in the rural areas; and

(c) if so, the number of stadia proposed to be set up in the rural areas in Orissa during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per records available, construction of 13 stadia in Orissa have been approved with Central assistance. However, only three stadia have been completed so far.

(b) The revised scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, which is expected to be finalised shortly, has provision for providing assistance towards construction of stadia in all States/UTs. Fresh proposals will be considered after the scheme is finalised.

(c) This will depend on the number of proposals received from the State Government and the quantum of funds available with the Central Government.

[*Translation*]

**Sanctioned Posts of Judges in Delhi High Court**

4644. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Judges in the Delhi High Court;

(b) whether all the sanctioned posts of Judges in the Delhi High Court have been filled up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c): as on 1.7.1998, there were 27 permanent/Additional Judges in position in the Delhi High Court against the sanctioned strength of 31 permanent/Additional Judges.

The procedure for such appointments involves consultations among several constitutional authorities. Every effort is being made to fill existing vacancies of Judges/Additional Judges in the Delhi High Court at the earliest.

[*English*]

**Profits of Shipyards**

4645. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipyards in public sector have shown profits;

(b) if so, the details for the last three years, Shipyard-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b): There are 7 public sector shipyards under the Central Government out of which 4 shipyards are

making profits. The details of profits made by the four public sector shipyards during the last 3 years are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Name of Shipyard	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Goa Shipyard Ltd., Vasco Da Gama, Goa	44.71	60.06	62.34
Cochin Shipyard Ltd., Cochin	11.16	18.46	12.56
Mazagon Dock Ltd., Mumbai	29.83	12.94	23.97
Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd., Calcutta	15.82	14.51	15.98

(c) Three public sector shipyards namely, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam, Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd., Calcutta and Rajabagan Dockyard of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited (C.I.W.T.C. Ltd.), Calcutta are not making profits. The main reasons, therefore, are as under:

- (i) Lean order book position;
- (ii) Lack of continuous order;
- (iii) Poor productivity;
- (iv) Delay in delivery;
- (v) Large cost price gap in shipbuilding orders.

#### Poor Telecast of Football Events on Doordarshan

4646. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the poor telecast of football events as well as news casting of Doordarshan from the viewers and media;

(b) if so, the details and the nature of complaints received;

(c) whether the Government have probed into the root cause of the poor telecast;

(d) if so, the details of the investigations made and the results thereof;

(e) whether there is also a general complaint that cable network is also causing interference in the smooth newscasting of DD and more so in urban areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure smooth telecast by DD and for keeping a tab on cable network?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (f): While no formal complaints as such have been received, there have been general complaints and reports about viewer dissatisfaction at the quality of the Doordarshan telecast reception of the World Cup Football and other programmes. These relate essentially to the unsatisfactory reception through cable networks, which reportedly generally transmit Doordarshan's terrestrial signals through their cable systems instead of receiving TV signals through an appropriate dish antenna. In cases sub-standard quality of equipment of cable operators could also be responsible for interference with Doordarshan's reception quality on cable network.

(g) Doordarshan itself has been exhorting its viewers to ask their cable operators to transmit the signal through a dish antenna, or to install their own yagi (rod) antenna which gives a clear reception. Government intend to address this problem through appropriate means including the proposed Broadcasting Bill which, *inter alia*, covers cable network also.

[Translation]

#### National Task Force

4547. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :  
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Task Force constituted for information technology and software industries has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the date on which the Government received the said report;

(c) the main recommendations of the Task Force; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. On 4-7-98.

(c) Report includes a total of 108 recommendations. The main recommendations of the National Task Force are listed in the statement enclosed.

(d) Government has set up a Group of Ministers for examining the recommendations of the National Task Force.

### **Statement**

#### **Main Recommendations of the National Task Force**

The main recommendations of the National Task Force aim at accomplishing the following basic objectives:

(i) *Info-infrastructure Drive* : Accelerate the drive for setting up a world class info infrastructure with an extensive spread of Fibre Optic Networks, Setcom Networks and Wireless Networks for seamlessly interconnecting the local informatics-Infrastructure (LII), National Informatics Infrastructure (NII) and the Global Informatics, Infrastructure (GII) to ensure a fast *nation-wide* onset of the INTERNET, EXTRANETS and INTRANETS.

(ii) *TARGET ITEX-50* : With a potential 2 trillion dollar Global IT industry by the year 2008, policy ambience will be created for the Indian IT Industry to target for a \$ 50 billion annual export of IT Software IT Services (including IT-enabled services) by this year.

(iii) *IT for all by 2008* : Accelerate the rate of PC/set-top box penetration in the country from the 1998 level of one per 500 to one per 50 people along with a universal access to Internet/Extranets/Intranets by the year 2008 with a flood of IT applications encompassing every walk of economic and social life of the country. The existing over 600,000 Public Telephones/Public Call Offices (PCOs) will be transformed into public tele-info-centres offering a variety of multimedia information services. Towards the goal of IT for all by 2008, policies are provided for setting the base for a rapid spread of IT awareness among the citizens, propagation of IT literacy, networked Government, IT-led economic development, rural penetration of IT applications, training citizens in the use of day-to-day IT services like tele-banking, tele-medicine, tele-education, tele-documents transfer tele-library, tele-info-centres, electronic commerce, Public Call Centers among others; and training, qualitatively and quantitatively, world call IT professionals.

[English]

### **Power Crisis**

4648. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK :  
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS  
PATEL :  
SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :  
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various parts of the country are facing grave power crisis;

(b) the actual demand and supply of power in the country at present; State-wise;

(c) the steps taken for more power generation and streamlining the transmissions system;

(d) whether Government propose to issue any white paper on power sector;

(e) if so, the time by which the same would be issued; and

(f) the steps propose to be taken to improve the dismal power situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): State-wise power supply position in the country during April-June 1998 is given in statement enclosed.

(c) To met the proposed demand and streamline the transmission system, Government have initiated various steps which *inter-alia* include addition in capacity, encouraging private sector participation in power generation, improvement in Plant Load Factor. Through renovation and modernisation of existing plants, effective utilisation of existing generation capacity by transfer of power from surplus regions to deficit regions through inter-regional links.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal for issuing any white paper on power sector.

(f) Government has initiated various steps to improve power situation in the country. These *inter-alia*, include amendments in Electricity Laws, restructuring of State Electricity Boards, higher budgetary allocation for Central sector projects, interest subsidy for accelerated completion of going schemes in State Sector, renovation and

modernisation and system improvements, formulation of a policy for mega projects, promotion of regional integrated operation and maximising inter-State/regional power

transfer, augmentation of transmission and transformation capacity of the power system, energy conservation measures and better load management.

**Statement**

*Actual Power Supply Position*

(All figures in MU net)

Region/State/System	April, 98 to June, 98			
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	%
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Northern Region</b>				
Chandigarh	270	267	3	1.1
Delhi	4280	4149	131	3.1
Haryana	3570	3397	173	4.8
Himachal Pradesh	696	696	0	0.0
Jammu and Kashmir	1315	1293	22	1.7
Punjab	7015	6639	376	5.4
Rajasthan	5425	5212	213	3.9
Uttar Pradesh	10795	9806	989	9.2
Total (NR)	33366	31459	1907	5.7
<b>Western Region</b>				
Gujarat	11628	10930	698	6.0
Madhya Pradesh	8221	7857	364	4.4
Maharashtra	16771	16270	501	3.0
Goa	364	364	0	0.0
Total (WR)	36984	35421	1563	4.2
<b>Southern Region</b>				
Andhra Pradesh	10324	9156	1168	11.3
Karnataka	6639	5551	1088	16.4
Kerala	3075	2726	349	11.3
Tamilnadu	9919	8296	1623	16.4
Total (SR)	29957	25732	4225	14.1
<b>Eastern Region</b>				
Bihar	2110	1914	196	9.3
D.V.C.	1864	1954	+ 90	+ 4.8
Orissa	2525	2555	+ 30	+ 1.2
West Bengal	4018	4146	+ 128	+ 3.2
Total (ER)	10517	10559	+ 42	+ 0.4

1	2	3	4	5
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	36.3	28.6	7.7	21.2
Assam	763.0	675.2	87.8	11.5
Manipur	125.8	114.8	11.0	8.7
Meghalaya	98.7	105.1	+ 6.4	+ 6.5
Mizoram	53.6	44.3	9.3	17.4
Nagaland	51.9	41.6	10.3	19.8
Tripura	132.7	127.4	5.3	4.0
Total (NER)	1262.0	1137.0	125.0	9.9
All India	112086	104308	7778	6.9

[*Translation*]

**Recovery of Outstanding Dues against Political Parties**

4649. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :  
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total dues outstanding against the political parties and organisations, Political Party-wise and organisation-wise; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) and (b): The information has been called for and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

**Action Plan for Afforestation**

4650. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing forest cover in the country has declined posing threat to our environment;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn up any revised action plan for undertaking the afforestation programme in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The forest cover in the country has been marginally declined from 19.52% to 19.46% of the geographical area in the period 1981 to 1993.

(b) and (c):

(i) The Ministry has requested the concerned State/UT Governments to take serious note of depletion of forest cover and to make an in-depth analysis of the factors contributing to the depletion of forest cover, to evolve effective strategy and action programme for arresting the trend so as to increase the forest cover in the coming years.

(ii) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by the State Governments from their own resources and with financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and under externally aided projects. A total of 7.86 million ha. of afforestation has been done in the Eighth Plan.

(iii) A Working Group was constituted for recommending framework of activities in forestry sector for Ninth Five Year Plan taking into account the progress made in implementation of Eighth Plan programmes. The Working Group has proposed an outlay of Rs. 21,102 crores for forestry sector in the Ninth Plan including afforestation of around 15 million hectares.

(iv) The Planning Commission has also issued guidelines to all the State Governments for



restoration of the earmarking of at least 10% funds each under Employment Assurance Schemes and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for afforestation activities.

[Translation]

#### Lok Adalats

4651. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Lok Adalats organised and the number of cases settled therein in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to make efforts to organise more Lok Adalats in the country with a view to expedite the delivery of justice to people;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d): After the enforcement of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, Lok Adalats are being organised throughout the country by the concerned State and District Legal Services Authorities. National Legal Services Authority monitors and supports Lok Adalats and has been from time to time requesting all the Chief Justices of the High Courts to organise as many Lok Adalats as possible and include therein more and more categories of cases for conciliatory settlement. The National Legal Services Authority has also requested Chief Justices (Patrons-in-Chief of State Legal Services Authorities) to establish permanent and continuous Lok Adalats in every district.

[English]

#### Condition of Jammu-Srinagar Highway

4652. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jammu-Srinagar Highway is in a bad shape and the traffic on it remains suspended for many days every year;

(b) if so, the number of days for which the traffic remained suspended every year during the past three years; and

(c) the cost involved on repairs and keep the road opened for traffic every year during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Out of a total of 288 kms, 68 kms. of Jammu-Srinagar Highway is prone to heavy snow fall, land slides and avalanche every year. The road surface get damaged leading to the intermittent closure thereof requiring clearance of snow from November to March and clearance of land slides during monsoon. However, these damages are repaired immediately to keep the road in traffic worthy condition.

(b)	<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of days</u>
	1995-96	20
	1996-97	17
	1997-98	11

(c)	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount spent (Rs. in crores)</u>
	1995-96	12.00
	1996-97	17.77
	1997-98	16.51

[Translation]

#### Improvement in the Functioning of SEBs

4653. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the financial condition of the State electricity Boards in the country;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to bring improvement in the functioning of boards;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALM) : (a) As per the Statement of Accounts received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the commercial losses of all SEBs put together were Rs. 3018.19 crores (without subsidy) in 1993-94 and in 1995-96 the same increased to Rs. 6748.68 crores (without subsidy). The Poor financial condition of the SEBs is one of the critical problems facing the Indian power sector.

(b) and (c): The Government have recently enacted the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 for the establishment of Central Electricity Commission in the Centre and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. This would help in rationalising tariffs and also provide for transparent subsidies, wherever required. The State Governments have the option of providing subsidies over the above those recommended by the Regulatory Commissions. Such subsidies could cover concessional power to agriculture, and/or to weaker sections on condition that the State Governments compensate the SEBs by providing adequate budgetary support. When tariffs are rationalised and budgetary supports provided, the SEBs will improve their financial health and their capacity to invest.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Noise Pollution in Cities**

4654. SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :  
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

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

(a) whether the problem of noise pollution is steadily increasing in various metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any steps to check the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) An increasing trend of noise has been noticed in the major metropolitan cities of India. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have conducted noise pollution surveys in major cities of the country which have indicated that the noise levels were generally found within the prescribed limits in industrial areas but often exceeded the prescribed standards in certain commercial, residential and silence zones.

(b) and (c): The steps taken by the Government to check noise pollution include the following:

- Noise pollution has been included in the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as amended in 1987. Ambient standards in respect of noise for different categories of

areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified under the environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipments at the manufacturing stage.
- The Central Pollution Control Board has evolved codes of practice for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles. These include public address system, aircraft operations, railway operations, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Governments have been asked to implement these codes of practice under the relevant local laws.
- Environmental awareness campaigns on the effects of noise pollution have been launched through governmental and non-governmental organisations.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **National Gallery of Modern Art in Bangalore**

4655. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to set up a National Gallery of Modern Art in Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has handed over the building to house the proposed gallery;

(c) if so, the date by which it is likely to start functioning; and

(d) the amount proposed to be provided to the said gallery during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government has offered a building 'Manikyavelu Mansion'.

(c) A specific date is contingent on the building being handed over made fit after carrying out the necessary refurbishing and renovation.

(d) The Government has allocated an amount of Rs. 10 Lakhs in the Plan Budget 1998-99 for this purpose.

[Translation]

**New Post Offices**

4656. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :  
SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Departmental sub post offices and extra Departmental Branch Post Offices set up in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether any targets have been fixed by the Government to set up the said post offices in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made *vis-a-vis* these targets, State-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some of the sanctioned post offices have not been set up during the said period;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government are aware that services in the rural post offices and telegraph offices require improvement in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) to (d): The allotment of targets for opening post offices is done Postal Circle-wise. The targets fixed and Post Offices sanctioned during the Eighth Five Year Plan, Postal Circle-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Some Departmental Sub Post Offices could not be set up during the period because accommodation was not available.

(g) and (h): Improvement of rural Telegraph Services in & terms of spread, accessibility, availability and quality of service has been the constant endeavour of the Department of Telegraph, Technological solutions like Electronic key Boards to replace the obsolete morse keys and sounders are in progress.

Improvement of postal services in rural areas is sought to be achieved by the Department of Posts through expansion of postal network, by satellite transmission of money orders and by improving the delivery systems.

**Statement**

*Circle-wise Targets fixed and Post Offices sanctioned during the 8th Five Year Plan (1992—97)*

S. No.	Name of Circle	Targets EDBOs*	Allotted DSOs*	Post Offices EDBOs*	Sanctioned DSOs**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	25	26	28
2.	Assam	63	18	63	15
3.	Bihar	183	49	184	25
4.	Delhi	1	41	—	25
5.	Gujarat	59	49	59	32
6.	Haryana	28	40	34	24

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	53	29	128	9
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	12	8	28	3
9.	Karnataka	34	42	39	40
10.	Kerala	35	36	48	44
11.	Madhya Pradesh	113	37	102	28
12.	Maharashtra	163	51	172	62
13.	North-East	82	18	79	7
14.	Orissa	87	21	94	12
15.	Punjab	27	19	25	18
16.	Rajasthan	105	43	104	26
17.	Tamil Nadu	30	24	24	19
18.	Uttar Pradesh	206	73	244	40
19.	West Bengal	117	27	93	9
Total		1440	650	1546	466

\* Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices.

\*\* Departmental Sub Post Offices.

[English]

**Direct Power Supply to Industrial Units by CEA**

4657. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of industrial units being supplied power directly by Central Electricity Authority, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of power supplied annually to these units, State-wise and unit-wise; and

(c) the total loss incurred by the State Electricity Boards due to the direct power supply by Central Electricity Authority?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): No industrial unit is being supplied power directly by the Central Electricity Authority.

[Translation]

**Doordarshan Studio at Shekhpura, Bihar**

4658. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of setting up a Doordarshan Studio at Shekhpura in Bihar is pending with the Union Government for a long time; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Nehru Yuva Kendras**

4659. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

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

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for opening of Nehru Yuva Kendras in the country;

(b) the number of Nehru Yuva Kendras functioning in the country as on date, State-wise; and

(c) the places where such kendras are proposed to be set up during 1998-99, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The scheme of Nehru Yuva Kendras was launched with a view to undertaking programmes and activities for the benefit of the non-student youth in the rural areas. In furtherance of this objective, it was envisaged that the Government of India would set up Nehru Yuva Kendras in all the districts of the country.

(b) the number of Nehru Yuva Kendras functioning in the country, as on date, is 500. The State-wise list is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) There is no such proposal as at present.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of functional Nehru Yuva Kendras*

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Nehru Yuva Kendras
1	2	3
1.	A & N Island	06
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	04
4.	Assam	23

1	2	3
5.	Bihar	50
6.	Chandigarh	01
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11
8.	Daman & Diu	02
9.	Delhi	03
10.	Goa	03
11.	Gujarat	18
12.	Haryana	16
13.	Himachal Pradesh	12
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	14
15.	Karnataka	20
16.	Kerala	14
17.	Lakshadweep	01
18.	Madhya Pradesh	48
19.	Maharashtra	30
20.	Manipur	09
21.	Meghalaya	05
22.	Mizoram	03
23.	Nagaland	07
24.	Orissa	15
25.	Pondicherry	04
26.	Punjab	14
27.	Rajasthan	30
28.	Sikkim	04

1	2	3
29.	Tamil Nadu	32
30.	Tripura	03
31.	Uttar Pradesh	63
32.	West Bengal	22
<b>Total</b>		<b>500</b>

[*Translation*]

**Doordarshan Centre at Saran in Bihar**

4660. SHRI HIRA LAL ROY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of district headquarters in the country where Doordarshan transmission centres have not been set up so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a Doordarshan transmission centre at Saran district headquarters in Bihar during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) District headquarter-wise data of locations of Doordarshan transmitter is not being maintained. All the districts in the country are, wholly or partially, covered terrestrially by existing TV transmitters located in the same or nearby districts. It is also possible to receive Doordarshan signals all over the country with a satellite dish antenna or through a cable operator, where available. However, a statement showing State-wise details of districts, where no Doordarshan transmitter is physically located in that district, is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Districts in the country where no Doordarshan Transmitter is located, at present*

State	District
Assam	Barpeta, Darrang, Dhamaji, Hallakandi, Karimganj, Marigaon, Nalbari.
Bihar	Purnia, Johanabad, Kishanganj, Sahib Ganj, Nalanda, Vaishali, Saran, Samastipur.
Goa	South Goa.
Haryana	Ambala, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra Panipat, Sonipat, Yamunanagar.
Jammu & Kashmir	Badagam, Pulwama
Karnataka	Bangalore Rural
Maharashtra	Latur
Manipur	Bishnupur, Tamenglong, Thoubal, Churachandpur
Madhya Pradesh	Dewas, Dhar, Raisen
Punjab	Faridkot, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Patiala, Rupnagar, Sangrur
Rajasthan	Dholpur
Tamil Nadu	Madurai, Pasumpon Thevar T, Periyar
Uttar Pradesh	Barabanki, Bijnor, Budaun, Bulandshahr, Firozabad, Ghaziabad, Jaunpur, Kanpur Dehat, Maharajganj, Meerut, Mirzapur, Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Unnao
West Bengal	Haora, Hugli, Kooch Behar, N. 24 Parganas.

**PIB Office in Raipur, Madhya Pradesh**

4661. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations to re-start the Press Information Bureau at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be re-started?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to re-start PIB office at Raipur.

#### Non-Utilisation of Funds by States

4662. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether the State Governments have not been able to fully utilise the amount being giving by the Union Government under the various education heads and return the same;

(h) if so, the names of the States who have returned the amount during the last year alongwith the amount returned, State-wise; and

(c) the action the Government contemplate to take to ensure that the amount given by the Union Government is fully utilised by the State Governments?

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

#### Network Management System

4663. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecom had given a contract for the installation of Network Management System (NMS) to AT and T in April, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the NMS has not been installed so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the time by which the system is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PUKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contract was for the procurement of Network Management and Surveillance System and the value of the contract was Rs. 78.50 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The delay is due to change in ordering specification/bill of material requested by the contractor, after placement of orders. The changed material list involved change in value of the contract from Rs. 78.50 to Rs. 52.16 crores which had to be vetted by a Price Negotiation Committee.

(e) The revised offer at the reduced prices of Rs. 52.16 crores was made to M/s AT&T (now M/s Lucent Tech.) with delivery schedule of 12 months. Their acceptance has just been received with certain conditions and the same is being examined.

[English]

#### Dolphins

4664. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) the estimated population of endangered marine species in the country;

(b) whether the Dolprin population is facing threat to its existence in various parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to protect this from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Actual population estimation for many of the endangered marine species within Indian territory have not been done. However, available information on some of the species as reported by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) is as follows:

Species	Number in Indian Ocean
1	2
1. Minke whale	5000
2. Fin whale	500
3. Sei whale	15,000

1	2
4. Bryde's whale	5000
5. Humpback whale	about 3000
6. Black right whale	500-1000
7. Finless porpoise	1000-3000

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to protect dolphins includes:

- (i) This species has been included in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and its hunting has been banned by law.
- (ii) Raids are carried out by the Wildlife Authorities whenever information of illegal capture of dolphin reaches them.
- (iii) The concerned range States of India have been advised to follow the following norms:
  - (a) The fisheries department should regulate the mesh size of the fishing nets to avoid accidental deaths of River Dolphin.
  - (b) the mosquito net should completely be prohibited for fishing in any part of the river.
  - (c) The fishermen should be instructed to avoid use of Dolphin oil to attract the fish for netting.
  - (d) Awareness campaign should be stepped up.
  - (e) Regular financial assistance is being provided to different institutions and universities for the study of its status, biology and other conservation aspects.
  - (f) National River Conservation Plan has also been launched for the habitat improvement.

#### **Optical Fibres Cables**

4665. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far regarding the replacement of existing cables by the Optical Fibre cables in different telephone exchanges of rural areas in West Bengal, location-wise;

(b) whether all the works in this regard have been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) There is no plan to replace existing copper cables by Optical Fibre Cables in the subscriber network of rural areas in West Bengal. However, some of the existing junction cables are planned to be replaced by Optical Fibre Cables in rural Exchanges to upgrade STD services. Location-wise details are given in statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The work is planned to be completed during 1998-99 subject to timely availability of materials.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Exch. to be benefited	Span of cable to be replaced by OFC	Targetted time
1.	Chandpara Bazar	Chandpara Bazar to Bongaon	1998-99
2.	Chandralok	Chandralok to Kalimpong	1998-99
3.	Dhatrigram	Dhatrigram to Kalna	1998-99
4.	Ethelbari	Ethelbari to Birpara	1998-99
5.	Gaighata	Gaighata to Thakumagar	1998-99
6.	Gangpur	Gangpur to Burdwan	1998-99
7.	Ghoom	Ghoom to Darjeeling	1998-99
8.	Kuli	Kuli to Kandi	1998-99
9.	Matigara	Matigara to Prachannagar	1998-99
10.	Saktigarh	Gaktigarh to Gangpur	1998-99
11.	Shibmandir	Shibmandir to Matigara	1998-99



[Translation]

**Direct Local Call Facility**

4666. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI ADITYANATH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start direct local call facility between Delhi and Meerut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Not applicable in view of (a) above.

[English]

**Telecast of World Cup Football**

4667. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has secured rights to telecast live the World Cup Football held in France;

(b) if so, the total costs incurred by Doordarshan to secure this right;

(c) whether the Doordarshan could not telecast live the World Cup Football despite securing such rights;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints about the deferred live telecast by Doordarshan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Swiss Fracs 393,750 in four instalments, have already been paid by Prasar Bharti, to Asian Broadcasting Union (ABU) towards TV rights fee of 1998 World Cup Football tournament. The invoice (value not known) for the fifth and final instalment is still awaited from ABU.

(c) to (f): A few complaints in this regard were received. Out of a total of 64 matches, 41 matches were telecast live and 23 were telecast deferred by one/two hours. Doordarshan could not telecast all the matches live due to other programme commitments/exigencies such as news bulletins, popular serials etc. and also for the reason that appropriate live coverage was required to be given to major sporting events like Sri-Lanka Independence Cup Cricket Tournament and Wimbledon—1998 which took place around the same time.

**Revenue Earned by Thiruvananthapuram Doordarshan Kendra**

4668. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Thiruvananthapuram Doordarshan Kendra on advertisements during 1997 and 1998 till date;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the time allowed to the network programmes of Regional Doordarshan Kendras; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The commercial revenue earned by DDK Thiruvananthapuram is as under:

Year	Revenue
1997	Rs. 21.20 crore
1998 (upto June)	Rs. 11.36 crore

(b) and (c): Prasar Bharati have decided to increase the duration of the programmes being telecast from the various regional Kendras. In addition to the normal regional telecast of Kendras, two extra hours from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. have been placed at the disposal of the Kendras to telecast/mount programmes in regional languages.

**Power Generation through Non-Conventional Means**

4669. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) the details of power produced in the country by other than conventional means during the last three years and their cost per unit in comparison to the power produced by the conventional means; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government to increase the production of power through the non-conventional means?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) A total capacity of about 746 MW has been installed during the last three years in the country based on Non-Conventional Energy Sources. This includes a capacity of 615 MW from Wind; 89 MW from Biomass; and 42 MW from Small Hydro Power. According to information received from the States, 2.36 billion units have been generated during the period from wind power projects.

The cost of power generation from Non-Conventional Energy Sources varies from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 3.00 per unit depending upon the site, technology, type and size of project, the fiscal incentives available, and the means of financing. Taking into account the direct and indirect subsidies, environmental and social costs; and, other externalities, these costs compare favourably with the cost of conventional power.

(b) The Central Government provides capital subsidy, interest subsidy, fiscal incentives and soft loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), for renewable energy power projects, based on wind energy, small hydro and biomass. Resource assessment studies and surveys are also being supported to identify potential areas for such projects. Further in pursuance of Guidelines of the Central Government, 12 States have so far announced conducive policies for wheeling, banking, buy back and third party sale to attract private sector participation in these projects.

#### Members in MRTPC

4670. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the members in the Monopolies Restrictive Trade Practices Commission do not have any judicial background and the orders passed by them lack judicial approach;

(b) whether the Government proposed to ascertain the opinions of retired judges etc. on the working and the approach of the members; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make the approach of the Commission more judicial?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The appointment of Members, MRTPC Commission, is made in accordance with

the provisions of Section 5(2) of the MRTPC Act, 1969. The said Act does not classify the Members as judicial or non-judicial. The judicial angle is provided by the Chairman who, as per Section 5 of the Act itself, is or has been, or is qualified to be, a judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court. The MRTPC Act also provides that the Members of the Commission "shall be persons of ability, integrity and standing who have adequate knowledge or experience of, or have shown capacity in dealing with problems relating to economics, law, commerce, accountancy, industry, public affairs or administration" with a view to bring cross-section of persons from diversified fields to deal with issues brought before the Commission.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Dues of NTPC and other PSUs towards SEBs

4671. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of outstanding dues to be recovered by National Thermal Power Corporation and other public sector undertakings from the State Electricity Boards as on June 30, 1998, State-wise;

(b) whether the problem has resulted into a financial crisis and critically accentuated the liquidity crunch position thereby affecting investment plans and execution of projects in hand;

(c) if so, the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure realisation of outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards alongwith results thereof;

(d) the agenda for action for the current year and the targets set for recovery of outstanding dues for the current year from SEBs; and

(e) the reaction of the State Governments to the proposed recovery measures by National Thermal Power Corporation from State Electricity Boards?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The State-wise details of the outstanding dues of the Public Sector Undertakings including National Thermal Power Corporation against State Electricity Boards and State Governments etc. as on 31 March, 1998 are enclosed in the Statement.

(b) Non-payment of outstanding dues of the Public Sector Undertakings by State Electricity Boards affects

their liquidity position and also has an impact on their financial capacity to take up projects/onlending of funds to the State Electricity Boards by Rural Electrification Corporation.

(c) and (d): The outstanding dues as on December, 1998 of PSUs of the Ministry of Power are being deducted upto a maximum of 15% of the Central Plan Assistance payable to the State Governments per annum. State Governments/SEBs are also requested, from time to time, for opening of irrevocable Letters of Credit with the Corporations and also for early clearance of the dues. In

1997-98, Rs. 733.06 crores were recovered and made available to PSUs of the Power Sector from the Central Plan Assistance payable to the States. The Government is also evolving a scheme wherein the PSUs will be able to raise resources either by securitising their debts or directly entering the market for tapping resources.

(e) Some of the State Governments/SFBs have represented against the recovery of the outstanding dues of NTPC through Central Appropriation and these are resolved by mutual discussions between the State Governments, NTPC and Central Government.

**Statement**

*Outstanding dues payable to Central sector Power Corporation (as on 31st March, 1998)*

*(Rs. in crores)*

Sl. No.	SEBs/ States	REC 03/98	NTPC 03/98	NEEPCO 03/98	DVC 03/98	NHPC 03/98	PFC 03/98	PGC 03/98
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	283.63	158.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	34.03
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	5.75	0.00	1.08	0.00	0.49
3.	Assam	101.53	10.87	175.70	0.00	0.33	0.00	21.67
4.	Bihar	360.64	1030.92	0.00	692.46	0.24	0.73	13.16
5.	Gujarat	0.30	221.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.00	3.52
6.	Goa	0.00	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08
7.	Haryana	60.80	253.80	0.00	0.00	397.54	0.00	13.04
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	23.87	0.00	0.00	22.06	0.00	-0.94
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.44	435.71	0.00	0.00	16.58	0.00	29.61
10.	Karnataka	0.00	82.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.24
11.	Kerala	4.16	54.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	549.57	368.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	196.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.87
14.	Manipur	7.11	0.00	30.87	0.00	3.41	0.05	4.19
15.	Meghalaya	11.71	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.06	0.00	0.45
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	6.43	0.00	0.69	3.58	1.51
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	17.56	0.00	2.99	0.00	2.31
18.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	139.78	353.39	0.00	0.00	0.87	15.38	3.67
19.	Punjab	0.00	32.30	0.00	0.00	83.24	0.00	5.72
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	99.76	0.00	0.00	44.73	0.00	20.91
21.	Sikkim	0.86	7.61	0.00	0.00	-0.09	0.00	2.20
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	63.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.82
23.	Tripura	2.77	0.00	4.24	0.00	0.55	0.00	0.07
24.	Uttar Pradesh	622.15	1356.63	0.00	0.00	477.03	0.00	238.51
25.	West Bengal	334.16	467.01	0.00	259.97	0.00	11.50	20.31
26.	DVB (DESU)	0.00	1363.78	0.00	0.00	159.65	0.00	34.82
27.	DVC	0.00	262.61	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	5.91
28.	DNH	0.00	-0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	UTC	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	6.86	0.00	-0.58
30.	NEEPCO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.92	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	-0.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	5.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33.	Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Power Grid	0.00	5.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Others (wind)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2480.31	6881.95	241.95	952.43	1329.92	31.33	492.88

Commutative as on 31st March, 1998 : Rs. 12,410.77 crores.

#### Gas Based Amguri Power Project in Assam

4672. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of gas based Amguri Power Project in Assam and the details of agencies entrusted with the work;

(b) the reasons for delay in execution of the said project;

(c) the quantum of gas committed by Oil Industry in the first Memorandum of Understanding and action initiated to ensure gas linkage;

(d) the target fixed in regard to commissioning of the project;

(e) whether a proposal for installation of the project with alternative fuel is under consideration of the Government and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (f): The proposal for installation of a 360 MW Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Plant at Amguri was given techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 25.5.1999 for implementation under the State Sector. Subsequently, the Government of Assam decided to implement the project in the private sector. As there was no response from the independent private producer, the

possibility of getting the project executed by National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) in the Central Sector was also explored. NTPC requested for taking it up as a Regional Station and sought approval of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOPNG) for transfer of gas linkage from Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB) in favour of NTPC. MOPNG, in March, 1997, while approving transfer of gas allocation of 1.5 MCMD for Amguri Project in favour of NTPC indicated that supply of gas to the project may have to be deferred beyond IX Plan period on account of reduced availability of gas. The work on the project will have to be synchronised with the availability of adequate gas supply.

#### Failure of ICHR to Complete Projects

4673. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

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

(a) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research has failed to complete most of the projects it had undertaken during the last twenty years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether several hundred manuscripts are missing from its custody or totally damaged;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information furnished by ICHR, the two main reasons for non-completion of the projects in time are, (i) non-availability of some of the documents in India, and (ii) the Editors of a series of ten volumes of a particular project working in honorary capacity.

(c) to (e): The ICHR have informed that a few manuscripts are reportedly either missing or have not been sent to the Press for certain reasons. The Council have intimated that it has initiated action to ascertain whether any manuscript has been lost or appropriated otherwise.

[*Translation*]

**Target for Laying of Telephone Lines**

4674. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for laying of telephone lines in North Central Mumbai in Maharashtra during the current year;

(b) the number of lines laid so far;

(c) the number of circles where work is lagging behind the schedule; and

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government for achieving the annual target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) There is no separate target for North Central Mumbai. The target fixed for entire M.T.N.L. Mumbai area for 1998-99 is 2,30,000. There is no specific target for each area but our objective is to provide Telephone Connection on demand in Mumbai.

(b) In M.T.N.L. Mumbai from 1.4.1998 to 30.6.1998, 29090 Telephone lines have been provided. Out of this 3256 lines have been provided in North and Central Mumbai.

(c) and (d) the Circle-wise target for the Current Year and achievements of direct exchange lines from 1.4.1998 to 30.6.1998 is given in the statement enclosed. At this stage it is too early to say whether any circle is behind schedule. However, every effort will be made to achieve the target laid down for 1998-99.

**Statement**

S.No.	Circle	Total target for 1998-99	Achievement from 1.4.1998 to 30.6.1998
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	250000	28601
2.	Assam	50000	3362
3.	Bihar	131000	10318
4.	Gujarat	250000	29029
5.	Haryana	95000	6265
6.	Himachal Pradesh	59000	984
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	30000	4752
8.	Karnataka	200000	32406
9.	Kerala	325000	34081
10.	Madhya Pradesh	110000	10568
11.	Maharashtra	300000	26998
12.	North East	32000	4309
13.	Orissa	60000	5159
14.	Punjab	190000	17836
15.	Rajasthan	163000	12654
16.	Tamilnadu	280000	27879
17.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	133000	8957
18.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	139000	18901
19.	West Bengal	120000	8087
20.	Andaman Nicobar	6000	130

1	2	3	4
21.	Mumbai	230000	29090
22.	Delhi	220000	13126
23.	Calcutta	112000	45770
24.	Chennai	115000	5684
Total		3600000	381946

#### Strength of Postal Employees

4675. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the strength of postal employees in various States in the country is far below the requirement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the strength of postal employees particularly the postman; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Determining staff requirement for postal services according to fluctuations in postal traffic is an ongoing process with reviews conducted periodically. Proposals for justified additional staff are processed according to prescribed procedure. Hence, the question of staff strength being far below the requirement does not arise.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Proposals for increasing the strength of postal employees in different categories including postman, are considered as and when found justified.

#### Integrated Rural Energy Programme

4676. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any works have been carried out in the States particularly in Maharashtra under the Integrated Rural Energy Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years; and

(d) the achievement made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): As part of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme, block-level integrated rural energy projects are prepared and implemented under which various energy devices are promoted through extension, demonstration and incentives for meeting the energy needs of the rural people. 37 blocks have been covered in Maharashtra under IRFP programme. The various energy devices promoted in IREP blocks in Maharashtra include, Improved Chulhas, Wind Mills, Solar Cookers, Solar Photovoltaic System, Improved Kerosene Stoves and Lanterns, Aerogenerators, Improved Crematoria, Bio gas plants, Energy Efficient devices etc. Rs. 190.11 lakhs, Rs. 139.365 lakhs and Rs. 101.00 lakhs have been spent during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively in Maharashtra under the Central and State Sector components of IREP.

(d) The Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) has been extended to 860 blocks in all the States and Union territories. State-wise number of blocks sanctioned till 1997-98 for implementation of IREP is given in statement enclosed.

#### Statement

##### State-wise number of IREP Blocks sanctioned till 1997-98

S. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of Blocks Sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10
3.	Assam	21
4.	Bihar	56
5.	Goa	5
6.	Gujarat	25
7.	Haryana	38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45

1	2	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	28
10.	Karnataka	42
11.	Kerala	44
12.	Madhya Pradesh	85
13.	Maharashtra	37
14.	Manipur	19
15.	Meghalaya	16
16.	Mizoram	11
17.	Nagaland	25
18.	Orissa	45
19.	Punjab	40
20.	Rajasthan	36
21.	Sikkim	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	21
23.	Tripura	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	115
25.	West Bengal	34
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	5
27.	Chandigarh	1
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
29.	Daman & Diu	1
30.	Delhi	5
31.	Lakshadweep	1
32.	Pondicherry	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>860</b>

[English]

**Radio Stations in the Country**

4677. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Radio Stations in the country alongwith locations thereof;

(b) whether all the Radio Stations are headed by Station Directors;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of Radio Stations in which the post of Station Director are vacant; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up those vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) There are 187 Radio Stations in the country. The details of their locations are given in Statement-I enclosed.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. At present 68 All India Radio Stations are headed by Station Directors. The details are in statement-II enclosed. The post of Station Directors is vacant at 119 Radio Stations.

(e) There is an acute shortage of Station Director Grade officers in AIR as all the eligible officers in the feeder grade have already been promoted to the grade of Station Director. To manage the Stations, Assistant Station Directors have been posted against the posts of Station Directors to the extent possible in the exigency of service.

**Statement-I***List of All AIR Stations*

S.No.	Station	Channel
1	2	3
<b>Name of State : Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Hyderabad	Capital Stn.
2.	Adilabad	L.R.S.
3.	Anantpur	L.R.S.



1	2	3
4.	Cuddappah	
5.	Kumool	L.R.S.
6.	Kothagudem	
7.	Markapuram	L.R.S.
8.	Nizamabad	L.R.S.
9.	Tirupati	L.R.S.
10.	Vijayawada	
11.	Visakhapatnam	
12.	Warangal	L.R.S.

**Name of State : Arunachal Pradesh**

1.	Itanagar	Int. Set-Up
2.	Passighat	
3.	Tawang	
4.	Tezu	

**Name of State : Delhi**

1.	Delhi	Capital Stn.
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**Name of State : Goa**

1.	Panaji	Capital Stn.
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**Name of State : Assam**

1.	Guwahati	Capital Stn.
2.	Dibrugarh	
3.	Silchar	
4.	Haflong	L.R.S.

1	2	3
5.	Jorhat	L.R.S.
6.	Nowgong	L.R.S.
7.	Diphu	L.R.S.

**Name of State : Bihar**

1.	Patna	Capital Stn.
2.	Bhagalpur	
3.	Darbhanga	
4.	Jamshedpur	
5.	Ranchi	
6.	Chaibasa	L.R.S.
7.	Daltonganj	L.R.S.
8.	Hazaribagh	L.R.S.
9.	Purnea	L.R.S.
10.	Sasaram	L.R.S.

**Name of State : Himachal Pradesh**

1.	Simla	Capital Stn.
2.	Dharamshala	
3.	Hamirpur	L.R.S. (FM)

**Name of State : Gujarat**

1.	Ahmedabad	Capital Stn.
2.	Ahwa	
3.	Godhara	L.R.S.
4.	Surat	L.R.S.
5.	Vadodara	Exclusive V.B. Centre

1	2	3
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6. Bhuj

7. Rajkot

**Name of State : Harayana**

1. Rohtak

2. Kurukshetra L.R.S.

**Name of State : Karnataka**

1. Bangalore Capital Stn.

2. Bhadravati

3. Dharwar

4. Gulbarga

5. Mangalore

6. Mysore

7. Chitradurga L.R.S.

8. Hassan

9. Hospet L.R.S.

10. Karwar L.R.S.

11. Marcara  
(Medikri)

12. Raichur L.R.S.

13. Bijapur L.R.S.

**Name of State : Jammu & Kashmir**

1. Srinagar Capital Stn.

2. Jammu

1	2	3
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3. Leh

4. Kathua L.R.S.

5. Poonch L.R.S.

6. Kargil

**Name of State : Madhya Pradesh**

1. Bhopal

2. Ambikapur

3. Chhatarpur

4. Gwalior

5. Indore

6. Jabalpur

7. Jagdalpur

8. Rewa

9. Raipur

10. Balaghat L.R.S.

11. Betul L.R.S.

12. Bilaspur L.R.S.

13. Chhindwara L.R.S.

14. Guna L.R.S.

15. Khandwa L.R.S.

16. Raigarh L.R.S.

17. Sagar L.R.S.

18. Shivpuri L.R.S.

19. Shahdol

1	2	3
<b>Name of State : Kerala</b>		
1.	Trivandrum	Capital Stn.
2.	Calicut	
3.	Trichur	
4.	Cochin	L.R.S.
5.	Kannur	
6.	Idukki (Devikulam)	
<b>Name of State : Maharashtra</b>		
1.	Bombay	Capital Stn.
2.	Aurangabad	
3.	Jalgaon	
4.	Pune	
5.	Nagpur	
6.	Parbhani	Int. Set Up
7.	Ratnagiri	
8.	Sangli	
9.	Ahmednagar	L.R.S.
10.	Akola	L.R.S.
11.	Beed	L.R.S.
12.	Chandrapur	L.R.S.
13.	Dhule	L.R.S.
14.	Kolhapur	
15.	Nanded	L.R.S.

1	2	3
16.	Satara	L.R.S.
17.	Solapur	L.R.S.
18.	Yeotmal	L.R.S.
19.	Nasik	L.R.S.
20.	Osmanabad	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Manipur</b>		
1.	Imphal	Capital Stn.
<b>Name of State : Meghalaya</b>		
1.	Shillong	Capital Stn.
2.	Tura	Int. Set Up
3.	Jowai	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Mizoram</b>		
1.	Aizwal	Capital Stn.
2.	Lunglei	N.L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Nagaland</b>		
1.	Kohima	Capital Stn.
2.	Mokokchung	
<b>Name of State : Orissa</b>		
1.	Cuttack	Capital Stn.
2.	Jeypore	
3.	Sambalpur	
4.	Keonjhar	L.R.S.

1	2	3
5.	Baripada	L.R.S.
6.	Berhampur	L.R.S.
7.	Bolangir	L.R.S.
8.	Bhawanipatna	L.R.S.
9.	Rourkela	L.R.S.
10.	Puri	L.R.S. (Relay Centre)
11.	Joranda	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Punjab</b>		
1.	Jalandhar	Capital Stn.
2.	Bhatinda	L.R.S.
3.	Patiala	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Rajasthan</b>		
1.	Jaipur	Capital Stn.
2.	Bikaner	
3.	Jodhpur	
4.	Kota	L.R.S.
5.	Suratgarh	
6.	Alwar	L.R.S.
7.	Banswara	L.R.S.
8.	Udaipur	
9.	Barmer	
10.	Chittorgarh	L.R.S.
11.	Churu	

1	2	3
12.	Jaisalmer	
13.	Jhalawar	L.R.S.
14.	Nagaur	L.R.S.
15.	Sawai-Madhapur	L.R.S.
16.	Mount Abu	L.R.S. (Relaying Jaipur Programmes)
<b>Name of State : Sikkim</b>		
1.	Gangtok	Capital Stn.
<b>Name of State : Tripura</b>		
1.	Agartala	Capital Stn.
2.	Balonia	L.R.S.
3.	Kallashahar	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Tamil Nadu</b>		
1.	Madras	Capital Stn.
2.	Coimbatore	
3.	Madurai	
4.	Nagarcoil	L.R.S.
5.	Tiruchirapalli	
6.	Tirunelveli	
7.	Tutcorin	E.S.D.
8.	Ootacamund	
<b>Name of State : Uttar Pradesh</b>		
1.	Lucknow	Capital Stn.
2.	Agra	

1	2	3
3.	Allahabad	
4.	Almora	
5.	Gorakhpur	
6.	Mathura	
7.	Najibabad	
8.	Rampur	
9.	Varanasi	
10.	Bareilly	L.R.S.
11.	Faizabad	L.R.S.
12.	Jhansi	L.R.S.
13.	Obra	
14.	Kanpur	Exclusive Commercial Centre
15.	Mussoorie	Relay Centre
16.	Pauri	N-L.R.S
<b>Name of State : West Bengal</b>		
1.	Calcutta	Capital Stn.
2.	Kurseong	
3.	Siliguri	
4.	Murshidabad	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Andaman &amp; Nicobar</b>		
1.	Port Blair	Capital Stn.
<b>Name of State: Chandigarh (U.T)</b>		
1.	Chandigarh	Exclusive Commercial Centre

1	2	3
<b>Name of State : Lakshadweep Island</b>		
1.	Kavaratti	
<b>Name of State : Pondicherry (U.T.)</b>		
1.	Pondicherry	Capital Stn.
2.	Karaikal	L.R.S.
<b>Name of State : Daman (U.T.)</b>		
1.	Daman	L.R.S.
Total No. of Stations : — 187 (Including 74 L.R.S.)		
<i>Excluding :</i>		
(i) N.E.S. AIR, Shillong.		
(ii) National Channel, AIR, New Delhi.		
<b>Statement-II</b>		
<i>Name of Stations where Station Directors are in position</i>		
S. No.	Station	
1	2	
1.	Agartala	
2.	Agra	
3.	Ahmedabad	
4.	Aizwal	
5.	Allahabad	
6.	Bangalore	
7.	Baripada	
8.	Baroda	
9.	Behrampur	

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1	2
10.	Belonia
11.	Betul
12.	Bhadravati
13.	Bhopal
14.	Bhuj
15.	Bombay
16.	Calcutta
17.	Chandigarh
18.	Chhindwara
19.	Cuttack
20.	Darbhanga
21.	Delhi
22.	Dharamsala
23.	Dharwad
24.	Dibrugarh
25.	Gangtok
26.	Guwahati
27.	Gwalior
28.	Hyderabad
29.	Imphal
30.	Indore
31.	Itanagar
32.	Jaipur
33.	Jalandhar

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1	2
34.	Jammu
35.	Jamshedpur
36.	Jhansi
37.	Jodhpur
38.	Kohima
39.	Kurseong
40.	Kurukshetra
41.	Leh
42.	Lucknow
43.	Madras
44.	Murshidabad
45.	Mysore
46.	Panaji
47.	Patna
48.	Pondicherry
49.	Port Blair
50.	Pune
51.	Raipur
52.	Rajkot
53.	Rampur
54.	Ranchi
55.	Rohtak
56.	Sambalpur
57.	Sangli

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1	2
58.	Shillong
59.	Shimla
60.	Silchar
61.	Siliguri
62.	Singbhum (Chaibasa)
63.	Srinagar
64.	Tezu
65.	Tiruchirapalli
66.	Trivandrum
67.	Udaipur
68.	Varanasi

[Translation]

#### Modern Fire Protection Scheme

4678. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh State Government has submitted some proposals under Modern Fire Protection Scheme for the Protection of forests from fire to the Union Government during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely date by which these proposals will be cleared by the Government?

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

(b) A proposal of Rs. 1238.425 lakh was received from the Forest Department of Government of Madhya Pradesh under the scheme "Modern Forest Fire Control Methods" during 1997-98.

(c) As this Ministry had a small grant of Rs. 190 lakh under this scheme for eleven States of the country and for maintenance of Air Operation Wing, from this limited grant Rs. 11.015 lakh were sanctioned to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during March 1998. The

same has been revalidated during the year 1998-99 in the month of May 1998. Further release of funds based on the proposal for the year 1998-99 is being considered.

#### Oldest Case Pending in Supreme Court/High Courts

4679. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of years from which the oldest case is pending in the Supreme Court and in various High Courts; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of all those cases pending for more than two years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### T.V. Serials Defected to other T.V. Channels

4680. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of serials which defected to 'Star Plus', 'Sony' etc. during the past three years together with reasons therefor;

(b) whether any transfer charges are collected by the Doordarshan on this count;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of serials having copy right with DD?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) A list of sponsored serials telecast on DD-1 which switched over to other channels during the last three years is attached. Since the sponsored serials are produced by private producers out of their own funds, doordarshan does not hold copy right/telecast right of these serials and the producers are free to offer their programmes to any channels. Hence, the question of transfer charges does not arise.

During the last three years, Doordarshan has sold the rights of its serials—"Flop Show", "Circus", "Doosra Kewal" and "Dil Dariya", for telecast on Asian Satellite Channels (SONY, STAR TV, ZEE TV etc.) for a period

of 3 years. Doordarshan has earned a sum of Rs. 6.10 lakhs as a result of sale of these rights. Doordarshan owns the copy rights of these serials and can also telecast these serials on any of its channels.

**Statement**

*List of Sponsored Serials telecast on Doordarshan which switched over to other channels during the last 3 years*

S. No.	Name of the Serial	Name of the channels to which the Serials switched over
1.	Hum Log	SONY
2.	Reporter	STAR PLUS
3.	Ghutan	STAR PLUS
4.	Chandrakanta	STAR PLUS
5.	Good Morning India	STAR PLUS
6.	Wagle Ki Duniya	HOME TV
7.	Shanti	ZEE TV
8.	Swabhimani	STAR PLUS
9.	Meri Aawaz Suno	STAR PLUS

**OECF Afd to Karnataka**

4681. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to Karnataka by Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, Japan for forest development;

(b) the amount proposed to be released during 1998-99;

(c) the amount spent so far by the Karnataka Government; and

(d) the amount spent towards the foreign tours of officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : (a) The Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, Japan has agreed to provide a loan assistance of Rs. 472.35 crores for implementation of a project for development of forests in Karnataka.

(b) The State Government has made a provision of Rs. 60 crores for project activities during 1998-99.

(c) An amount of Rs. 56.641 crores has been spent under the project from 1996-97 to 31st May 1998.

(d) An amount of Rs. 97.37 lakhs has been spent on foreign tours of officers under the project so far.

**Ramgarh Gas Based Power Project**

4682. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of the Rajasthan Government for extension of Ramgarh project is under consideration of the Government/CEA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority is likely to be issued;

(d) whether the single unit of GT is uneconomical due to low thermal efficiency operation; and

(e) if so, the time by which the Union Government are likely to be in a position to allocate additional 5 to 10 lakh cubic meters of gas per day for the said project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A proposal of Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) for setting up of Ramgarh CCGT Power Project St. II (71 MW) was received in CEA in May, 1998 for techno-economic clearance. The scheme was examined and related as returned to Project Authority on 2.7.1998 as certain inputs such as fuel linkage, environmental clearance (Centre and State), National Airports Authority clearance, Compliance of Sec. 92(2) of E(S) Act, 1948 and updated present day cost were not tied-up.

(d) Yes, Sir. The single unit of GT is considered to be uneconomical on account of its thermal efficiency being lower than combined cycle operation.

(e) Rajasthan Government has requested the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOPNG) for allocation of additional natural gas of 0.5 MCMD. There is no decision yet.

[Translation]

**Admission Fees in DU**

4683. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some colleges under the Delhi University have been charging Rs. 3000 to Rs. 6000 as admission fees for admission in B.A., B. Com., B.Sc. etc.;

(b) whether some colleges have been charging the same admission fees from the students belonging to SCs/ STs as applicable to general students in violation of the Delhi University's Order No. A.C.A/1 waiving fees M.C. 81 dated July 23, 1981; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Delhi University against the Principals of such colleges who have violated the above said order of July 23, 1981?



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

[English]

#### **Bidding of Power Projects**

4684. SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to invite bidding for 15 power projects totalling 75,000 MW within the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for bidding these projects; and

(d) the time by which these projects would be accorded clearance?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): Action has been initiated for setting up large capacity power generation projects. Selection of the developer to take up these projects, would be generally done by inviting competitive offers. The modalities for setting up these projects are being finalised.

#### **Degradation of Ecology in Mines**

4685. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the open cast mines have degraded the ecology of the mining area;

(b) if so, whether a large number of trees have been uprooted in the region; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to check the degradation of ecology of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c): Opencast mining activities are generally associated with environmental degradation. Tree felling is kept to minimum number in order to check degradation of the ecology in the mining areas. Environmental management plans are prepared wherein mitigative measures like compensatory afforestation in case of forest lands, intensive plantation within the lease areas, reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out areas, construction of garland drains/check dams to protect run-offs from dumps are incorporated.

#### **System to Regulate Airwaves**

4686. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India had directed to set up a system to regulate airwaves in 1993 and the same has not been established till date;

(b) if so, the reasons for ignoring the directions of the Supreme Court and losses suffered by Government thereby; and

(c) the details of the other directions of Supreme Court of India not implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c): Government have not received any direction from the Supreme Court in the year 1993 for regulating airwaves. However, the Supreme Court of India in their judgement dated 9.2.95 in the case of Union of India Versus Cricket Association of Bengal had directed the UOI to set up an autonomous body for regulating the use of airwaves. Accordingly a Broadcasting Bill, 1997 was drafted and introduced in Lok Sabha on 16.5.97. However, with the dissolution of the 11th Lok Sabha the Bill got lapsed.

#### **Telephone Connections**

4687. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the demand *vis-a-vis* the existing capacity of telephone exchange of each Taluqua in Kutch District in Gujarat for telephone connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of waiting list pending for telephone connections in the district;

(d) whether the Government have any plan for upgradation of telephone exchanges in the district;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the speedy allotment of telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The details of existing capacity of

Telephone Exchanges alongwith the working connections and Waiting List as on 31.3.1998 of each Taluqua in Kutch District in Gujarat is given in statement enclosed.

(d) to (f): Yes, Sir. It is proposed to provide net switching capacity of 13708 lines in the Telephone Exchanges of Kutch District during 1998-99. The Waiting List as on 31.3.1998 is likely to be cleared by 31.3.1999. Action is being taken to allot necessary equipment and Material.

#### **Statement**

*The details of existing capacity of Telephone Exchanges, working connections and waiting list as on 31.3.1998 in each Taluka of Kutch District*

S. No.	Taluka	Existing Capacity	Working Connections	Waiting list as on 31.3.98	Total Demand
1.	Anjar	23550	20301	1998	22299
2.	Abdasa	1896	1424	377	1801
3.	Bhachau	2034	1531	804	2335
4.	Bhuj	17610	14017	1952	15969
5.	Lakhpat	928	765	213	978
6.	Mandvi	5472	4260	2035	6295
	(Kutch)				
7.	Mundra	2024	1577	970	2547
8.	Nakhatrana	3000	2593	702	3295
9.	Rahpar	1368	1082	481	1563
	Grand Total	57882	47550	9532	57082

#### **Double Laning of NH-44 in Tripura**

4688. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 44 is not double lane in Tripura;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor especially when other National Highways in the country are being developed into four lanes; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to convert the said National Highway in the double lane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Out of 198 Km in Tripura, about 28 Km are double-lane.

(b) and (c): Improvement including widening of National Highways is a continuous process, commensurate with traffic volume, *inter-se* priorities and availability of funds. At present, keeping in view the traffic volume, the proposal for widening of NH-44 is at low priority.

#### **Regional Educational Schemes**

4689. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas in various States for conducting Regional Educational Schemes during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cooperation sought from State Governments in this regard; and

(c) the amount disbursed or proposed to be disbursed during the current financial year to the each State under such schemes?

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

(b) and (c): Does not arise.

#### **Establishment of National Park in Satpura Ranges**

4690. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish "National Park" & "Abhayaranya" in Satpura ranges in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As informed by the State Govt. of Maharashtra, presently, there is no such proposal to establish any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary (Abhayaranya) in Satpura ranges in Jalgaon Distt. of Maharashtra State.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

### Fax Machines in Dhanbad

4691. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fax machines in operation in Dhanbad district during 1997-98;

(b) whether licences have been issued for the operation of these machines;

(c) if so, the amount received as licence fee by Telecommunications Department during the last three years;

(d) whether a sum of Rs. 4083 as licence free from 1999 to March 1998 has not been recovered;

(e) the action being taken by the Government against the officers found guilty in this regard; and

(f) the number of machines functioning in the private and public sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) 109

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 4,17,612 (Rs. Four Lakhs seventeen thousands six hundred and twelve).

(d) Rs. 6,62,612 (Rs. Six Lakhs sixty two thousands six hundred and twelve).

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

(f) Total FAX Machines working in Private Sector : 68 Nos.

Total Fax Machines working in Public Sector : 41 Nos.

[*English*]

### Forest Conservation

4692. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of a specific mandate of the National Forest Policy of 1952 and 1988, barely 12 per cent of the geographical area of the country had a forest canopy cover of 40 per cent density;

(b) whether the allocation for the forestry sector for the Eighth Five Year Plan showed perceptible decline as compared to the percentage allocation made in Seventh Plan;

(c) whether foreign donor agencies have found that due to inadequate funding by Government of India the externally aided forestry projects had failed to make the progress as laid down in Approved Projects Documents; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken by the Government of the forest conservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. National Forest Policy, 1952 and 1988 envisages a minimum of one-third of the geographical area under forest cover. As per latest assessment, forest cover in the country is 19.27% and dense forest cover of density above 40 per cent is 11.17% of the geographical area.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Usually the concerned State Government fixes the yearly outlay for an externally aided forestry project in accordance with the financial targets as per the project agreement. However, in some instances, the State Government has proposed an outlay, which is less than the agreed project target in such cases, all efforts are done through regular interactions with State Governments to ensure provision of proper outlay in tune with the agreed project target.

(d) Following important remedial measures taken by the Government for conservation of forests are:

- (i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India and through externally aided projects.
- (ii) Village communities are involved in protection and regeneration of degraded forests as per Joint Forest Management guidelines.
- (iii) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is being implemented to regulate the diversion of forest land.
- (iv) The network of protected areas has been established.

- (v) A Working Group was constituted for recommending framework of activities in forestry sector for Ninth Five Year Plan taking into account the progress made in implementation of Eighth Plan programmes. The Working Group has proposed an outlay of 21,102 crores for forestry sector in the Ninth Plan including afforestation of around 15 million hectares.
- (vi) The Planning Commission has also issued guidelines to all State Governments for restoration of the earmarking of at least 10% funds each under Employment Assurance Scheme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for afforestation activities.

#### **World Bank Loan for Major Roads of M.P**

4693. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether approximately 10 billion rupees are going to be provided by the World Bank for maintenance and improvement of the major roads of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the amount of funds received so far and the details of the works done with the amount received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :  
(a) Project preparation for maintenance and improvement of major roads of Madhya Pradesh is yet to be completed. Exact loan amount to be provided by the World Bank will be known only after loan negotiations take place after completion of project preparation and loan approval by the Board of the Bank.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Damodar Valley Corporation**

4694. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total acres of land acquired from the land lords in Damodar Valley Corporation till date;

(b) the total number of displaced persons as a result thereof;

(c) the criteria for paying compensation and giving jobs to the displaced persons; and

(d) the number of displaced persons given employment and paid compensation and the number of cases under consideration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has acquired 1,12,938.07 acres of land for their projects.

(b) the total number of displaced persons in the process is about 20646.

(c) Full compensation is paid to the land-losers through the respective District Land Acquisition Authorities of the States of West Bengal and Bihar. In addition, land for the land acquired is also provided wherever possible. As regards giving jobs to the displaced persons for the old projects like power stations etc. the policy of DVC was of fill up 30% attrition vacancies from the panels prepared for the displaced persons. For the new projects, the policy adopted is to give employment to one member of those families who have lost their homestead land or 75% or more of their total land holding subject to requirement of man power in unskilled category.

(d) All the displaced persons have been paid compensation for the land acquired. At the time of commencement of old projects, a large number of displaced persons, approx. 16139 from five projects were engaged in workcharged establishments. Thereafter, a large number of these persons were regularised in DVC employment. The balance were retrenched with attractive retrenchment benefit at their own option. During mid-seventies, there was agitation for providing again employment to displaced persons. DVC again invited applications from the land losing families and on the basis of applications received, separate panels were made for different projects in 1976-78. Those included in the panels have been provided employment in DVC except in Maithon and Panchet. The Maithon panel was recast and frozen on the direction of the Supreme Court. The position relating to employment from the panels, prepared in 1976-78 and thereafter, is given below. The employment is given on the basis of 30% quota earmarked for recruitment from these panels. The present Board's decision in not to prepare fresh panels till the old panels are exhausted.

BTPS	194
CTPS	44
DTPS	115
Maithon	157
Panchet	64
H'bagh	12
Tilaiya	15
Konar	12
GOMD Wing	13
	<hr/>
	626
	<hr/>

According to DVC, the number of persons in employment in DVC relating to the villages where land has been acquired is as follows:

**Displaced/locals provided jobs in DVC**

Project	Group 'C'	Group 'B'	Total
BTPS	362	94	456
CTPS	603	199	802
DTPS	192	46	238
Maithon	763	28	791
Konar	12	Nil	12
Putki	10	Nil	10
Panchet	153	Nil	164
<b>Total</b>	<b>2095</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>2473</b>

At Mejia which is a new project against a panel of 128 persons, 88 displaced persons have been provided employment. Balance would be recruited as and when all the units come into operation.

**Opening of Office of Senior Superintendent of Postal Deptt.**

4695. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open the Office of Senior Superintendent of Postal Department in Amaravati district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of districts in the country where the office of the Senior Superintendent of the Postal Department have not been set up so far and the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of policy adopted by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the time by which such offices are likely to be set up in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

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

(c) An office of Senior Superintendent of Post Offices already exists in Amaravati and there is no justification for another.

(d) The number of districts in the country where the office of Senior Superintendent of Post Offices has not been set up is 311 (as on 31.7.97) as the same is not justified as per prescribed norms.

(c) Such offices are set up on the fulfilment of one of the following prescribed norms:

(i) Existence of a gazetted head post office,

(ii) Existence of at least three non-gazetted Head Offices, and

(iii) Sanctioned clerical strength including LSG/HSG officials being 450 or more.

(f) It is not possible to indicate any specific time-limit since the norms in this regard are related to volume of traffic and other factors.

[English]

**National Telecom Policy**

4696. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the Government have framed existing National Telecom Policy;

(b) whether the Government are considering to frame new National Telecom Policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be framed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) and (b): The existing National Telecom Policy was

announced in 1994. There is no proposal, at present, to frame a new National Telecom Policy. However, an Inter-Ministerial National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development which has been appointed by the Government to recommend steps that are necessary for making India a super power in information technology, is considering a comprehensive package which has a telecommunication component as well.

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

[Translation]

**Views Expressed by Melody Queen**

4697. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Lata sings her blues" published in the 'Pioneer' dated April 10, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the famous singer of the country has expressed her anguish over the vulgarity and obscenity displayed in films and songs which go against the Indian culture and civilization;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government towards the views expressed by the famous singer;

(d) whether the Government have issued any instruction to the broadcasting media to improve the standard of such programmes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) It is noticed that in some programmes and sequences, the depiction of sex, violence etc. is excessive, unnecessary and not relevant to the context.

(d) and (e): Telecast/broadcast of programmes in Doodarshan/All India Radio is governed by the provisions of the Broadcast Code according to which *inter alia* anything considered obscene or vulgar is not to be

telecast/broadcast. As regards satellite television channels, it is proposed to introduce the Broadcasting Bill in Parliament, which will bring them within the ambit of India laws and regulations so as to regulate their programming.

[English]

**Employment to Scientists**

4698. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any National Register for the highly qualified scientists having Ph.D and post doctoral qualifications and experience is maintained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether scores of highly qualified scientists have not been gainfully employed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether besides arranging placement, the Government propose to extend finance/technical assistance to such scientists; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Based on the study which was conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in early 90s out of 3200 sample respondents who were awarded Ph.D degree over 95% were employed while only about 4% were unemployed the rest were not seeking employment. It may not, therefore, be correct to say that highly qualified scientists have not been gainfully employed.

(e) and (f): For the benefit of such highly qualified scientists the Department of Science and Technology has a scheme "Opportunities for Young Scientists". Under this scheme qualified scientists with Ph.D or M.Tech. or M.D. degree and within the age of 35 years are encouraged to submit research proposals. This scheme encompasses

broad areas of science and technology. The scheme is available to both employed and unemployed young scientists. There is a provision in the scheme for salary payment to the unemployed young scientists for the duration of the project. Additionally, CSIR is operating a Scientists Pool Scheme since 1958 which offers financial assistance to highly qualified unemployed scientists, Engineers and Medical professionals by way of Senior Research Associateship for upto 3 years. The objective of the scheme is not to provide jobs in the CSIR system but affording temporary placement to such scientists who are on a look out for regular employment. As further assistance, in addition to their salary, Senior Research Associates (Pool officers), are also entitled to a contingent grant of Rs. 10,000 per annum for meeting expenditure on account of equipment/laboratory facilities like purchase of chemicals, glasswares, stationery etc.

#### Installation of Optical Fibre Cables

4699. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI SHSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Maharashtra Government to install optical fibre cables to promote telephone facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of places where these cables are installed in the State;

(d) whether there is any scheme to connect Solapur with Kolhapur using optical fibre cables;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) The details of places where these cables are installed in the State is given in statement enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The project is under execution and the work between Kolhapur to Miraj has already been completed

in 1997-98. The remaining work beyond Miraj to Solapur is likely to be completed during 1998-99 subject to timely availability of materials.

(f) Question does not arise in view of reply to (e) above.

#### Statement

##### Details of OFC transmission systems working in Maharashtra Circle

S.No.	Name of Places
1	2
1.	SSA Ahmednagar Shrimpur Ahmednagar MIDC Khedgaon
2.	SSA Amravati Amravati-Camp RLU
3.	SSA Aurangabad Chikalhana Waluj Warsool
4.	SSA Dhule Dhule MIDC
5.	SSA Goa Madgaon Panaji Canacona Quepem Curchorem Cuncolim Ponde Rivona Collem Mollem Mapuca Anjuna
6.	SSA Jalgaon Jalgaon MIDC
7.	SSA Kalyan Dahanu Bhiwandi Dombivli Ulhasnagar Badlapur Kolsewedi Vasai Vararhata

1	2
8.	SSA Kolhapur Gadhiglanj Mahagaon Nesari Hupri Patankadoli Hatkanangle Rukadi Jaisingpur Kurunwadi Bambarde Malkapur
9.	SSA Latur Chakur Ahmedpur
10.	SSA Nagpur Itawari VRCE Hingna Nagpur CTO Nari Khamla Katoi Road Nandanvan Kuhi Mandal
11.	SSA Nanded Hadgaon Lohe Ardhapur Basmat Malegaon
12.	SSA Nasik Canada Corner Nasik Road Nasik Phata Satpur Deolai Makmalabad Upnager OIDCO Shinde
13.	SSA Osmanabad Maldurg
14.	SSA Pune Narayangaon Humnabad

1	2
	Hadepsar MHS Pune City Chinchwad Shivajinagar Model Colony Satra Road Wakad Bhosari Dhankwadi Aundh Khedsiapur Alephtha Wadgaon Diary Guttekdi
15.	SSA Raigad Mangaon Mahad Shrivardhan Mahad MIDC Chiplun Khad Dapoli Pen Nagothane Goregaon Revdamda Nandgaon Borlinandle
16.	SSA Sangli Vishrambag Kupwaad MIDC Tasgaon Vita
17.	SSA Satara Satara MIDC Karad Mambraj Bhunj Dallanagar
18.	SSA Solapur CTO Solapur
19.	SSA Yeotnal Kalemb Dharwah



**Coastal Zone Management Plan for Goa**

4700. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coastal Zone Management Plan for Goa approved in September, 1996 is as per the provisions of CRZ Regulations of 1991;

(b) if so, the manner in which the exceptions are made in case of Goa by Contemplating that only settlement areas are zoned as CRZ III while others as CRZ I;

(c) whether it is depriving the Goa from setting up more resorts/Hotel projects as no resorts can be constructed within the existing settlement areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No exceptions have been made in case of Goa while approving the Coastal Zone Management Plan.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

[Translation]

**UNESCO Report**

4701. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO has published a report recently on state of literacy in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Encroachment in National Parks and Sanctuaries**

4702. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :  
DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the illegal encroachment in reserved Forests, National Parks and Sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the details of such encroachment *inter alia* number of families involved and area so occupied during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the action taken so far by the Government to clear the encroachment during the said period and the results obtained therefrom; and

(d) the time frame by which these reserved Forests, National Parks and Sanctuaries are made free from encroachment?

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

(b) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Telegrams Facilities**

4703. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the kinds of facilities available in the telegraph offices to send telegrams in Roman and Devnagari scripts;

(b) the details of the facilities available to send telegrams in Roman but the same are not available for Devnagari script; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the development of such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Facilities exist to send telegrams in Roman as well as Devnagari Scripts through public counters and phonogram working in Telegraph offices.

(b) Telegraph terminal equipments like bilingual electronic teleprinters, morse working, bilingual electronic key-boards, bilingual electronic key-board concentrators, bilingual formatted terminal concentrators, bilingual store and forward message switching systems of 32 and 64 lines capacity are provided with Roman as well as Devnagari transmission capability. Few numbers of store and forward message switching systems and formatted terminals/concentrators are not capable of handling the bilingual traffic.

(c) As per the policy of the Govt. of India, the entire automated telegraph net-work will be made bilingual. The required equipment had already been developed and tested. Bulk procurement for implementation in the network is under process.

[English]

#### **International Steamer Route in Sunderbans**

4704. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International steamer route in Sunderbans is currently used by cargo vessels plying between Calcutta and Assam/Bangladesh;

(b) whether a proposal was mooted to declare and develop this route as National Waterways;

(c) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(d) whether there is any scope for private (overseas) investment for this project to be run on toll; and

(e) if so, whether the Centre would pose this project to any of the overseas funding agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is one of the identified waterways that can be declared as a National Waterway by an Act of Parliament.

(c) The proposal to declare international steamer route in Sunderbans from Rangafala Channel to Beharikhall-Raimangal river confluence on the inter-national border as a National Waterways was being considered. The environmental study in this route has been completed. However, MOEF as well as the concerned State Government have suggested alternate routes for this National Waterway. Accordingly, a detailed hydrographic survey is being taken up.

(b) Assessment of this has not been done yet.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **World Bank Loan to NTPC**

4705. SHRI INDERJIT SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank provides loan to National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the loans provided by the World Bank to National Thermal Power Corporation during the last three years;

(c) whether an inspection team of the World Bank has recently visited National Thermal Power Corporation complexes and taken a decision to delay the loan to NTPC;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the extent to which the NTPC projects have been adversely affected due to this decision from World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The World Bank has not provided any fresh loan to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) during the last three years. The last loan approved by the World Bank for NTPC was in the year 1993-94 for an amount of US\$ 400 million under time-slice concept. The drawal of World Bank loan by NTPC during the last three years is as under:

Year	US\$ Million
1995-96	74.46
1996-97	108.34
1997-98	140.86

(c) to (e): The Inspection Panel of the World Bank has visited the Singrauli area in July, 1997 and after investigation has submitted its report. The Government has not received any decision to the effect that loan to NTPC is being delayed.

[Translation]

#### **Chartered Accountancy Examination**

4706. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for rechecking received by the institution after the declaration of results of Chartered Accountancy examinations;

(b) the number of the persons declared successful after rechecking and the type of discrepancies found therein; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to avoid such discrepancies in future?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b): Statement is attached.

(c) The Institute has an in-built monitoring mechanism for taking corrective measures. This would be continuously and strictly followed.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Type of Examination	Number of applications received in respect of Examination held in November, 1997	Number of Candidates declared successful as a result of verification	Type of discrepancies
1.	Foundation Examination	522	4 [Four]	These were mainly in the nature of omission to examine or mark any answer/or there had been mistakes in the totalling of marks
2.	Intermediate	3505	Group First — 15 Group Second — 14 Unit 3 — 1	
3.	Final Examination	3010	Group First — 6 Group Second — 16	

[English]

**Approval to Bridges in the States**

4707. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the bridges approved by his Ministry under "Inter-State and Economic Importance" scheme of the Ministry during Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the progress made by the States so far by implementing the scheme and funds placed by them as their share of the said scheme; and

(c) the criteria for approving the schemes and the States who complied with these criteria and submitted the proposals to his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Inter-State and Economic Importance (E&I), the following number of bridge works were approved in principle in the 8th Plan:

(i)	Madhya Pradesh	—	1
(ii)	Karnataka	—	2
(iii)	Rajasthan	—	2
(iv)	Orissa	—	1
(v)	Tamil Nadu	—	1

(b) The progress of the bridge projects which were finally sanctioned during the 8th Plan is as under:

**Rajasthan-2** Since completed with the State putting in its requisite share.

**Tamil Nadu-1** Work commenced and the State Government has spent Rs. 348.48 lakhs upto February, 1998.

(c) The criteria for approving the proposals under the E&I Scheme is as under:

- (i) Roads/Bridges connection National Highways.
- (ii) Inter-State roads/bridges necessary for ensuring through communication.
- (iii) Roads/Bridges required for opening up new areas to which railway facilities can not be provided in the near future.
- (iv) Roads/Bridges which can contribute materially to rapid development e.g. in hilly areas and places having rich mineral resources for exploitation.

On the basis of above criteria, proposals were invited from all the States and as many as 17 States submitted about 3000 proposals during the 8th Plan.

**Clearance to the Projects of Andaman  
and Nicobar Islands**

4708. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for environment and forests clearance received from Andaman and Nicobar Administration during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to simplify the procedures for according such clearance so as to avoid hindrance in the development work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): During the last three years, six proposals were received for environmental clearance by this Ministry, out of which three proposals were accorded environmental clearance and rest three were transferred to Ministry of Surface Transport who have been empowered to consider those projects under the provisions of July 7, 1997 amendment to CRZ notification.

For forest clearance, five proposals were received, out of which four proposals have been given final approval. The remaining one proposal has also been approved in principle. Compliance report with regard to later proposal is awaited from Andaman and Nicobar administration.

(c) This Ministry has issued the detailed guidelines for processing of proposals under the Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980. These guidelines have been revised from time to time for simplification of procedure, which include delegation of powers to Regional Offices, Constitution of State Advisory Boards, relaxation's in provision for compensatory afforestation for small development projects, etc.

**Clearance to Pipeline by IOC**

4709. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for laying a pipeline by the Indian Oil Corporation between Paradeep and Ranchi has been pending for the clearance; and

(b) if so, the date from which it is pending and the steps taken to expedite the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The Ministry has not received any such proposal for clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) does not arise.

**Verification of New Newspaper Titles**

4710. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for obtaining verification of new newspaper titles;

(b) whether all verifications particularly for new English, Hindi and Urdu newspapers are required to be obtained from the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) in Delhi;

(c) if so, whether it takes an extremely long time to obtain verification of title for proposed new newspapers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide expeditious verification of titles?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The intending publisher is required to apply to the concerned magistrate who forwards the application to the Registrar of Newspapers for India, who intimates the availability or otherwise of the titles to the magistrate as well as the applicant after due verification.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

**Remains of Nalanda University**

4711. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the remains of the ancient Nalanda University in Bihar are in a state of decay;

(b) whether the decay is due to financial crunch and if not, the other reasons for the decay;

(c) the guidelines for releasing the annual grants for its maintenance; and

(d) the amount of grants released during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): No, Sir. The remains of the ancient University at Nalanda are in a fairly good state of preservation.

(c) The guiding factor for release of funds to any centrally protected monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India, such as the site at Nalanda, is its actual requirement for conservation works.

(d) The expenditure on the maintenance and conservation of the site at Nalanda during the last three years is as below:

1995-96	Rs. 4,40,500
1996-97	Rs. 16,86,500
1997-98	Rs. 6,67,700

#### Maintenance Centre for HPTs/LPTs in Assam

4712. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up maintenance centre for HPTs and LPTs in Assam;

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

(c) whether proposals have been received for setting up this centre at Barbeta in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b): The High Power TV transmitters (HPTs) are maintained independently by the concerned Head of Offices. One Divisional Maintenance Centre (DMC) at Silchar, in addition to the existing four DMCs, one each at Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Guwahati and Tezpur, is being set up for maintenance of LPTs/VLPTs in the State and would be made operational on deployment of requisite staff.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Adult Literacy Campaign

4713. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the total adult literacy campaign in the rural areas in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and upto May, 1998;

(b) whether the government are aware that the people in the most of the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh are still illiterate;

(c) if so, the details of the major achievements made under various literacy schemes launched in the rural areas;

(d) whether the Lok Jumbish Project is proposed to be implemented in Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) An allocation of Rs. 1400 crores for 8th Plan and Rs. 93.97 crores for 1998-99 has been made for all literacy programmes. No State-wise allocations are made and funds are released on the basis of requirements of the State Government and the proposals for Total Literacy Campaigns and Post Literacy Campaigns received from various districts. Grant released from NLM under TLC/PLC to Uttar Pradesh in as follows:

1996-97	—	Rs. 4,21,38,000
1997-98	—	Rs. 2,27,80,000
April-May, 1998	—	Rs. 80,00,000

(b) The total number of illiterates in age-group of 7+ in Uttar Pradesh is 64.77 million (Male 26.30 m and Female 38.47 m). In rural areas there are 55.98 million illiterates out of which 33.35 m are female and 22.63 m are male. (As per 1991 census).

(c) All 68 districts of Uttar Pradesh including rural areas have been covered by Total Literacy Campaigns (TLC) whereas 11 districts have also launched their Post Literacy Campaigns (PLC). While TLC provides the basic functional literacy to an illiterate learner, PLC is intended to consolidate the fragile skill of the neo-learning to actual life situations.

The TLC in Uttar Pradesh had a target of 190.78 lakh learners identified through actual field survey. Out of this, 130.98 lakh learners were enrolled in various TLC

and the number of learners completing Primer-I, II and III are as follows:

Primer	No. of learners completed
I	9903619
II	6413454
III	4796100

(d) to (f): The Lok Jumbish Project is an innovative State Specific Project being implemented in Rajasthan with assistance from Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) with cost sharing in the ratio of 3:2:1 by SIDA, Government of India and Government of Rajasthan. There is no proposal to implement this project in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

#### Forestry Development in Uttar Pradesh

4714. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial grants provided to the Uttar Pradesh for forestry development during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) whether the utilisation of grants has been found to be satisfactory;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d): The Central assistance released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh under the major schemes of afforestation of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, in which grants are given to the State Governments, in the period 1995-96 to 1997-98 is as follows:

Name of the Scheme	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme	437.31	1049.66	185.42
Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme	340.78	360.47	212.44
Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	Nil	Nil	53.00

The evaluations done so far of the projects of the Eighth Plan Period have found the utilisation of grants to be satisfactory.

#### Performance of NTPC

4715. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of NTPC for 1997-98 as per standard norms in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action plan finalised for 1998-99 for NTPC;

(d) the details of total losses incurred by each of the power plant run by NTPC during the last three years, plan-wise and year-wise;

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make good these losses;

(f) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has also incurred a loss of Rs. 220 crore during the last one year due to malfunctioning boiler of the tubes in its power plants as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 29, 1998;

(g) if so, whether any accountability in this regard has been fixed;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): The performance of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) based on

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of 1997-98, has been reviewed by the Government, NTPC has met the major performance targets for 1997-98 in respect of gross generation, net profit to capital employed, gross margin, project implementation and utilisation of ash.

(c) The action plan for performance by NTPC incorporated in the MOU for the year 1998-99, *inter-alia*, includes the following:

Parameters	Target
Gross Generation—MUs	99000
Availability Factors(%)	84
Heat Rate coal based stations (Kcal/Kwh)	2480
Gross Marginal (Rs. crs.)	4460.01
Net Profit to Capital Employed (%)	6.85

(d) and (e): NTPC is continuously making profit since the start of commercial operations of its stations. They have been forced to back down its units in the Eastern Region for lack of demand and inadequate availability of gas for their plants in the Western Region. These factors has resulted in book losses for Anta, Auraiya & Kawas gas turbine stations during the Year 1995-96, and for Singrauli STPS, Korba STPS & Kawas STPS during the year 1996-97. For the Year 1997-98 the book losses were reported at Farakka STPS. However, as per NTPC these book losses would be wiped out once their claim for deemed generation are accepted.

(f) and (i): No, Sir. The news report in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 29th June, 1998 was reported out of context. Boiler tube failure in power plants in an accepted phenomenon the world over. The percentage loss of availability due to tube failure in NTPC stations is comparable to international utilities of USA and UK, and has come down to 1.89% in 1997-98 from 2.064% in 1996-97, which is considered as one of the best performances in the country. The tube failure rate expressed in terms of number of failures per thousand running hours of NTPC stations for the last three years is as under:

Year	Tube failure rate per thousand running hours
1995-96	0.351
1996-97	0.338
1997-98	0.294

(g) and (h): Do not arise.

#### UNESCO Conference on Cultural Policies

4716. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the UNESCO Inter-Governmental Conference on Cultural Policies for development which concluded at Stockholm on April 2, 1998;

(b) if so, the main participants in the conference;

(c) the subjects discussed in the conference; and

(d) the proposals put forward by the Indian Government in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) India participated in the UNESCO Inter-Governmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development held at Stockholm from 30th March, 1998 to 2nd April, 1998. The Indian delegation was led by Dr. L.M. Singhvi and also included Dr. R.V. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, Secretary to the Govt. of India in the Department of Culture.

(c) The Conference treated the main subject before it in terms of a number of sub-themes namely A Commitment to Pluralism, Cultural Policy and Research, Cultural Rights, Mobilising Resources, Culture, Children and Young People, International Cooperation in Cultural Policy, Cultural Creativity, the Media in Cultural Policy, Cultural Heritage and Culture and new Media Technologies.

(d) India Chaired the Session on the theme Cultural Heritage. It was also one of the twelve countries elected to the Drafting Committee, which finalised the Action Plan. India was able to include as an objective in the Action Plan prevention of illicit trade in antiquities on a world-wide basis and to prevent in particular the acquisition of unprovenanced objects by Museums and private collectors.

[Translation]

#### Financial Crisis at Kandla Port

4717. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kandla Port is passing through financial crisis at present as a result of which import and export of the country is being affected adversely;

(b) if so, whether the Government have reviewed the financial structure of Kandla Port in this connection;

(c) if so, the factual outcome thereof; and

(d) the full details of allocations made to the Port during the current financial year and the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

(d) During Annual Plan 1998-99, the approved outlay for Kandla Port Trust is Rs. 65.50 crores, out of which Rs. 50 lakhs is External Aid, and the balance will be met from Internal Resources of the Port. For Kandla Port, an outlay of Rs. 360 crores has been allocated in Ninth Five Year Plan, out of which Rs. 30 crores is expected to come as External Aid and balance from Internal Resources of the port.

**Committees Constituted to review the Functioning of SEBs**

4718. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD  
YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to review the functioning of the State Electricity Boards;

(b) whether this committee has submitted its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Government constituted a Committee for Review of Commercial Accounting System in State Electricity Boards in May, 1993.

(b) and (c): The Committee submitted its report in July, 1996 which was circulated to all the SEBs for taking necessary action. The important recommendations of the Committee are in the attached statement.

**Statement**

**Important Recommendations of the Committee for Review of Commercial Accounting System in State Electricity Boards**

(1) The Committee recommended that a nodal agency namely, CA or PFC (which is a developmental financial institution for power sector) develop a common software for a uniform system of accounts which could be adopted by different SEBs with modification under circumstances specific to them while doing so the nodal agency may set up a task force comprising of accounts personnel of a few SEBs and a professional computer software agency.

(2) In the changed scenario, the SEBs are required to negotiate with the IPPs for private power development, private parties for privatisation of distribution, with financial institutions including multilateral and bilateral agencies etc. This would require the SEBs to subject themselves to right financial disclosure and discipline requirements. This would necessitate a more comprehensive presentation of accounting data in the revenue account and balance sheet keeping in view the information interest of different agencies.

(3) Analytical presentation indicating quality of assets such as receivable and for better appreciation of the accounting information such as capital work in progress, be given.

(4) Scope of audit report should be broadened to cover auditor's comments.

(5) Management comments on auditor's report be also added as an Annexure to the annual statement of accounts.

(6) The Board's report on the functioning of the SEB should be enclosed with the annual account. It should bring out, summarily, *inter-alia*, the performance of the Board during the year, future perspective and other critical issues before the Board.

(7) Modification of rules providing for accounting policies.

(8) Adequate provisions in respect of gratuity and other terminal benefits should be made every year based on the realistic assessment of the liability.

(9) SEBs should fund depreciation reserves.

(10) Modifications in the schedule 3 of Part I of the rules be carried out to provide separate disclosure of electricity duty etc.



(11) The basic value of spares/items scrapped etc. should be written off as a loss to the organisation

(12) The internal audit system should be strengthened.

(13) Despite the problems in the assessment the Committee endorsed the imperative need for State Governments compensating SEBs for subsidised sale of power to the agricultural sector.

[English]

**National Institute of Oceanography**

4719. SHRI AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD  
YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Oceanography has been entrusted with the task of retrieving the valuables from the sea;

(b) if so, the details of items retrieved by the Institute during the last three years, year-wise and the value thereof;

(c) whether due to shortage of funds the institute has not been provided with the latest exploratory technology;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for providing the latest exploratory technology and equipment to the institute?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir. National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa as per its charter is engaged in studies on Marine Archaeology and is not involved in the task of treasure location and retrieval.

(b) to (e): Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Criteria for Opening JNV**

4720. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the criteria laid down for opening of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether the Government propose to make any amendment in the criteria; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalaya envisage setting up of a Vidyalaya on the receipt of suitable proposals from the State Governments concerned including offer of 30 acres of land and suitable rent free temporary accommodation and other infrastructural facilities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It has been proposed in the Programme of Action 1992 on National Policy of Education 1986 that a comprehensive review of the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas will be required after Navodaya Vidyalaya have been established and consolidated in all districts in the country. The process of establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas on the criteria mentioned in para (a) above is continuing pending review of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

[English]

**Development of National Highways in Kerala**

4721. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government consider to include Kerala State in the 'Golden quadrilateral' for the purpose of four laning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) National Highways passing through Kerala do not fall on the Golden Quadrilateral which connects metropolitan cities of Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai.

**Utilisation of Transponders**

4722. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has lost potential revenue on account of inordinate delay in the use of transponders in the expensive satellite system; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fully utilise the transponders on all satellites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) CAG in its report for the year 1996-97 has pointed out loss of revenue due to inordinate delay in the utilisation of transponders in satellite system. However, the Department of Telecom is not in agreement with audit observations.

(b) To the extent feasible efforts are made to utilise transponders, keeping some as spare for unforeseen and emergent requirements.

**Child Welfare Centres in J & K**

4723. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Child Welfare centres opened in J&K during Eighth Five Year Plan and proposed to be opened during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any foreign aid is being extended to the States for these welfare centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) 58 Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) projects were sanctioned in the State of Jammu & Kashmir during Eighth Five Year Plan period. Out of these, 50 projects were opened during the Eighth Five Year Plan period. Apart from that 65 centres of Early Childhood Education and 33 Balwadi Centres were functioning in Jammu & Kashmir by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan. 8 projects under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme are proposed to be opened during Ninth Five Year Plan subject to availability of adequate funds.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**[Translation]****Development of Sectors with the Assistance of S&T**

4724. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the different sectors in which Science and Technology made its contribution from 1990 to 1997;

(b) the details thereof, Sector-wise;

(c) the amount of funds proposed to be allocated by the Government for these sectors during the current financial year; and

(d) The number of sectors targeted to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): In the field of Science & Technology, India has made significant achievements during the period 1990-97 in sectors like Agriculture, Atomic Energy, Space, Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Industrial Research, Biomedical Research, Computer Science etc. Some of the salient achievements are:

- \* There has been significant increase in food-grains production.
- \* Successful launch of Indian National Satellite INSAT 2A, 2B and 2C and INSAT-2D satellites which have increased the outreach of Indian television and Indian communications beyond the National boundaries from middle-east to south-east Asia and also Indian Remote Sensing Satellite-1C (IRS-1C) and IRS-1D. The other major milestone is the operationalisation of the Polar satellite launch vehicle that launched IRS-1D.
- \* A programme entitled "Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development (iMSD) was launched in several districts for formulation of location-specific development plans.
- \* Parallel computing system (Pace plus), and pilot plant facility to process "GaAs wafers and 1-12 GHz MMIC utilizing 0.7 micrometer optical lithography technology.
- \* Besides the testing of nuclear devices and delivery systems, peaceful application of nuclear energy including establishment of pressurized heavy water technology, demonstration of fast breeder technology and

utilization of thorium, indigenously designed mini reactor (Kamini) utilizing uranium-233 and establishment of Giant Meter-wave Radio Telescope (GMRT).

Plant tissue culture industries, aquaculture, drugs & pharmaceuticals and immunodiagnostics industries have come up and also new Centre for DNA fingerprinting has been established.

Annual Scientific expeditions to Antarctica covering new areas of research continued and National Institute of Ocean Technology has been established.

Development and commercialization of large number of technologies in the fields of industrial catalyst, chemicals, food processing, leather processing and products, construction materials, drugs and pharmaceuticals and bio-medical devices, country's first all composite trainer aircraft (Hansa). Considerable progress has also been achieved in the Technology Mission Projects in the areas of Sugar production, Advanced composites, fly ash utilization, leather technology aquaculture, biological pest-control and bio-fertilizers.

Fellowship amounts for all categories of research personnel have been doubled; setting-up of a Technology Development Board to accelerate Technology Development and application; institution of Swarnajayanti Fellowships in Basic Research for outstanding young scientists between the age of 30-40 years; a new scheme "Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructure (FIST)" in universities and related institutions; a patent facilitating mechanism to provide support to all scientists on aspects of patenting; bringing out the Technology Vision-2020 perspective; and establishment of sophisticated meteorological and seismological facilities in the country.

(c) and (d): The Government have proposed to provide Rs. 2418.50 Crores for the Central S & T Departments/Agencies during the current financial year (1998-99) to promote R&D in various sectors of S&T like Atomic Energy, Space, Biotechnology, Ocean Science, Scientific and Industrial Research etc. besides supporting basis research in frontier areas of S&T.

[English]

#### **Archaeology Museum at Hampi University**

4725. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Karnataka for the Central assistance for opening the Archaeology Museum at Hampi University;

(b) if so, the amount of Central assistance sought for;

(c) the amount out of the total assistance released so far; and

(d) the time by which the remaining assistance will be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir. However, the Kannada University, Hampi, had applied for financial assistance from the Department of Culture under the scheme of "Promotion & Strengthening of Regional & Local Museums" for setting up a multipurpose museum in the University of Kanada, Hampi.

(b) to (d): For setting up this Museum, the University of Kannada had requested for a grant of Rs. 1,79,50,259 for constructing a new museum building. This request was considered by the Selection Committee constituted for this purpose. The Committee recommended a token grant of Rs. 2.00 lakhs subject to the condition that the University would get the building plan revised from a professional architect so that the cost of the building is scaled down to a reasonable limit. The University was advised to take action in January 1998. The University has not submitted the revised plan as yet. Pending receipt of that revised plan, the token grant of Rs. 2.00 lakhs has not so far been released to the University.

#### **Recovery of Outstanding Dues against Cellular Companies**

4726. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cellular companies owe a large amount to the Government on account of licence fee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for accumulation of such a large amount; and

(d) the action taken to recover the outstanding dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 30.6.1998, Rs. 1343.44 crores is due from the Circle Cellular Operators.

(c) and (d). The Cellular Operators Association of India has represented that most of the projects are non-viable with reference to the present terms and conditions, as their original projections, with regard to demand, number of subscribers have not proved to be correct. The Association has demanded extension of the licence period as well as moratorium on payment of licence fees for two years. In some cases, Bank Guarantees to recover the outstanding licence fee payment could not be encashed on account of stay granted by Courts/TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India). In order to verify the points made by the Association, the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP) have been entrusted to conduct a detailed techno-economic study of the Cellular Industry. Pending the BICP study ICICI (Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd) were also requested to undertake a quick study of the Operational performance of the Cellular Service. The matter is under Government's consideration.

#### **Income Tax Tribunal Bench at Vijayawada**

4727. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for opening of an Income-Tax Tribunal Bench at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have agreed to set up the bench in principle; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in opening the Bench?

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

(b) It has not been found possible to accede to this demand. However, Government has recently approved the setting up of a Bench of the Tribunal at Visakhapatnam.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Transmission and Distribution Losses**

4728. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Low Plant Load Factor and heavy Transmission and Distribution losses of thermal power plants have been a cause of much concern to the Government during the last few years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the challenges posed by the said factors?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): The sector-wise Plant Load Factor (PLF) for year 1996-97 and 1997-98 and on all India basis is given below:

Sector	(PLF %)	
	1996-97	1997-98
State Sector	60.3	60.9
Central Sector	71.0	70.4
Private Sector	71.2	71.2
All India	64.4	64.7

Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses during 1994-95 and 1995-96 were 21.13% and 22.27% respectively.

The Government constantly reviews the working of thermal power stations in the country and have identified the problems of different thermal power stations. Various measures are being taken to solve these problems which include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, supply of required quantity and quality of coal, training of O&M personnel, and strengthening of Transmission and Distribution system. T&D losses in the country which were 15% till the year 1996-67, have increased gradually to about 22.27% in 1995-96. The major losses occur in subtransmission & distribution system. Power distribution falls within the purview of SEBs/State Governments. CEA has issued comprehensive guidelines on reduction of T&D losses which, *inter-alia*, include identification of high loss area, upgradation of operation voltages, reduction of length of LT lines, location of distribution transformer nearer to the load centres, installation of shunt capacitors, improvement in construction and operation techniques and practices.

**Women Development Corporations**

4729. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

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

(a) the names of States where Women Development Corporations have since been set up;

(b) the works undertaken by these corporations so far, corporation-wise;

(c) the achievements made by these corporations particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the total amount of financial assistance provided to these corporations during 1997-98 and provisions for 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The State Governments have set up Women Development Corporations in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and in the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Pondicherry.

(b) and (c): A Statement showing the works undertaken by each of these Corporations is enclosed.

(d) In accordance with the decision taken by National Development Council, the Scheme of Setting-up of Women Development Corporations has been transferred to the State Sector w.e.f. 1.4.1992. Though no direct funding is being done, some Women Development Corporations are availing of assistance under various schemes.

**Statement**

S. No.	Women Development Corporation	Activities
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh Women's Cooperative Finance Corporation Ltd.	— Providing marginal loans to small scale women entrepreneurs. — Undertaken variety of training programmes for women under DW CRA and NORAD programme. — 11 Working Women Hostels. — Advancing loans under Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. — Publicity of Mahila Samridhhi Yojana.
2.	Bihar State Women Development Corporation	— The Corporation given margin money assistance to women. Besides, a Training-cum-Production Centre for Handloom sari and bags was organised at Deoghar and at Bansjora a tassar weaving and reeling centre is being run presently. — Every year on the occasion of the International Women's Day a "Mahila Samridhhi Utsav" is organised in which sale of articles produced by women and women groups, exhibition, daily workshops, cultural programmes and free medical check-up camps are also organised.

1	2	3
		— Corporation has taken up Training-cum-Employment Centre in the trade of Office Management.
3.	Gujarat Women Economic Development Corporation.	— Running a bankable scheme under which loan is provided to the extent of Rs. 1.00 lakh. — Corporation organised Shivirs and opened accounts under Mahila Samriddhi Yojana. — Margin money to small entrepreneur. — Running training-cum-Production Centre for women, organise Sale-cum-Exhibition from time to time. — Upgradation of skills of women in the trade of handicrafts under the Support-Training-cum-Employment Prog.
4.	Haryana Women Development Corporation.	— Providing marginal loan to small entrepreneurs. — Running various Training units in the trades of Beauty culture and Computer under the Employment-cum-Income Generation Programme. — Implementing Women Dairy Project under Support to Training Employment Programme for Women. — Undertaking publicity of Mahila Samriddhi Yojana.
5.	Himachal Pradesh Mahila Vikas Nigam.	— Assisting women in getting loan at concessional rates of interest from the financial institutions. — Undertaking training courses in the trades of Beautician, Screen Printing and Office Management under the Employment-cum-Income Generation-cum-Production Programme. — Publicity of Mahila Samriddhi Yojana.
6.	Jammu & Kashmir Women Development Corporation.	— Marginal loans to small women entrepreneurs. — Training-cum-Production Centres for Women.
7.	Karnataka State Women Development Corporation.	— Manebelaku Scheme. — Devadasi Rehabilitation Programme.

1

2

3

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- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | — | Training for Women Entrepreneurs.  |
|   | — | Training Programmes.   |
|   | — | Corporation Loan Scheme.   |
|   | — | Exhibition-cum-Sale Workshops.   |
|   | — | Publicity of Mahila Samridhi Yojana.   |
| 8.  | — | Self-Employment Scheme for Women below Poverty Line.   |
| Kerala State Women Development Corporation. | — | Self-Employment Scheme for Backward and Minority Communities.  |
|   | — | Construction of Working Women Hostels.   |
|   | — | Job Oriented Training Programme for Women.   |
|   | — | Production-cum-Training Centre for Women.  |
| 9.  | — | Implementing GRAMYA scheme under which women desirous of undertaking small business are given an interest-free loan of Rs. 500 by the Nigam.   |
| Madhya Pradesh Mahila Arthik Vikas Nigam.   | — | Implementing PHOTOCOPIER MACHINE Scheme under which women setting up a photocopier machine through Bank loan are given a subsidy of 10%, not exceeding Rs. 10,000.   |
|   | — | Implementing SAMARTH scheme under which raining expenses in recognized institutions of widowed, divorced and deserted women are borne by the Corporation.  |
|   | — | Implementing TYPING TRAINING Schemes under which free training with stipend is imparted to women in District Headquarters and other bigger towns of the State.   |
|   | — | Implementation of NORAD schemes like Computer Training assigned to the Corporation.  |
|   | — | Nodal Agency for Rashtriya Mahila Kosh.  |
|   | — | Implementation Agency for STEP project.  |
|   | — | Implementing agency of World Bank-IFAD funded centrally sponsored Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Programme for 6 Districts (Hoshangabad, Dewas, Sehore, Betul, Tikamgarh and Chatarpur) of the State. |

1	2	3
		— Arranging sale of goods produced by DWCRA groups by holding Mela.
		— Organising training of women for income generating activities.
10.	Maharashtra Women Development Corporation.	— Running various Training units under the Training-cum-Employment Programme for women.
		— Undertaken publicity of Mahila Samridhi Yojana.
		— Construction of Hostels for working women.
11.	Manipur Women Development Corporation.	— Providing loans to marginal women entrepreneurs.
		— Conducting training courses in the trades of mosquito net-making, typing and shorthand under Training-cum-Production Centre for Women.
		— Publicity of Mahila Samridhi Yojana.
12.	Orissa Women Development Corporation.	— Running a Subsidiary Unit at Khur where women assemble watches under the franchise of HMT.
		— Publicity of Mahila Samridhi Yojana.
13.	Punjab Women Development Corporation.	— Provides loans with capital subsidy through various Banks for economic upliftment of women.
		— Undertaken Training Programmes in Hosiery, Stationary, Shawl Weaving under Training-cum-Production Centre for Women.
		— Running Vocational and Rehabilitation Centre at Bhatinda, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur.
14.	Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation.	— Formation of self-help Women Groups in collaboration with NGOs under Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project.
		— Skill Development Training Programme for benefitting women below the poverty line to get employment.
		— Training-cum-Production Centre for Women.
		— Entrepreneurship Development Programme.
		— Implementing Mahila Samridhi Yojana Publicity Programme.



1	2	3
15.	Uttar Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Nigam.	— Rural Women Development & Empowerment Project.
		— Running Training Units for Women under Training-cum-Production Centres for Women's Programme.
		— Margin money loan provided at concessional rates of interest.
		— Providing Marketing facilities to women entrepreneurs.
		— Undertaking construction of Working Women Hostels.
16.	West Bengal Women Development Corporation.	— Running Training units under the Training-cum-Employment Programme for Women.
		— Undertaken publicity of Mahila Samridhhi Yojana.
17.	Chandigarh Women Development Corporation.	— Set up recently.
18.	Pondicherry Women Development Corporation.	— Running Training units under the Training-cum-Employment Programme for Women.
		— Undertaken publicity of Mahila Samridhhi Yojana.

**Extension in Service**

4730. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :  
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

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

(a) whether the Government have been urged to grant 2 years extension of service to all those teachers working in the universities and affiliated colleges on or before May, 1, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the said proposal is under consideration of the Government for the last one month; and

(c) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The said proposal alongwith the revision of pay scales of teachers is under consideration of the Government and the decision would be taken very soon.

**Decline in Academic Standard of Schools**

4731. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :  
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study about the decline of academic standard in the schools particularly those in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have framed any scheme to revitalise the schooling pattern to promote the healthy academic standard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No such study has been specifically conducted.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Revitalisation of the schooling pattern through updated syllabi and methodology of teaching is an ongoing process. As per the provisions in National Policy on Education 1986 and Programme of Action 1992, the NCERT has evolved a National curricular framework. It also brings out text books which are adopted/adapted by different Boards/State Govts. Efforts have been made to upgrade the standard of education through improving the capabilities of teachers through in-service orientation and training and extending better support facilities through educational technology, laboratories, libraries and special emphasis on critical areas like science, mathematics etc. Efforts are also being made to improve the contents and process of teaching and learning so as to make the process of learning less stressful and more attractive.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Sanctions Imposed by G-8 Nations

4732. PROF P.J. KURIEN :  
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :  
DR. T. SUBBRAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sanctions imposed by the G-8 nations after the Pokharan Nuclear test by India have great effect on the power sector;

(b) if so, the extent to which the power sector has been affected;

(c) whether the Government are considering concrete measures towards providing liquid fuel on the short gestation projects;

(d) the total impact on the power projects;

(e) the total power projects at present which are in operation and the time by which they are likely to be completed;

(f) whether the Government have accorded techno-economic clearance to 49 independent power producers; and

(g) if so, the total capacity of power generated from these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): According to available information, the committed external assistance for the power sector would not be affected by the sanctions imposed by the different donor countries. Hence, no immediate effect is likely on ongoing programmes in the power sector.

(c) Liquid fuel linkages had been given to projects of about 12000 MW capacity for the whole country as a one time measure to bridge the energy shortage in the short run. However, as per the recent modifications in the liquid fuel policy, the 12000 MW capacity would apply only to Naphtha based power projects and States would be free to contract for new power projects based on furnace oil and non-traditional fuels like Condensate and Oilmulsion.

(e) Details of major ongoing power projects along with anticipated date of completion are given in the Statement I and II enclosed.

(f) and (g): 44 power projects in the private sector with a total capacity of 21221 MW have been accorded techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority upto June, 1998.

#### Statement I

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Feroz Gandhi Unchahar TPP, St. II	2 × 210	7/2000
2.	Faridabad Gas Power Project (CCGT)	430	1/2001
3.	Vindhyachal STPP St. II	2 × 500	2/2001

1	2	3	4
4.	Kayamkulam CCGT	350	3/2000
5.	Simhadri TPS	2 × 500	12/2002
6.	Panipat St. IV	210	(*)
7.	GHTP Bhatinda	2 × 210	7/98
8.	Suratgarh	2 × 250	1999-2000
9.	Wanakbori TPS	210	8/98
10.	Paourhan CCGT	655	10/98
11.	Surat Lignite TPS	2 × 125	2/99
12.	Sanjay Gandhi Extn. TPP	2 × 210	12/99
13.	Khaperkheda Extn. St. II	2 × 210	7/2000
14.	Dadri CCGT	2184	2000-01
15.	Thermal PP at Toranagallu	2 × 130	3/99
16.	DG Power Station	8 × 16	Schedule awaited
17.	Karaikal Combined Cycle	32.5	9/98
18.	Diesel Generating Sets at Basin Bridge	4 × 50	2/99
19.	North Madras TPP St. II	2 × 525	
20.	Bakreshwar TPP	5 × 210	Schedule awaited
21.	Budge-Budge TPS	2 × 250	12/98
22.	Leimakhong DG Power Project Heavy Oil Based	6 × 6	Schedule awaited

(\*) 24 months from the date of signing of PPA.

**Statement II**

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Nathpa Jhakri	6 × 250	2001-02
2.	Dulhasti	3 × 130	2001-02
3.	Tehri St. I	4 × 250	2001-02
4.	Dhauliganga-I	4 × 70	2004-05
5.	Rangit-III	3 × 20	1999-2000
6.	Doyang	1 × 25	1998-2000
7.	Ranganadi	3 × 135	1999-01
8.	Upper Sindh-II	2 × 35	1998-2000
9.	Upper Sindh Extn.	1 × 35	1999-2000
10.	Sewa St. III	3 × 3	1998-99 (Critical)
11.	Chenani St. III	3 × 2.5	1998-99 (Critical)
12.	Ranjit Sagar	4 × 150	1998-2000
13.	Sobla	2 × 3	1998-99
14.	Sardar Sarovar	6 × 200 + 5 × 50	1999-02
15.	Bansagar Tons Ph. I, II & III	3 × 105 + 2 × 15 + 3 × 20	2001-02
16.	Bansagar Tons Ph. IV	2 × 10	2001-02
17.	Rajghat	3 × 15	1999-2000
18.	Koyna St. IV	4 × 250	1999-01
19.	Dudhganga	2 × 12	1998-2000
20.	Ghatghar PSS	2 × 125	2002-03

1	2	3	4
21.	Srisaillam LBPH	6 × 150	1999-02
22.	Singur	2 × 7.5	1998-2000
23.	Kalinadi St. II	3 × 40 + 3 × 50	1997-2000
24.	Brindavan	2 × 6	X Plan
25.	Sharavathi T.R.	4 × 60	2000-02
26.	Malankara	3 × 3.5	2001-02
27.	Kakkad	2 × 25	1999-2000
28.	Kuttiyadi Tail Race	3 × 1.25	2000-01
29.	Poringalkuthu LB Extn.	1 × 16	1998-99
30.	Kuttiyadi Extn.	1 × 50	2001-02
31.	Sathanur Dam	1 × 7.5	1998-99
32.	Parson's Valey (Kundah-V Ext.)	1 × 30	1999-2000
33.	Pykara Ultimate St.	3 × 50	1999-01
34.	Chandil	2 × 4	1999-2000
35.	Norh Koel	2 × 12	1999-2000
36.	Upper Indravati	4 × 150	1999-2000
37.	Potteru	1 × 3 + 1 × 3	1998-99
38.	Teesta Falls I-III	3 × 3 × 7.5	1999-2000
39.	Purulia PSS	4 × 225	2002-04
40.	Dhansiri	5 × 3 × 1.33	X Plan
41.	Likim Ro	3 × 8	2000-01
42.	Baspa St. II	3 × 100	Beyond 9th Plan
43.	Mahashwar	10 × 40	2001-02

### Introduction of Franking Machines

4733. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there are delay in the prompt delivery of postal letters to the addresses;

(b) if so, whether there have been postal scales are not clearly indicated on the letter;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(d) whether there is any proposal to introduce Franking machines in all the Post Offices of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Generally, mails are delivered as per the norms laid down by the Department. As per the results of the All India Live Mail Survey conducted in 1997, 68.1% of the home district mail, 76.9% of the home state mail and 75% of the mails meant for other states were delivered as per the norms. However, occasional delays to mail do occur due to various reasons which are beyond the control of the Department. The delays in delivery of mails occur due to problems in transportation like late running of trains, off-loading of mails by airlines, irregular running of mail carrying buses, natural calamities etc.

(b) and (c): Constant efforts are made to improve the post marks affixed by Post Offices. Stamps and seals are replaced periodically. Use of franking machines and stamp cancelling machines is being encouraged by this Department to get better impressions. In order to get better quality of date and delivery stamps, these are now being manufactured through ordnance factories.

(d) to (f): Franking machines have already been supplied to important post offices across the country. Keeping in view the available resources, every effort is made to increase the supply of these machines to other post offices, depending on justification based on traffic and revenue likely to be generated.

### Change in Objectives of ICHR

4734. DR. RAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any change has been made recently in the statement of objectives or ICHR;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the statement of objectives in the original memorandum of understanding of 1972 alongwith the new amended version?

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

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

### Changing of Tariff Structure

4735. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Postal Department has been suffering losses worth crores of rupees every year;

(b) if so, loss/deficit of the Department of Posts during the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to change the tariff structure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) The Department of Posts has not been suffering losses as such but has been in deficit.

(b) The deficit of the Department of Posts during the last three years is as under:

1994-95	Rs. 351.81 crores
1995-96	Rs. 659.41 crores
1996-97	Rs. 703.26 crores

(c) The cost of operation of most of the postal services is far more than the tariff being charged for these services. Since Deptt. of Posts is a public Utility Service Deptt. affordability factor has to be kept in view while revising Postal Tariff for different services.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The revision of rates in respect of eight postal services is included in the Finance Bill 1998.

#### Promotion of Sports

4736. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from the State Governments for the promotion of Sports, provision of basic sports facilities and construction of Sports complexes in their respective States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the funds allocated to the States for the purpose during the said period, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Keeping in view the huge committed liability of the projects approved up to 1996, in principle, by the Central Government and the Department's decision to revise the relevant scheme, this Department decided not to consider any fresh proposal till the committed liability is met and revision of this scheme is finalised. Consequently, proposals for creation of sports infrastructure received from States/UTs were returned to them. A list indicating details of pending proposals approved and funds allocated during the last three years is given in statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*List showing the details of proposals approved and funds allocated under the scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure during the last three years (1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98)*

Year	Sl. No.	Name of the Project/ Location	Amount approved Rs. in lakh	Amount released Rs. in lakh
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Assam</b>				
1995-96	1.	Swimming Pool at Jorhat	43.00	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
1995-96	1.	District Sports Complex at Adilabad	75.00	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>				
1995-96	1.	SPDA centre at Jengging	41.30	20.60

1	2	3	4	5
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Biher</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	1.	Pavilion & Development of Playfield in the existing Polo Ground Stadium at Laheriasarai, Darbhanga.	5.00	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Goa</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Gujarat</b>				
1995-96	1.	Outdoor Stadium at Rajpipla, Bharuch.	11.80	—
	2.	Basketball Court in P.N. Mehta High School Kodali, Sabarkantha.	0.60	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Haryana</b>				
1995-96	1.	Indoor Stadium in CMK National Girls College Sirsa.	14.08	7.00
	2.	Wrestling Bhavan in Mahavidyalaya Gurukul, Jhajjar, Rohtak.	4.26	3.834
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—



1	2	3	4	5
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
1995-96	1.	Swimming Pool at Bhule Mandi.	30.00	—
	2.	Basket Ball Court in G.A.V. Sr. Secondary school Kangra.	0.90	0.81
	3.	Football Field in Sacred Heart High School, Sidhapur Kangra.	1.24	1.116
	4.	Outdoor Stadium at Junga Shimla.	8.32	7.488
	5.	Basketball Court in Govt. School in Tal, Hamirpur.	0.89375	0.80435
	6.	Basketball Court in Govt. School in Maharal, Hamirpur.	0.89375	0.80435
	7.	Basketball Court in Govt. School in Hamirpur.	0.89375	0.80435
	8.	Basketball Court in Govt. School in Jungle, Hamirpur.	0.89375	0.80435
	9.	Basketball Court in Govt. School in Jalari, Hamirpur.	0.89375	0.80435
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	1.	SPDA centre at Dharamshala, Kangra.	49.00	49.00
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>				
1995-96	1.	Indoor Stadium at Leh.	37.50	33.75
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Karnataka</b>				
1995-96	1.	Taluk Stadium at Sira, Tumkur.	6.00	5.40
	2.	Playfield in Poornaprajna Education Centre, New Thappasandra, Bangalore.	0.40	—

1	2	3	4	5
	3.	Indoor Stadium at Karwar	35.00	—
	4.	Sports Complex at Gulbarga.	20.00	10.00
	5.	Indoor Stadium at Bangalkot, Bijapur.	10.00	—
	6.	Playfield in Sadguru Appaiah Swamy High School Kudige, Kodagu.	1.24	1.116
	7.	Taluk Stadium at Hara-panahali, Bellary.	12.00	—
	8.	Taluk Stadium at Siruguppa, Bellary.	1.00	—
	9.	Stadium in the premises of Sri Adichunchunagiri Institute of Medical Sciences, Bellur.	1.75	1.575
	10.	Indoor Stadium at Mandya City, Mandya.	35.00	35.00
1996-97	1.	Taluk level stadium at Sankeshwara, Belgaum	8.51	—
	2.	Taluk level stadium at Renebenur, Dharwad.	12.00	—
	3.	Taluk level stadium at Bailahongal, Belgaum	18.00	—
	4.	Taluk level stadium in Government Boys High School, Tiptur, Tumkur	1.98	—
	5.	Taluk stadium at Haliyal Uttar Kannada Dist.	12.00	—
	6.	Taluk level stadium at Hosanagar, Shimoga.	8.75	—
	7.	Indoor Stadium at Raichur	18.90	—
	8.	Taluk stadium at Arsikera, Hassan	10.495	9.4455
	9.	Indoor Stadium by Field Marshal K.M. Kariappa Auditorium Trust Kodagu. (Medekeri)	52.50	6.83

1	2	3	4	5
	10.	Creation/Modernisation of existing sports Infrastructure for the National Games in Bangalore and Mysore.	800.00	800.00
1997-98	1.	Taluk level stadium at Huvinahadagoli, Bellary.	2.60	—
	2.	Taluk level stadium at Haveri, Dharwad.	12.00	—
<b>Kerala</b>				
1995-96	1.	Composite Football/ Cricket field in St. Mary's High school Kokkadampoil, Kozhikode.	1.24	—
	2.	Stadium in Sacred Heart High School, Thiruvambady Kozhikode.	6.10	5.49
	3.	Tennis Court in Golf Club, Kowdiar, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.	0.60	0.60
	4.	Stadium in Holy Family High School, Rajapuram Kasargod.	4.65	4.185
	5.	Indoor Stadium in St. Antony's Public School Anakkal, Kanjirapally, Kottayam.	10.00	—
	6.	Football Field in JDT Islam Orphanage High School, Kozhikode,	0.83	—
	7.	Football field in the premises of "Our lady of Lourde High School, Uzhavoor, Kottayam.	1.24	1.116
	8.	Indoor Stadium in Mitra-Niketan, Vellanad, Trivandrum.	16.60	12.12732
	9.	Football field at Kanjikuzhi, Idukki.	1.24	1.116
	10.	Swimming pool at Alappuzha, Alleppy.	38.00	34.20

1	2	3	4	5
	11.	Open Stadium at Kasargod	6.60	5.94
	12.	Sports Complex at Palai Kottayam.	37.50	
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				
1995-96	1.	Indoor Stadium at Burhanpur, Khandwa.	19.975	—
	2.	Sports Stadium at Pichhore, Shivpuri.	6.00	5.40
	3.	Mini-stadium at Balod, Durg.	18.00	16.20
	4.	Floodlighting in Roop Singh Stadium, Gwalior	50.00	45.00
	5.	SPDA Centre at Gwalior	15.00	15.00
	6.	Stadium at Morena.	9.50	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
1995-96	1.	Multipurpose Hall (Indoor stadium) at Yavatmal.	35.00	—
	2.	Swimming Pool at Yavatmal.	20.00	10.00
	3.	Indoor stadium at Chiplun, Ratnagiri	30.00	—
	4.	Indoor Sports Complex by Rao Saheb Akhada, Nagpur.	3.03	—
	5.	Gymnasium Hall by Nagpur Municipal Corporation at Ward Nos. 49, 55, 57 & 62.	10.00	—
	6.	Multipurpose Gymnasium Hall at Kishnuji Bhisikar Akhada, Nagpur.	2.96	—

1	2	3	4	5
	7.	Gymnasium Hall in Nav Bharat High School and Jr. College of Arts & Science, Bhame, Ratnagiri	6.72	—
	8.	Playfield at Nivashi High School, Barashiv Pradhani.	0.80	0.72
	9.	Gymnasium Hall at Sawarde, Ratnagiri.	6.72	—
1996-97	1.	Swimming pool at Narkhed, Distt. Nagpur.	5.00	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Manipur</b>				
1995-96	1.	Swimming Pool in Khongjom War Memorial Complex, Tentha, Thoubal.	30.00	10.00
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Meghalaya</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Mizoram</b>				
1995-96	1.	District level sports complex/Indoor stadium Outdoor Stadium at Lunglei, Saiha, Tlungvel, Lungdai, Mc.Donald Hill Champhai, Saitual and Kawartethawveng.	215.49	215.49
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Nagaland</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Orissa</b>				
	1.	Playfield in Government High School, Sialkhandhatha Baragarh.	0.498	—
	2.	Playfield in Government High School, Narayanpatna, Koraput.	0.75	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Punjab</b>				
1995-96	1.	Hockey field/Basket Ball Court with 6 lane grass running track in Atma Ram Kumar Sabha Sr. Secondary School, Patiala.	2.30	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Rajasthan</b>				
1995-96	1.	Basketball Court in Government Secondary School, Nimbohera Jatan, Bhilwara.	0.435	—
	2.	Playfield at B.L. Senior Secondary School Bagar, Jhunjhunu.	4.23	3.807
	3.	Stadium of Bal. Hr. School Kota.	10.00	10.00
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Sikkim</b>				
1995-96	1.	Outdoor stadium at Gyalshing & Maugon.	18.00	15.30

1	2	3	4	5
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>				
1995-96	1.	Playfield/Basketball court at Dharapuram, Chennampatty, Olagadam and Devakottai, Periyar.	1.7835	—
	2.	Indoor stadium at Dharaoyram, Periyar.	52.50	47.25
	3.	Swimming Pool at Campion H.S. School, Trichy.	10.00	10.00
	4.	Tennis Court at SBIOA Matriculation and H.S. School, Coimbatore.	0.3675	0.33075
	5.	Football/Cricket field with 8 lane running track in RVG H.S. School, Kurichi Kottai, Coibatore.	2.50	—
	6.	Filtration Plant for Swimming Pool in Sainik School, Amaravathinagar, Coimbatore.	6.20	—
	7.	Basketball court in Stanes H.S. School, Coimbatore.	0.60	0.60
	8.	Tennis Court in Perks Campus, Coimbatore.	1.86	1.674
	9.	Basketball court in Mount Zion Matriculation H.S. School, Karpaganagar, Pudukottai.	0.60	0.60
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Tripura</b>				
1995-96	1.	Swimming pool at Udaipur	63.75	57.375
1996-97	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
1995-96	1.	Swimming Pool at George Town, Allahabad.	43.00	21.50
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>West Bengal</b>				
1995-96	1.	Indoor Stadium at Rabindranagar, Midnapore	52.50	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>UNION TERRITORIES</b>				
<b>Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Chandigarh</b>				
1995-96	1.	Playfields in Vivek High School, Sector-38	1.95	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Daman &amp; Diu</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—



1	2	3	4	5
<b>Delhi</b>				
1995-96	1.	Outdoor stadium in Ramjas Sports & Mountaineering Institute, New Delh.	5.02	2.50
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Pondichery</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—
<b>Lakshadweep</b>				
1995-96	—	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—

[Translation]

**Current Affairs Programme on Doordarshan**

4737. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the topical subjects on which the programmes were telecast under the current affairs programme on the National and Metro channel of the Doordarshan during the last one year;

(b) the names of those programmes, dates of their telecast and the names of the producers;

(c) whether complaints of irregularities have been received in the matter of clearance for these programmes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b): Details of topical current affairs programmes telecast from July, 1997 to June, 1998 on National and Metro Channels of Doordarshan are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement***List of current affairs Programmes Commissioned from July, 1997 to June, 1998*

S. No.	Name of the Producer	Title	Sanction Date	Date of Telecast
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s Tanush Films, Lucknow	Development of Small Hydro Project in Uttarakhand	04.07.97	29.12.97
2.	M/s Moving Picture Co.	Agenda (6)	04.07.97	
		1. Power		08.09.97
		2. Economy		15.09.97
		3. Family Planning		22.09.97
		4. Coalition Govt.		29.09.97
		5. Broadcasting Bill		06.10.97
		6. Indian Cricket		20.10.97
3.	M/s Forms & Images	Inhen Kehne Dein (5)	04.07.97	
		1. Panchayat		10.03.98
		2. River Action Plan		17.03.98
		3. Tourism		15.06.98
			(remaining two under production)	
4.	M/s Rajindra Films	Indian Exim Report (6)	04.07.98	13.10.97
				20.10.97
				27.10.97
				03.11.97
				10.11.97
				17.11.97
5.	M/s New Age Television	Oil Pool Deficit	09.07.97	06.07.97
6.	M/s Aitam Productions	The Island File (3)	09.07.97	24.03.98
				31.03.98
				21.04.98

1	2	3	4	5
7.	M/s R.S. Associates	Insurance-Today and Tomorrow	17.07.97	05.05.98
8.	M/s Aman Arts	Sharp Focus (5)	07.08.97	
		1. Fire tragedy		22.06.98
		2. Air crash		29.06.97
		3. Pollution		06.07.98
		4. Earthquake		13.07.98
				(one is under production)
9.	M/s Pritish Nandy Communications	Looking Back. Looking Forward	19.08.97	10.07.97
10.	M/s Arobi Cinematics	Foreign Direct Investment (5)	2.08.97	
		1. Punjab		13.04.98
		2. Sikkim		20.04.98
		3. Karnataka		27.04.98
		4. Tripura		04.05.98
11.	Shri Kirti Agarwal	Series on Economic Infrastructure (4)	22.08.97	
		1. Railways		10.04.98
		2. Roads		17.04.98
		3. Ports		24.04.98
		4. Power		12.05.98
12.	M/s Upvan Films	Prog. on Hong Kong	08.09.97	27.06.97
13.	M/s Images Network	Uncaging the Tiger (13)	22.09.97	29.03.98
				12.04.98
				19.04.98
				26.04.98
				03.05.98
				10.05.98
				(series discontinued)

1	2	3	4	5
13A.	M/s New Age Television	Profile on Shri K.R. Narayanan	22.10.97	17.07.97
14.	M/s Images Network	Growthline (6)	19.11.97	
		1. Surat		20.02.98
		2. Muradabad		09.03.98
		3. Ludhiana		16.03.98
		4. Bangalore		23.03.98
		5. Sivakasi		30.03.98
		6. Tirupur		06.04.98
15.	M/s Prithish Nanday Communications	In Focus with PM (2)	18.12.97	08.11.97 15.11.97
16.	M/s Partish Nandy Communications	Tribute to Mother Teresa	24.12.97	13.09.97
17.	M/s TV Live	Interview with Shri I.K. Gujral	24. 12.97	03.06.97 11.12.97
18.	M/s ANI	Prog. on Political Development	12.01.98	21.11.98
19.	M/s Images Network	Education Small Scale Industries	12.01.98	05.12.97 18.11.97
20.	M/s Signet Commns.	Girl Child Small Scale Industries Education	12.01.98	02.10.97 15.11.97 17.11.97
21.	M/s Lucrative Eye	Panchvan Vetan Ayog	12.01.98	18.08.97
22.	M/s Eastern News & Features, Calcutta	The Jewels of India (2)	29.01.98	12.01.98 05.03.98
23.	M/s TV News India	Prog. on Late Punit Dutt	03.02.98	24.01.98
24.	M/s APCA	Interview with Shri K.R. Narayanan	27.02.98	27.07.97
25.	M/s Images Network	Employment Generation	05.05.98	18.10.97

1	2	3	4	5
26.	M/s Prithvi Nandy Communications	Signing Off & Taking Charge	06.05.98	14.03.98 17.03.98
27.	M/s A.S. Films	Instilling Confidence in Minorities (2)	23.04.96	19.11.97 20.11.97

**Details of On-going Series**

S. No.	Name of Producer	Name of Programme	Days of Telecast	
1.	M/s ANI	Bharat Dairy	Monday, Thursday	DD-1
2.	M/s ANI	SAARC Diary	Sunday	DD-1
3.	M/s Signet Commns.	Khoj Khabar	Saturday	DD-1
4.	M/s Samvad Parikrama	Karobamama	Wednesday	DD-1
5.	M/s Plus Channel	Business PLUS (Discontinued at present)		
6.	M/s TV Today	Business Aaj Tak	Monday-Friday	DD-2
7.	M/s APCA	First Edition	Monday-Saturday	DD-2
8.	M/s TV Live	Aankhon Dekhi	Daily	DD-2
9.	M/s TV Today	Aaj Tak	Monday-Saturday	DD-2
10.	M/s Moving Picture Co.	India This Week	Saturday	DD-2
11.	M/s IN-TV	Crossfire	Sunday	DD-2
12.	M/s TV Today	Saptahik Aaj Tak	Saturday	DD-2

*[English]***Benches of Supreme Court**

4738. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :  
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI H.G. RAMULU :  
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

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

(a) the number of cases of all categories including Special Leave Petitions pending before the Supreme Court of India particularly from Karnataka;

(b) whether some State Governments have urged the Union Government to set up new benches of Supreme Court in view of difficulties being faced by litigants to approach Supreme Court due to distance and cost involved therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) As on 1.7.1998, 6,709 Admission matters and 13,531 Regular matters relating to all categories (including Special Leave Petitions) were pending for hearing before the Supreme Court. Out of these, 451 Admission Matters (including 415 Special

Leave Petitions) and 456 Regular Matters (including 32 Special Leave Petitions), either filed against the judgement and order of the High Court of Karnataka or where the State of Karnataka is a party, were pending.

(b) and (c): The Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka suggested setting up of a bench of the Supreme Court in the respective State capitals of south India. The Governments of Tripura and West Bengal desired establishment of a bench of the Supreme Court at Calcutta. The Law Ministers of the eastern and the north-eastern States adopted a resolution unanimously that it is essential for the Supreme Court to sit at a suitable place in their regions.

Article 130 of the constitution of India provides that the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

The suggestions for establishment of benches of the Supreme Court outside Delhi were referred to the Chief Justice of India. The Registry of the Supreme Court intimated that the suggestions were considered and the same were not agreed to by the Full Court in the meeting presided over by the Chief Justice of India.

#### **Impact of Sanctions on the Power Projects**

4739. SHRI A.C. JOS :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the American sanctions combined with Mody's downgrading of India's investment rating have severely with the projects in the power sector;

(b) if so, whether there is 18.81 percent foreign Direct Investment flow in the country;

(c) if so, whether the major players, US based companies with the Exim Bank and OPIC have suspended the credit guarantees; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government proposed to take to meet the fate of the power projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a), (c) and (d): Ongoing projects in the public sector with committed external assistance are not likely to be affected by the sanctions. As regards private sector the government has not perceived any reluctance by the foreign companies in pursuing their proposals on account of the sanctions and downgrading of investment rating.

(b) According to the Economic Survey, 1997-98, the actual inflow of foreign direct investment in proportion to approvals has gone up from about 19% in 1995 to about 21% in 1997 (upto November, 1997).

#### **Cultural Pollution**

4740. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned 'Government to stop cultural pollution' appearing in "Pioneer" dated May, 20, 1998;

(b) if so, whether Indian Film Industry, Media and various audio and vedeo cassette industries are trying to pollute the cultural heritage of the country;

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

(d) whether the Government have taken any action to check this trend; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SWARAJ) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) it is noticed that in some programmes and sequences the duration of sex, violence etc. is excessive, unnecessary and not relevant to the context.

(c) to (e): Government proposes to introduce the Broadcasting Bill in Parliament, which will bring foreign satellite channels within the ambit of Indian laws and regulations so as to regulate their programming. In so far as films are concerned, Central Broad for Film Certification is entrusted with the responsibility for the certification in accordance with guidelines.

#### **Higher Education**

4741. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the higher education has become very expensive in the country;

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

(c) the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir. According to the information available, the cost of higher education in India is one of the cheapest in the world. In many Universities, the rate of tuition fee is about Rs. 15-20 per month only.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Clearance to Power Equity Projects by States**

4742. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to allow the State Governments to clear 100% power equity projects without an FIPB clearance;

(b) if so, the details hereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have cleared a number of power projects involving an investment below Rs. 1,500 crore;

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

(e) the time schedule fixed for the completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e): A decision has recently been taken on the basis of which projects for electric generation, transmission and distribution of power produced in hydro electric power plants, coal/lignite based thermal power plants and oil/gas based thermal power plants will be permitted foreign equity participation up to 100% on the automatic approval route, provided the foreign equity in any such project does not exceed Rs. 1500 crores.

**Ratio of Students and Teachers in Primary Schools**

4743. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of students and teachers in primary schools in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to equalise the number of teachers and students in the primary schools in all the States as per the national average; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A statement indicating state-wise teacher-pupil ratio in primary schools in 1996-97 is enclosed.

(b) and (c): Under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, post of primary school teachers to convert single teacher schools as on 30-9-1986 into double teacher schools was provided for. Since 1993, a provision for a Third Teacher in primary schools with enrolment more than 100 has been provided. Proposals in this regard have to be prepared by the State Governments and submitted for approval under the scheme.

**Statement**

*Teacher-Pupil Ratio in Primary Schools in 1996-97*

States	Teacher-Pupil Ratio
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	53
Arunachal Pradesh	35
Assam	37
Bihar	58
Goa	21
Gujarat	46
Haryana	48
Himachal Pradesh	31
Jammu & Kashmir	30
Karnataka	36
Kerala	30
Madhya Pradesh	43
Maharashtra	37
Manipur	18
Meghalaya	38
Mizoram	23
Nagaland	20
Orissa	36
Punjab	42
Rajasthan	49
Sikkim	15
Tamil Nadu	40

1	2
Tripura	39
Uttar Pradesh	59
West Bengal	57
A & N Island	22
Chandigarh	51
D & N Haveli	42
Daman & Diu	44
Delhi	30
Lakshdweep	29
Pondicherry	27
INDIA	45

*[English]***Bills sent by Karnataka Government**

4744. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bills sent by the Government of Karnataka to the Union Government for assent;

(b) the total number of Bills out of them given assent of the President so far;

(c) the details of Bills sent back to the Government of Karnataka seeking clarifications;

(d) whether clarifications have been submitted by the Government of Karnataka in respect of Bills; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) A statement showing the list of Bills received from the Government of Karnataka during the period from 1.7.96 to 14.7.98 for assent of the President is enclosed.

(b) Four.

(c) Nil.

(d) and (e): Do not arise.

**Statement**

*List of Bills for assent of the President received from the Government of Karnataka from 1.7.1996 to 14.7.1998*

Sl. No.	Name of the Bills	Date of receipt	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	The Roerich and Devikarani Roerich Estate (Acquisition and Transfer) Bill, 1996.	30-09-96	Assented by the President
2.	The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development (Amendment) Bill, 1997.	22-04-97	Assented by the President
3.	The Karnataka Silkworm seed cocoon and Silk yarn (Regulation of Production, Supply, Distribution and Sale) (Amendment) Bill, 1997.	22-04-97	Assented by the President



1	2	3	4
4.	The Karnataka Rent Control (Amendment) Bill, 1998.	07-04-98	Assented by the President
5.	The Mysore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Bill, 1998.	19-05-98	
6.	The Electricity Laws (Karnataka) Amendment) Bill, 1998.	08-06-98	
7.	The Karnataka Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1997.	08-06-98	
8.	The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 1997.	29-06-98	
9.	The Karnataka Souharda Sahakari Bill, 1997.	07-07-98	
10.	The Karnataka Inland Fisheries (Conservation, Development and Regulation) Bill, 1996.	10-07-98	

#### **Captive Power Projects in the Private Sector**

4745. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines to encourage the setting up of port based captive power projects by private sector in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the impact of these guidelines on the port based captive power projects:

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is a need to issue fresh guidelines in the light of assessment; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. One of the areas identified in the guidelines on Private Sector Participation in Major Ports is setting up of captive power plants for providing electricity to the Port on Build, Operate and Transfer basis, with maximum concession period upto 30 years. The private party is to be selected by Port Trust on the

basis of competitive bidding. The guidelines of Ministry of Power and other authorities like Central Electricity Board etc. have also to be followed and clearance, if any, obtained. The developer of such power plant may sell the surplus power in the market after meeting the requirement of Port.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Power Projects in Maharashtra**

4746. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of power projects in Maharashtra approved by the Union Government as on March 31, 1998;

(b) the target fixed for their completion during the current year and the progress made so far in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): Details of sanctions/

ongoing power projects being implemented in the Maharashtra State are given below:

S. No.	Name of Project	Anticipated Commissioning Schedule	Present Status
<b>State Sector</b>			
1.	Uran Waste Heat-3	*	Due to shortage of gas supply and various constraints, the implementation of this unit has been deferred. On the request of MSEB, M/s Enron have expressed willingness to supply 2 million cubic metre of gas per day required for 2 × 130 MW GT units.
2.	Khaperkheda Extn. St. II (2 × 210 MW)	7/2000	This project, which was originally offered to the Private Sector, is envisaged to be implemented departmentally by availing supplier's credit for main plant equipment. Order placed for main plant and equipment on BHEL on 10.9.1997. Commencement of supply is expected by 6/1998.
3.	Koyna St. IV (4 × 250 MW)	1999-01	The project is under construction with World Bank Loan, Civil works and other different construction works are in progress.
4.	Dudhganga (2 × 12 MW)	1998-2000	The civil works and other different construction works are in progress.
5.	Ghatghar PSS (2 × 125 MW)	2002-03	Infrastructural works taken up. TG Sets ordered.
<b>Private Sector</b>			
1.	Dabhol CCGT (2015 MW) M/s Dabhol Power Company of M/s Enron, USA.)	2000-01	Phase I of the project is under implementation.
2.	Bhadravati TPP (1072 MW) M/s Central India Power Company Ltd.	*	The project has been given techno-economic clearance by CEA.
3.	Patalganga CCGT (447.1 MW) M/s Reliance Patalganga Power Private Ltd.	*	The project has been given techno-economic clearance by CEA.

\* Commissioning schedule will be firmed up only after achieving financial closure.

**Rural Vidyalayas**

4747. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Late Moraji Desai had set up a network of rural vidyalayas;

(b) whether these are still functioning; and

(c) if so, the present status of these vidyalayas in Karnataka?

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

**India-Russia Tie-up in Power Sector**

4748. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have identified a number of areas for co-operation in the power sector;

(b) if so, the details of main areas which have been identified for cooperation;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been signed between the who countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the Russia has agreed to provide renewable, energy to India?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): Periodic meetings of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Power and Non-conventional Energy Sources are held between the two countries under the Indo-Russian Joint Commission. During the Fourth Indo-Russian Working Group Meeting held in October, 1997, discussions were held on various issues such as coordination in sourcing the components and spare parts for already completed projects, greater participation by Russian Companies in new generation schemes and R&M schemes, cooperation in research and development activities and in the field on solar energy, wind energy, small hydro power, bio-mass power, alternate fuel for surface transport etc. A protocol has been signed between the two countries on 27.10.1997 for cooperation in the field of energy.

(e) In the area of small hydro power, private companies from both sides are already cooperating for supply of electro-mechanical equipment and joint implementation of projects. Both sides have also agreed to cooperate in the area of advanced biomass gassification, bio mass fuel based surface transport systems and electric vehicles.

**ASI Survey in Villages of Maharashtra**

4749. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of villages in Maharashtra in which surveys have been conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India during the last three years; and

(b) the details of items found at these sites?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

**Statement***Details of Villages Surveyed in Maharashtra by the Archaeological Survey of India in the last three years*

Sl. No.	Name of villages surveyed	District	Details of items found
1	2	3	4
1.	Pahur	Yavatmal	A Keshava temple, circa 12th century, A.D., decorated with carvings of a animals, mythical animals and 'dasavatara' panels and also a beautiful sculpture of Vishnu in the sanctum.
2.	Pimpal-khunta	Yavatmal	Some loose structural and architectural fragments circa 14th century A.D.
3.	Dabha	Yavatma	Remains of fortifications in the form of a mud bastion belonging to late medieval period (17th century A.D.).
4.	Betwad	Dhule	Copper plate of early Chalukyas, circa 7th cenury A.D., and historical pottery.

1	2	3	4
5.	Talegaon Amravati	Remains of loose sculptures and architectural fragments and a stepped well, circa 14th century A.D.	
6.	Ghuikhed Amravati	An old samadhi dedicated to saint Bendoji, late 19th century A.D.	
7.	Yerad Amravati	A late medieval fortification with a bastion circa 17th century A.D.	
8.	Akhatwada Amravati	Microlithic tools of circa 5000 B.C.; historical material of the first fifth centuries of the Christian era.	
9.	Alwada Amravati	Historical material of the first four-five centuries of the Christian era.	
10.	Bhambora —do—	—do—	
11.	Murtijapur —do—	—do—	
12.	Palwadi —do—	—do—	
13.	Umarkhed —do—	—do—	
14.	Vandati —do—	—do—	
15.	Ahirwada Wardha	Pottery bricks etc. from the post 12h century A.D upto the Maratha period.	
16.	Deurwada —do—	—do—	
17.	Karmabad —do—	—do—	
18.	Khadki —do—	—do—	
19.	Neri —do—	—do—	
20.	Rajapur —do—	—do—	
21.	Takerkheda	Historical material of the first four-five centuries of the Christian era.	

**Adult Illiteracy**

4750. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide financial assistance to the States in their drive against adult illiteracy;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down in this regard; and

(c) the financial assistance extended to the States in this regard during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (d): The Funds are sanctioned to various organisations/zilla Saksharata Samities and States for eradication of illiteracy on the basis of schemes/projects submitted by them and availability of funds.

(c) The information is given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement***Funds Released to States for Adult Education*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	884.21	1081.06	922.55
Arunachal Pradesh	25.63	20.72	3.67
Assam	361.09	194.29	86.97
Bihar	1977.84	1062.52	446.98
Goa	5.95	3.32	0.56
Gujarat	262.98	458.78	112.34
Haryana	175.31	57.12	77.50
Himachal Pradesh	26.43	49.18	112.82
Jammu & Kashmir	132.70	50.47	38.02

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	319.58	350.16	303.29
Kerala	7.00	537.97	15.35
Madhya Pradesh	977.67	548.58	459.47
Maharasnta	1153.63	432.83	746.29
Manipur	17.62	20.63	17.18
Meghalaya	127.74	112.46	16.85
Mizoram	2.29	0.57	34.23
Nagaland	47.81	56.90	32.34
Orissa	801.36	310.13	196.62
Punjab	370.34	135.00	211.14
Rajasthan	1681.76	1304.62	820.35
Sikkim	—	11.22	—
Tamil Nadu	1212.48	261.21	554.00
Tripura	0.10	4.73	27.00
Uttar Pradesh	1888.01	943.27	537.23
West Bengal	308.40	728.11	502.82
Chandigarh	20.12	41.37	20.00
Delhi	322.58	158.57	173.87
Pondicherry	—	—	18.24
Daman & Diu	0.50	—	—
A & N Islands	8.12	12.56	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	1.62	4.32	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>13120.87</b>	<b>8952.66</b>	<b>6488.44</b>

#### New Telephone Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh

4751. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in the State during 1998-99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):  
(a) There is no life-expired telephone exchange working in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The details of the exchanges planned to opened in 1998-99 district-wise are mentioned below:

S. No.	Distt.	Name of exchange
1.	Balaghat	Garhi
2.	Bastar	Makdi
3.	Bastar	Kayelibada
4.	Bhopal	Nandner
5.	Chhindwara	Kamthikalam
6.	Dewas	Bawdikheda
7.	Khargone	Gandhawal
8.	Raipur	Tesgaon
9.	Shivpuri	Gowardhan
10.	Bidisha	Bagaspur

#### Illiterates

4752. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the total number of illiterates, male and female in India, State-wise as per latest statistics and the percentage of total male and female population they constitute?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : A State-wise statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

(Statistics as per 1991 Census)

S. No.	Total	Number of Illiterates		Percentage of illiterates		
		Male (In thousands)	Female	Male	Female	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<b>India</b>					
	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>328879</b>	<b>128362</b>	<b>200517</b>	<b>35.87</b>	<b>60.71</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31057	12641	18416	44.87	67.28
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	398	181	217	48.55	70.31
3.	Assam	8477	3592	4885	38.13	56.97
4.	Bihar	42206	17167	25039	47.51	77.11
5.	Delhi	1931	777	1154	17.99	33.01
6.	Goa	253	86	167	16.36	32.91
7.	Gujarat	13348	4787	8561	26.87	51.36
8.	Haryana	5889	2214	3675	30.90	59.53
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1566	539	1027	24.64	47.87
10.	Karnataka	16487	6264	10223	32.74	55.66
11.	Kerala	2574	786	1788	6.38	13.87
12.	Madhya Pradesh	29625	11460	18165	41.58	71.51
13.	Maharashtra	22985	7943	15042	23.44	47.68
14.	Manipur	614	222	392	28.37	52.40
15.	Meghalaya	703	332	371	46.88	55.15
16.	Mizoram	100	42	58	14.39	21.40
17.	Nagaland	385	174	211	32.38	45.25
18.	Orissa	13397	4926	8471	36.91	65.32
19.	Punjab	7043	3095	3948	34.34	49.59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Rajasthan	21597	8290	13307	45.01	79.56
21.	Sikkim	141	60	81	34.26	53.31
22.	Tamil Nadu	18075	6426	11649	26.25	48.67
23.	Tripura	893	342	551	29.42	50.35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	64769	26298	38471	44.27	74.69
25.	West Bengal	23907	9540	14367	32.19	53.44
26.	A & N Islands	63	28	35	21.01	34.54
27.	Chandigarh	121	56	65	17.96	27.66
28.	D & N Haveli	65	26	39	46.44	73.02
29.	Daman & Diu	25	8	17	17.34	40.60
30.	Lakshadweep	9	3	6	9.82	27.11
31.	Pondicherry	176	57	119	16.32	34.37

Figures of Jammu & Kashmir not available as no census was held there.

#### Small Wild Animals

4753. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether small wild animals are facing threat in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the wildlife is having any mandatory census; and

(d) if so, the details thereof in respect of all the small animals?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Census of some of the major animals is done regularly after every two years. For small animals no regular census is done but only population estimates are made from time to time.

#### Re-Construction of Moidu Bridge on NH-17

4754. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Moidu bridge on the National Highway No. 17 between Tellicherry and Cannanore in Kerala has become very weak for road traffic;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to rebuild this old bridge constructed by the British;

(c) whether the traffic on this bridge was diverted by the Government due to crack developed on this bridge a few years back; and

(d) if so, the steps are taken by the Government to ensure the safety of passengers travelling on this bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) There is a proposal to construct Tellicherry-Mahe, Bypass including new bridge across the same river in 2 phases. Acquisition of land for Phase-I is complete. Annual Plan 1998-99 provides for acquisition of land for Phase-II. The Construction of the project depends upon the completion of the acquisition of land therefor.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The bridge has been already rehabilitated and traffic allowed.

#### Widening of NH-53

4755. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work pertaining to widening of National Highway No. 53 is in progress;

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

(c) the funds allocated, released and utilised as on date since the inception of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir, the work is being taken up in phases.

(b) and (c): The total estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 185.00 crore. The funds allotted during 1998-99 are Rs. 20.20 crore. Expenditure incurred upto March 1998 is Rs. 14.12 crore. The completion of the project would depend upon the availability of funds.

#### Board of Management of IGNOU

4756. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons nominated by the Government on the Board of management of the IGNOU;

(b) whether some of these numbers do not attend any meetings of the Board;

(c) if so, the details in this regard for the last five years;

(d) whether senior officers of the Government have also been nominated on the Board;

(e) if so, the details of their participation in the last five years, year-wise; and

(f) the reaction of the Government to such non-participation by its nominees in the management of the University?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (f): As per the Statutes of Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, all nominations of the Board of Management of University are done by the President of India in his capacity as the Visitor of the University. These nominations include Secretary, Department of Education and the Secretary, Information & Broadcasting as the representatives of the Government of India. The yearwise details of participation by the Members in the Board meeting is enclosed as statement. The meetings of the Board of Management are generally fixed by the Vice-Chancellor as the Chairman of the Board and on such dates Secretary (Education) and Secretary (I&B) might have other important official work.

#### Statement

##### *Details of Member's Attendance in the Meetings of the Board of Management*

Sl. No.		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Prof. Mihir Bhattacharya	1	4	5	5	—	—
2.	Prof. Prabhat Patnaik	1	3	4	3	—	—



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Shri C.K. Birla	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	—
4.	Shri Kapil Sibal	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	—	—
5.	Dr. (Mrs.) Nirmala Deshpande	1	4	2	4	—	—
6.	Prof. Habibur Rehman	—	—	—	—	5	6
7.	Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala Verma	—	—	—	—	2	Nil
8.	Shri J.P. Javali	—	—	—	—	4	4
9.	Dr. A.C. Muttaiah	—	—	—	—	Nil	Nil
10.	Prof. Suhas Chakraborty	—	—	—	—	3	6
11.	Secretary, Department of Education	1	3	1	Nil	Nil	1
12.	Secretary, Information & Broadcasting	—	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Terms of membership from S. No. 1 to 5 expired in 1996. Members from S. No. 6 to 10 have been nominated in 1997.

[Translation]

#### Funds for Ongoing Projects in M.P.

4757. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing projects in Madhya Pradesh being financed by Central Road Fund; and

(b) the project-wise estimated cost thereof and the funds released therefor and the amount spent thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :  
(a) and (b): There are 8 projects with estimated cost of Rs. 817.39 lakhs being financed from Central road fund. Allocation of funds, out of Central Road fund, is done on lump-sum basis having regard to the accruals to States, schemes sanctioned and the funds made available by

the Ministry of Finance. Year-wise allocation of funds to the Govt. of M.P. is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Allocation (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	1995-96	74.00
2.	1996-97	98.00
3.	1997-98	99.00

[English]

#### Comments on Jaswant Singh Commission's Report

4758. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government have invited the comments of the present Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court on the Jaswant Singh Commission's Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether any legal hurdle exists in the establishment of a bench of the Allahabad High Court at Agra and a bench of Uttar Pradesh High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh as per the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission's Report;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the total amount spent on Jaswant Singh's Commission; and

(g) the time by which a final decision to set up a bench of Allahabad High Court at Agra and a bench of U.P. High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c): No specific, complete proposal has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Juswant Singh Commission.

(d) and (e): No, Sir. However, Necessary infrastructural facilities for the establishment of the High Court bench are to be provided by the State Government. Day to day administration is to be looked after by the Chief Justice of the High Court. The Bar is an integral part of the judicial system. Therefore, it is necessary that there is a consensus amongst the Bar, the Bench and the State Government before the matter is considered by the Central Government.

(f) A sum of Rs. 29.95 lakhs was spent on the Jaswant Singh Commission.

(g) It is not possible to indicate the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard.

### Environment Projects in the Country

4759. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEHA BHONSLE :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD  
YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

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

(a) the name of Centrally sponsored environmental projects launched in the States of Maharashtra and Bihar during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the achievement made thereunder and the amount of assistance provided for each project; and

(c) the details of projects proposed to be started in the near future in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): The details of Centrally Sponsored Environmental Projects launched in the States of Maharashtra and Bihar during the last three years alongwith achievements made thereunder and the amount of assistance provided by the Ministry are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) All the ongoing projects are likely to be continued in the country in the near future.

### Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objectives	Status	Achievements during the last three years 1995-96, 1996-97 & 1997-98		States/Districts/Towns covered
				Financial	Physical	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assistance to Botanic Garden	To augment conservation and propagation of rare and endemic plant genetic resource	Ongoing	4.60	2 Botanic Gardens covered	<b>Maharashtra</b> Pune Bombay
				10.27	1 Botanic Garden covered	<b>Bihar</b> Bodhgaya

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP)-World Bank Project on Industrial Pollution Control	Setting up of CETT	Ongoing	198.93	9 CETPs have been supported	Maharashtra Assistance is given to State Pollution Control Board
3.	Abatement of Pollution	Assistance for strengthening State Pollution Control Boards Departments of Environment	Ongoing	1.00	Constitution of Pollution Awareness and Assistance Centre	Maharashtra Assistance is given to State Pollution Control Board
				22.80	Constitution of Pollution Awareness and Assistance Centre Mobile Lab and Laboratory Equipment	Bihar Assistance is given to State Pollution Control Board
4.	Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (Towns under Supreme Court directives)	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	13.72	The DPRs are being revised by State Govt. under Supreme Court directives. No. DPR has been approved as yet.	Bihar Mokamah Kahelgaon Hazipur
5.	Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (Mainstem)	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	135.50	18 schemes have been approved at a cost of Rs. 399 lakhs No. physical progress of works have been reported by the State Govt.	Bihar Patna, Bhagalpur, Munger, Chapra, Buzar, Arrah, Fatwah, Barh, Barahya, Sultanganj and Sahebganj
6.	Damodar Action Plan	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	13.31	DPRs have been returned to State Govt. for modification.	Bihar Rangarh, Dugdha, Jharis, Chiranda, Sindi, Telumochu, Sudamdih and Bokarokngall
7.	National River Conservation Plan	Abatement of river Water Pollution	Ongoing	132.20	9 DPRs have been approved at a cost of Rs. 396 lakhs.	Bihar Ranchi Jamshedpur Ghatshila
				257.80	5 DPRs have been approved at a cost of Rs. 260 lakhs.	Maharashtra Karad, Sangli, Nasik and Nanded

#### **Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station**

4760. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the generation, transmission and distribution in respect of Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) are going to be handed over to the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment of likely impacts of this agreement on the consumers has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): information is being

collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Generation and Consumption of Power in the Country**

4761. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the total quantum of power generation and consumption thereof in the States particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : The State-wise figures of power generation and consumption (availability) in the Country including Maharashtra during 1997-98 are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement***Generation and Consumption of Power in the Country*

Name of the State	Energy generation at Bus Bar (MU)	Consumption (Availability, Net (MU))
Delhi	6904	14676
Jammu & Kashmir	6120	5201
Himachal Pradesh	3956	2895
Haryana	3782	12981
Rajasthan	11157	20288
Punjab	12993	21928
Uttar Pradesh	67489	36105
Gujarat	39711	38489
Maharashtra	55997	60149
Madhya Pradesh	44598	29936
Andhra Pradesh	45911	35606
Karnataka	17093	21192
Kerala	5071	9404
Tamilnadu	38090	32550
Bihar	7093	7493
Orissa	11991	10776
West Bengal	20502	15775
Assam	1072	2727.5
Meghalaya	598	425.8
Tripura	302	439
Manipur	535	404.7
Arunachal Pradesh	13	115.3

**Sand Ecological Balance**

4762. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any regulatory system for sand mining across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government are aware of the effects of indiscriminate mining; and

(d) if so, the details of steps being taken by the Government in maintaining the sand ecological balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Development of mineral resources, which *inter-alia* covers sand mining, is regulated under the Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and rules framed thereunder. The Act includes provisions for conservation and systematic development of minerals in the country and for protection of environment. Besides, notifications issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 also regulate mining.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) While permitting sand mining, certain environmental protection measures such as regulation of ground water extraction and intensive vegetation in and around mining lease areas are stipulated.

**STD Booths**

4763. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up STD booths enroute the cave shrine of Amamath and the Shrine of Vaishno Devi;

(b) if so, the number of STD booths proposed to be installed enroute these two shrines during 1998-99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): 39 STD PCO Booths are already functioning enroute to Holy cave shrine of Amarnath and the shrine of Vaishno Devi. 10 more such booths are proposed to be commissioned during 1998-99.

#### **Allocation of Power to Rajasthan**

4764. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan State Electricity Board has requested the Union Government to allocate additional power in view of the prevailing shortage of power in the State;

(b) if so, the details of power allocated by the Government to the State; and

(c) the details of the future plan of the Government to give additional assistance to the State for meeting its power requirement?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Rajasthan has been requesting for additional allocation of power in central stations from time to time. The energy and peak shortage in Rajasthan during June 1998 were 2.2% and 4.5% respectively. The details of additional allocations given to Rajasthan are as under:

- (i) Additional special allocations from Central sector stations over and above the State's firm share;

One third of the total output of Anta Gas based sation of NTPC since October, 1993 around 110 MW.

Dadri Gas power station	—	135 MW
Chamera HPS	—	89 MW
Total	—	224 MW

- (ii) An allocation of 25% (around 200 MW) out of unallocated quota in central sector stations in the Northern region.

(c) The allocation of firm share to States/U.Ts from central sector stations is based on the existing sharing formula. Allocation from the 15% unallocated quota of central sector stations is reviewed from time to time

depending upon the relative shortage, seasonal and emergent requirements of the States/UTs in the region etc.

#### **Taking over of Indian Companies by the Multinational Companies**

4765. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Companies taken over by the Multinational Companies since 1995 and the amount involved in the take overs;

(b) whether the Government have since assessed the impact of these take overs; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Enquiry into Inaction of Kandla Port Trust Authorities**

4766. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have been urged to conduct an inquiry into the inaction of the Port Trust Authorities during recent cyclone in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Government have agreed to it; and

(c) the main allegations made against the Port Trust Authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c): Certain allegations have been made against Port Trust Authorities for not alerting and evacuating the salt pan workers after receipt of warnings from the Meteorological Department.

No inquiry has been conducted as the Port Trust has taken all possible measures to safeguard the lives of employees and its properties. However, a High Level Fact Finding Team was set up to look into the sequence of events and find out how such a loss of life took place in Kandla Area of Gujarat on account of recent cyclone.

[*Translation*]

**Private Investment In Power-Sector**

4767. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign and private companies already granted permission to operate in the power sector, have not commenced their work so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; company-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): As on date, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded techno-economic clearance to 44 proposals, including those received from foreign companies, for setting up power projects in the private sector. CEA, while according techno-economic clearance, prescribes commissioning schedules in respect of each power project from the date of financial closure. A large number of these sanctioned projects have failed to come up and are facing difficulties in adhering to the commissioning schedules on account of the private promoters not being able to achieve financial closure. The Government has been monitoring the progress of these projects from time-to-time and providing a necessary assistance to them.

[*English*]

**Benches of High Courts**

4768. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the High Courts, which have benches besides their principal seats;

(b) the details thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the sanctioned strength of the judges in each of these benches?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b): A statement giving the requisite information is enclosed.

(c) While establishing a permanent Bench of a High Court, the minimum number of Judges to be nominated to the Bench from the principal seat by the Chief Justice

of the High Court is prescribed. The sanctioned strength of Judges of a High Court is fixed for the entire High Court and is not earmarked separately for its principal seat and the Bench/Benches.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	High Court	Principal seats	Benches
1.	Allahabad	Allahabad	Lucknow
2.	Bombay	Bombay	Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji.
3.	Gauhati	Gauhati	Imphal, Shillong, Aizawl, Kohima & Agartala
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	Indore & Gwalior
5.	Patna	Patna	Ranchi
6.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Jaipur

**Setting Up of Postal Divisions**

4769. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Postal Divisions set up in Gujarat during the last three year;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new Postal Divisions in the State;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Nil.

(b) At present, there is no proposal to set up any new Postal Division in Gujarat State.

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

(d) No justification for any new Postal Division has been established on the basis of the prescribed norms.

**Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth  
Development**

4770. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development has been made fully functional from its headquarters at Sriperumbudur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c): The construction work of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development at Sriperumbudur is nearing completion. At present, the Institute is functioning from its city centre at Chennai.

[Translation]

**Channels of UHF System**

4771 : PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of channels of Ultra High Frequency (UHF) System provided by the Department of Telecommunications to Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL);

(b) whether irregularities have been committed in determining the rent for these channels;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Sir, six number of UHF Systems, each with a capacity of 6 channels have been provided to BCCL.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d): Question does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

[English]

**Telephones on Demand**

4772. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited was aiming to offer telephones on demand in Delhi and Mumbai by the end of 1998; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the MTNL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The number of Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) proposed to be added during the year 1998-99 is as follows:

Delhi	Mumbai
2,20,000	2,30,000

(ii) Suitable measures have been taken to strengthen the External Plant network commensurate with the proposed expansion of the exchange capacities.

[Translation]

**Bridges/Culverts on NH-7 in Jabalpur**

4773. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the bridges/culverts constructed five years ago on National Highway No. 7 from Jabalpur to Kanti;

(b) whether there are bridges/culverts on this Highway which cannot bear the load of vehicles having load of 25 tonnes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the accidents occur between Medical College and Raipura (Panagar) due to narrow roads, lack of road dividers and traffic congestion;

(e) whether a proposal to construct four lane road divider is pending at any level, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which its construction is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) 5 bridges and one culvert were constructed five years ago between Katni and Jabalpur on NH 7.

(b) and (c): National Highway bridges are designed for 70-R loading with total vehicle load of 100 tonnes and permissible single axle load of 10.2 tonnes.

(d) NH No. 7 passing through Medical College at Km. 466 and Panagarh at km. 443 is 4-lane between km. 455/8 to 458 and km. 462 to km. 464/4 (total length 5.6 km 4 lane) and rest is two lane and conforms to NH standards. In 4-lane sections dividers are already provided and no divider is provided on 2-lane section. However, accidents have been reported in the section. The reasons for the accidents are combination of various factors such as driver and pedestrian behaviour, road slip-periness, etc.

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Recruitment of Scientists

4774. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists (direct recruitment) are recruited at entry level and higher grades at National Institute of Science, Technology and Development, a constituent establishment of CSIR without having minimum essential qualification as prescribed by the CSIR recruitment norms since 1982;

(b) if so, the number of scientists recruited in this manner and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether recruitment's have been without the proper advertisement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): Yes Sir, in view of the specific job requirements, 18 Scientists have been recruited in the National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS) New Delhi, a constituent unit of CSIR, till date in relaxation of the essential qualifications.

However, in each of the cases prior approval of the competent authority was duly obtained. In CSIR the essential qualification for the entry level post of scientists is a 1st class post graduate degree in Science/1st class BE or M.Tech/ME/MBBS/MVSc/M.Pharm/Ph.D (Science).

NISTADS, have a wide ranging charter to carry out studies on history and philosophy of Science & Technology; Information system and S&T archives; modelling of S&T; Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation; R&D management & training; resource planning and utilisation for regional development; Sociology of Science; technological and social change; Science communication; women in S&T; Economics; Geography and global change.

To achieve its objectives in each one of its varied activities, expertise of qualified scholars in areas other than Science is necessary to complement the studies. With this objectives in view the recruitments were made.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Credibility of Doordarshan Channels

4775. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan Channels are less popular than the other private channels and losing their credibility;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to bring them at the international level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Matters relating to the telecast of programmes on Doordarshan are entirely within the purview of Prasar Bharati and are not decided upon by the Government. It is the constant endeavor of Prasar Bharati to bring about qualitative improvement in the programmes of Doordarshan when compared with the programmes on other channels.

(e) Does not arise.



*[English]***Ban on Advertisements of Birth Control Devices**

4776. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ban advertisements of certain birth control devices, such as AIDS, STD, Women's birth control efforts etc. on Doordarshan/AIR; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Target for Laying of Telephone Lines**

4777. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for laying telephone lines in Bhagalpur district of Bihar during the current year;

(b) the number of lines laid down as on date;

(c) the number of circles where the work is behind the schedule;

(d) the reasons therefor and whether the Government have taken steps to achieve the target; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) The target fixed for Telephone lines (direct exchange lines) in Bhagalpur district of Bihar during the current year is 3000.

(b) 486.

(c) to (e): The Circle-wise target for the current year and achievement of direct exchange lines from 1.4.98 to 30.6.98 is given in the statement enclosed. At this stage it is too early to say whether any Circle is behind schedule. However, every effort will be made to achieve the target laid down for 1998-99.

**Statement****Annual Targets for 1998-99 and Achievement from April to June 1998**

Sl. No.	Name of Circle/Distt.	Annual Target 1998-99	Achievement upto 30.6.98
1		2	3
1.	Andaman/Nicobar	6000	130
2.	Andhra Pradesh	250000	28601
3.	Assam	50000	3362
4.	Bihar	131000	10318
5.	Gujarat	250000	29029
6.	Haryana	95000	3265
7.	Himachal Pradesh	59000	984
8.	J & K	30000	4695
9.	Karnataka	200000	32406
10.	Kerala	325000	34081
11.	Madhya Pradesh	110000	10970
12.	Maharashtra	300000	26998
13.	North East	32000	4307
14.	Orissa	60000	5159
15.	Punjab	190000	17836
16.	Rajasthan	163000	12654
17.	Tamil Nadu	280000	27792
18.	UP (East)	133000	8957
19.	UP (West)	139000	18465
20.	West Bengal	120000	8087

1	2	3	
21	Mumbai (MTNL)	230000	29090
22.	Calcutta	112000	45770
23.	Delhi (MTNL)	220000	13126
24.	Chennai	115000	5684
		3600000	381766

#### Allotment of Forest Land

4778. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the general policy and criteria for the allotment of forest land to the private parties for its development;

(b) whether revenue is collected on such land by the State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the forest land given to the private parties for its development in West Bengal during the last three years and the revenue collected therefrom, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Any scheme or project which involves assignment of forest land by way of lease or similar arrangement, for any purpose whatsoever, including afforestation, to any private person or to any authority/agency/organisation not fully owned, managed or controlled by the Government (such as private or joint sector ventures) shall attract the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and therefore prior approval of Central Government is required.

(b) The condition of lease including lease rent/cost of land to be realised from the lessee are decided by State Governments. Such information is not compiled/collated by the Central Government.

(c) and (d): The information has been asked from State Governments.

#### Development of NH-47

4779. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent for maintenance and development of NH-47 excluding the expenditure under Bypass during the last year;

(b) the amount proposed to be spent for the said purpose during the current year;

(c) whether any new developmental works are proposed to be undertaken on NH-47 in between Kollam and Alappuzha excluding the work of Bypass; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Fund for development and maintenance of National Highways are allocated to the State as a whole and not workwise. However, Rs. 33.00 Crore for development and Rs. 23.00 crore for maintenance and repairs of National Highways including National Highway-47, was allocated during 1997-98.

(b) The demand of Grants for 1998-99 has so far not been approved by Parliament.

(c) and (d): Four Laning of National Highway from Km. 317 to 332 of Trichur-Alwaye Section of National Highway-47, is included in the Annual Plan 1998-99.

#### Kandla Land

4780. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for handing over the surplus land of Kandla Port of the Gujarat is still pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the date on which the proposal was first made; and

(d) the time by which decision is likely to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The request received from the State Government regarding handing over of surplus land of Kandla Port has not been accepted as the land is required for future development of the Kandla Port.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat has been making repeated requests and the request on which the decision was taken dates back to December, 1993.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **F.M. Station**

4781. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of F.M. Radio Stations in the country;

(b) whether F.M. facility is available anywhere in Bihar;

(c) the exact broadcasting range of an F.M. station; and

(d) the per-capita F.M. facility available in India in comparison to Japan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Presently 103 F.M. Transmitters are functioning in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. At present, 6 FM Radio Stations are functioning in the State of Bihar.

(c) The broadcasting range of an F.M. Transmitter depends upon power of transmitter, height of mast and terrain conditions. The range varies from 15 Km for 1 Kilowatt Transmitter with 30 meter antenna height to 52 Km for 10 KW Transmitter with 100 meter antenna height.

(d) The availability of radio signals is not measured in per capita terms, however, at present 23.86% population of the country is getting F.M. coverage. The figures relating to F.M. coverage in Japan are not available.

#### **Pollution in Brahmani**

4782. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has made any study to find out the water quality of the second biggest river of Orissa, the Brahmani considered as highly polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by both the Central Government and State Government to purify the water of Brahmani and its main tributary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board in collaboration with the Orissa State Pollution Control Board had conducted a study on the water quality of river Brahmani. It was found that the river Brahmani was polluted along Talchar, Dharmshala and Chandbali. Pollution abatement works have been approved in these towns under the National River Conservation Plan to tackle the pollution of river Brahmani due to domestic waste. The estimated cost of works is Rs. 1.28 crore. The works include interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost community toilets, improved wood crematoria and afforestation. The Govt. of Orissa has initiated action for preparing the detailed project reports. Industrial pollution is to be tackled through legislative measures.

#### **Dowry Prohibition Act**

4783. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 is ineffective to check dowry deaths reported in the country;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the National Commission for Women to check the dowry deaths; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

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

(b) The Dowry Prohibition act is being reviewed and examined by the National Commission for Women. It has recommended transfer of the substantive provisions relating to the offences committed under Dowry Prohibition Act to the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act.

(c) Recommendations made by various agencies including National Commission for Women are kept in view while carrying out changes in the relevant laws.

**Four Way N.H. between Udupi-Mangalore N.H.**

4784. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that large number of accidents are taking place every day on Udupi-Mangalore National Highway;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has submitted any proposal for construction of Four Way National Highway;

(c) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to construct four way National Highway between Udupi-Mangalore National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Udupi-Mangalore section of National Highway-17 is a two lane road with good riding quality. The entire reach is built up. Accidents take place mainly due to people, crossing the road.

(b) to (d): Government of Karnataka has proposed to include the work of 4 laning of this stretch in the 9th Five Year Plan which is yet to be finalised.

[*Translation*]

**Pollution in Metro Cities**

4785. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have presently conducted any survey with regard to the extent of pollution in the other metro-cities of the country besides Delhi;

(b) if so, the date on which the survey was got conducted; and

(c) the details thereof and the relative position of the metro-cities of the country in the polluting cities of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): The Central Pollution Control Board along with the State Pollution Control Boards has been regularly conducting surveys for assessing the extent of pollution in metro-cities.

(c) The levels of suspended particulate matter were mostly found to be above the prescribed ambient air quality standard while the levels of sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen were within the prescribed standards. The noise levels were generally found within the limits in

industrial areas but often exceeded the prescribed standards in certain areas of commercial, residential and silence zones.

According to the report "Global Pollution and Health" prepared by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the levels of suspended particulate matter (SPM) in respect of Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay ranked 4th, 6th and 13th respectively among 54 cities of the world. With respect to sulphur dioxide, these cities ranked 27th, 18th and 37th respectively among 41 cities of the world.

[*English*]

**Direct Local Call Facility**

4786. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start direct local call facility between Bhivandi and Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c): It has been decided to declare SDCAs (Short Distance Charging Areas) as the local area with effect from 15.8.1998. As Bhiwandi SDCA and Mumbai SDCA will form two adjacent local areas, the calls between Bhiwandi and Mumbai will be charged at 180 second plus rate. However, the calls between Bhiwandi and Navi Mumbai will be charged as before since Bhiwandi SDCA is not adjacent to the Navi Mumbai SDCA.

**Policy for the Conservation of Energy**

4787. RAO INDERJIT SINGH :  
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive policy for the conservation of Energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any monetary aid is proposed to be provided in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): The formulation of comprehensive energy policy is being considered by the Planning Commission, Besides the Government is

formulating a legal framework for establishing a Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), an apex level Central body, for laying down standards and norms on energy consumption for equipments and appliances compulsory energy labeling of equipments and appliances, and making energy audit mandatory for designated consumers to promote the efficient use of energy and its conservation.

#### **Girls' Education**

4788. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether societal sanctions and restrictions act as an impediment in the girls' education in rural, tribal and remote areas;

(b) if so, the recommendations made in the Programme of Action 1992 to increase enrolment of girls in secondary education;

(c) whether in pursuance of such recommendations any Boarding and Hostel facilities have been established for girl students of secondary and higher secondary schools in the country; and

(d) if so, whether any NGOs have been assigned with this task of establishing Boarding hostels and if so, the names and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The National Policy on Education expresses a resolve to widen access to secondary education with emphasis on enrolment of girls. The Policy also calls for a well-conceived edge in favour of women in order to neutralise the accumulated distortions of the past and also to play a positive interventionist role in the empowerment of women. The Programme of Action, 1992 also emphasises the need for some manifestation of intervention. The Programme of Action, 1992 identified certain steps to implement the postulates of National Policy on Education. One such step is a special enabling plan to ensure increase in the enrolment of girls. The Policy also stresses to encourage non-governmental and voluntary effort and provide financial assistance to them. In pursuance of the above, a Central sector Scheme for Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel Facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools is being implemented from 1993-94. The scheme provides 100% assistance for maintaining hostels exclusively for

girls studying in Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools. The Scheme does not provide any assistance for construction of Boarding Hostels.

#### **Standard of Education in Government Schools**

4789. SHRI JANG PRAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of education in the Government schools is not up to the mark and is witnessing a downward trend;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) if so, the findings hereof; and

(e) the measures the Government propose to take to improve the standard of education in Government schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Government does not have any comparative data or study report in this respect. However, an analysis of examination results of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) over the years shows that the pass percentage of private schools is higher than that of the Govt. schools especially in Delhi.

(b) Govt. schools cater to a very wide variety of students a majority of whom belong to socially, economically marginalised sectors and can very seldom adopt a selective or restrictive admission policy. Standard also depend on the authorities, managing and monitoring the schools.

(c) and (d): No such study has specifically been conducted.

(e) The efforts to upgrade the level of education are centered around improving the capabilities of teachers through in-service orientation and training and extending better support facilities through education technology, laboratories, libraries and special emphasis on critical areas like science, mathematics etc. Efforts are also being made to improve the contents and process of teaching learning so as to make the process of learning less stressful and more attractive.

**Vacant Posts in A.S.I**

4790. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts in the grade of Director (Archaeology) and Superintending Archaeologist have been lying vacant in the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the dates from which these posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these posts on regular basis and the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): A few posts of Directors (Archaeology) and Superintending Archaeologists which fell vacant in the Survey have been filled up by ad-hoc promotion of eligible officers from the feeder grades. Proposals for convening of Departmental Promotion Committee for filling up these posts on a regular basis have been submitted to Union Public Service Commission. However, it is not possible to indicate a time-frame for the completion of this exercise.

**Speed Post Service**

4791. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the unsatisfactory working of speed post service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Government about missing of letters posted under speed post service during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to plug the loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b): The Speed Post business is expanding and the revenue growth has been to the tune of about 12% over the last three years. Recently, a survey of the status of Speed Post was carried out by an expert professional group which has rated the service well in comparison with its competitors.

(c) No separate statistics is available relating to missing of article. However, the number of complaints received by the Department about missing, delayed and unsatisfactory delivery in the market during the last 3 years were as under:

Year	No. of complaints (in thousand)	% with reference to traffic
1995-96	29.0	0.20%
1996-97	20.7	0.18%
1997-98	24.0	0.17%

(d) Constant efforts are made to improve the delivery and transmission of Speed Post Service. The following steps have been taken by the Department to improve the delivery and transmission and to plug the loopholes, if any:

- (i) Introduction of Track & Trace System to cover eight metro cities.
- (ii) Expansion of Speed Post Network.
- (iii) Training and upgrading the skills of staff deployed in Speed Post Centres.
- (iv) Organisation of market surveys and finding customer needs.
- (v) Constant monitoring of the service.
- (vi) Focus on customer service.

[*Translation*]

**Power Projects in Uttar Pradesh**

4792. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :  
SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government for setting up of new power projects for approval;

(b) the time by which the projects are likely to be set up;

(c) whether the Government propose to hold a joint meeting with the State Government in this regard; and

(d) the quantum of power generated from power projects in the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): As per information available no proposal for setting up of power projects received from Uttar Pradesh Government is pending in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance.

(d) The quantum of power generated from power projects in Uttar Pradesh State during the last three years is given below:

	Power Generation (in MUs)
1995-96	63457
1996-97	65711
1997-98	67489

#### **Doordarshan Kendra at Aheri, Maharashtra**

4793. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan Kendra at Aheri in Gadchiroli District, Maharashtra telecast programmes from 2 PM to 10 PM only;

(b) whether the people of that area are demanding to increase the duration of telecast programmes from that Kendra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) A Low Power TV transmitter is functioning at Aheri in Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra. Presently, its transmission hrs. are from 16.30 hrs. to close of transmission on weekdays and from 07.00 hrs. to close of transmission on Sundays.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Full transmission from LPT, Aheri depends upon the availability of requisite manpower.

[Translation]

#### **Gross Domestic Product**

4794. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of gross domestic product spent on the research and development in the country;

(b) whether the allocated amount is sufficient to make the country able to compete with the corporations of the developed industrial countries of the world; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Officials statistics on Research & Development (R&D) expenditure is compiled as a percentage of Gross National Product (GNP) and not that of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). According to the currently available official statistics, the percentage of GNP spent in the country on R&D is 0.81 in 1994-95. This includes the R&D expenditures of Central and State Governments', R&D institutions and in-house R&D units of private sector and Scientific Industrial Research Organisations (SIRO) recognised by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR). This compilation does not take into account the R&D expenditure that may be incurred by other entities, including businesses and companies which have not applied for recognition by DSIR.

(b) and (c): The expenditure on R&D in India as percentage of Gross National Product (GNP) is lower compared to that in developed countries which spent 2 to 3 per cent of their GNP. The contribution of industry towards R&D expenditure in the developed/few developing countries has been varying from 37.2% as in case of Israel to 84% as in case of South Korea during nineties. When this percentage for Indian private sector industries registered with DSIR was compared it was 12.6% in 1990-91 and has risen to 16.4% in 1994-95. The investments on R&D can go up only through the joint efforts of both government and the private sector. Several fiscal incentives and other support measures are provided by the government to industry to encourage investment on R&D.

#### **Expansion of Basic Telecommunication Service**

4795. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual progress made in regard to the expansion of basic telecommunication services during the year 1997-98 and the current year;

(b) the reaction of the private sector towards the new policy initiatives of the Government;

(c) whether the private sector has not won the confidence of the consumers;

(d) whether Government propose to review the present policy keeping in view the past experience; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Against a target of providing 29 lakh new telephone connections, 32.6 lakhs of new telephone connections were provided during 1997-98 which is more than the number of telephone connections provided in any of the previous years, taking the status of number of telephone connections in the country to 17.8 million lines.

During 1998-99 up to June 1998, 3.82 lakh new telephone connections were provided.

(b) Pursuant to National Telecom Policy, 1994, the Govt. invited private sector to bid for providing Basic Telephone Service in 21 Telecom Circles. In response to that, bids were received for all Circles except for the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Out of these, six companies have already signed licence agreement for providing Basic Telephone Service in Six Circles. Two companies, one for Bihar and another for Karnataka are likely to sign the Agreement soon.

(c) Basic Telephone Service by a private operator was started only in Indore, in Madhya Pradesh on 4.6.98. It is too early to state as to whether the private sector has won the confidence of the consumers or not.

(d) No decision has been taken in this regard.

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

[English]

#### Passenger/Cargo Ships at Andaman Mainland

4796. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the wharf at Mayabunder to receive the Andaman Mainland passenger/cargo ship at alongside was completed and the amount spent therefor;

(b) whether ships bound to Calcutta to and fro are touching alongside the wharf at Mayabunder regularly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the required arrangements are made to touch the mainland bound vessels to and fro at Mayabunder Jetty; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) The work at Mayabunder wharf was completed in March, 1995 at a cost of Rs. 218.53 lakhs.

(b) to (e): Ships to and from Calcutta are routed via Mayabunder generally once a month depending upon operational requirements. Ships are able to go alongside the wharf whenever a tug is available as the restricted space makes manoeuvres with main engines and bow thrusters very risky for the vessel. Out of the two suitable tugs available with Andaman & Nicobar Administration, one is needed at Port Blair, while the other is currently undergoing repairs and is to be dry docked after mid-August.

#### Cultural Heritage

4797. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has called for stringent measures to counter the adverse effects of the growing trend of cultural tourism on historical building and monuments; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent encroachment of the monuments which form rich cultural heritage of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Archaeological Survey of India accords priority to the preservation and protection of monuments when considering proposals for promoting cultural tourism. All efforts are made to ensure that exposure of centrally protected monuments for cultural tourism does not adversely affect their conservation.

(b) Appropriate action is taken under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants) Act, 1971 as and when required.



**By-Pass from Surayapalem to Atkuru on NH-5 & 9**

4798. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been received by the Ministry for a by-pass road from Surayapalem to Atkuru linking National Highways 5 & 9, to relieve congestion in Vijayawada city;

(b) the estimated cost of this proposal; and

(c) the response of the Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c): At present there is no proposal to construct a bypass road from Surayapalem to Atkuru linking National Highways 5 & 9 outside Vijayawada city. The three arms of national Highways radiating from Vijayawada for the reaches experiencing traffic congestion are being fourlaned. However, bypass projects if found viable may receive consideration under Build Operate and Transfer scheme.

[Translation]

**Criteria for Opening of Youth Hostels**

4799. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening youth hostels in the country; and

(b) the reasons for not providing such facility in the Mirzapur division of Uttar Pradesh so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) The Construction of Youth Hostel has been conceived as a joint venture between the Central & the State Governments while the Central Government bears the cost of construction, the State Government provides fully developed land free of cost, with adequate water and electric supply, approach road, boundary wall and staff quarters. On receipt on a formal viable proposal from the State Government, the same is considered in the Department of Youth Affairs & Sports. Selection of place for construction of Youth Hostel is done by the State Government keeping in view the following considerations :

- (a) Historical and cultural value;
- (b) Educational centre, State Capital;
- (c) Place of tourist importance, scenic beauty and hill station;
- (d) Place with offers facilities for Youth activities; and
- (e) Port of entry.

(b) Since no formal proposal from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for opening of Youth Hostel in the Mirzapur division has been received, no action has been taken so far.

[English]

**Allotment of Plots/Land by Kandla Port Trust**

4800. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kandla Port Trust has taken a decision to allot plots of land to the persons, who have lost their houses in the cyclone that devastated Kandla Port area on June 9, 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Kandla Port Trust Board has taken an 'In Principle' decision to formulate a scheme for allotment of land admeasuring 25 sq. mtrs. to each of the cyclone affected families whose dwellings were lost in the cyclone, at a token annual ground rent of Rupee one and token development charges of Rupee one per plot.

**Maintenance of Historical Monuments in Maharashtra**

4801. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several historical monuments such as Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta caves in Maharashtra are in a very bad shape;

(b) if so, whether the Central Fund meant for maintenance, structural repairs etc. of these monuments is not being utilized properly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Centrally protected monuments in Maharashtra including Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta caves are in a good state of preservation. In addition to annual upkeep and maintenance, structural repairs, chemical conservation and environmental development are carried as needed on the basis of Archaeological norms.

(b) and (c): Does not arise.

**Tamil News Bulletins on AIR**

4802. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIR Delhi is not pronouncing the words such as "Semi Final", "Parliament" "Akashwani", "Rashtrapathi" and "Lok Sabha" correctly in their Tamil News bulletins;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up an Editorial Board consisting of people well versed with the modern usage of Tamil language to edit the news script before broadcast; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

**World Bank Assistance to Maharashtra In Power Sector**

4803. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has received any loans/assistance from the World Bank for the improvement and development in power sector in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the loans/assistance have been fully utilized; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): The details of the World Bank loans to Maharashtra are given below:—

Name of the Project	Loan amount (US \$ m)	Commulative disbursement (Upto March '98)	Closing date of loan
Maharashtra Power Project-I (Koyna HEP Stage IV (4 × 250 MW) alongwith trans. & distribution system of MSEB)	337.330	299.746	30.12.98
Maharashtra Power Project-II (Chandrapur Thermal Power Project, Unit-7 alongwith trans. system)	350.000	112.254	Cancelled

Koyna Project is scheduled to be commissioned during 1999-2001. Maharashtra-II loan has been cancelled by the World Bank after 30.6.1998 as Government of Maharashtra/Maharashtra State Electricity Board could not meet some of the agreed covenants of the Loan Agreement.

**Misuse of WB Aid to ICDS**

4804. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Integrated Child Development Scheme for children and pregnant women living below the poverty line has been aided by the World Bank;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints about the misuse of Aid provided under the scheme;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this direction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank provided credit for the Centrally sponsored ICDS Projects, viz. ICDS-I Project in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa and ICDS-II Project in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

ICDS-I Project covered 191 blocks in Orissa and 110 blocks in Andhra Pradesh and remained in operation from January 1991 to 31st December, 1997. The approved EFC provision for the Project was Rs. 343.68 crore (Rs. 159.40 crore for Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 184.28 crore for Orissa), exclusive of the cost of supplementary nutrition. The available IDA credit for the Project, to the tune of US \$ 74 million was fully utilised.

ICDS-II Project covered 210 blocks in Bihar and 44 blocks in Madhya Pradesh and became operational in September, 1993, for a period of 7 years, i.e. upto March 2000. The approved EFC provision for the Project is Rs. 596.23 crore (Rs. 257.13 crore for Bihar and Rs. 339.10 crore for Madhya Pradesh) for the Project period. The approved IDA credit for the Project is US \$ 194 million.

(c) No complaint has been reported by the concerned State Governments about the misuse of aid provided under the Scheme.

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

[Translation]

#### Transfer of Technology

4805. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries who have given proposals during the last three years and upto March 1998 for transfer of technology in various fields;

(b) the details of these proposals; and

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There are several countries from where proposals for transfer of technology, services and others in various fields were approved by the Government during the last three years (1995, 1996 & 1997) and January to March 1998. These are included in the statement enclosed.

(b) These proposals are in various fields such as chemicals, electrical, electrical and electronics mechanical, metallurgical, textile and others. These involve, equity participation and payments towards lumpsum fee, royalty based on production value, training expenses etc., nature and quantum of which vary from case to case.

(c) The number of foreign collaborations involving import of technology, services and others approved by the Government during 1995, 1996, 1997 and January to March 1998 were 2337, 2303, 2325 and 437 respectively.

#### Statement

*Countries from where proposals for transfer of technology services and others in various fields were approved by the Government during the last three years (1995, 1996 and 1997) and January to March 1998*

Sl. No.	Names of countries where company/Collaborator Located
1	2
1.	Afganistan
2.	Argentina
3.	Armenia
4.	Australia
5.	Austria
6.	Bahamas
7.	Bahrain
8.	Belgium
9.	Bermuda
10.	British Virginia
11.	Bulgaria
12.	Canada
13.	Cayman Island

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1	2	1	2
14.	Channel Island	38.	Jordan
15.	China	39.	Kenya
16.	Cyprus	40.	Kuwait
17.	Czech Republic	41.	Liechtenstein
18.	Denmark	42.	Luxembourg
19.	Estonia	43.	Malaysia
20.	Egypt	44.	Maldova
21.	Finland	45.	Malta
22.	France	46.	Mauritius
23.	Germany	47.	Mexico
24.	Gibraltar	48.	Nepal
25.	Greece	49.	Netherlands
26.	Hawai Islands	50.	New Zealand
27.	Hong Kong	51.	Nigeria
28.	Hungary	52.	Norway
29.	Iceland	53.	Oman
30.	Indonesia	54.	Panama
31.	Iran	55.	Papua New Guinea
32.	Ireland	56.	Philippines
33.	Isle of Man	57.	Poland
34.	Israel	58.	Portugal
35.	Italy	59.	Quartar
36.	Jamaica	60.	Romania
37.	Japan		

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1	2
61.	Russia
62.	San Salvador
63.	Saudi Arabia
64.	Scotland
65.	Singapore
66.	Slovakia
67.	Slovenia
68.	South Africa
69.	South Korea
70.	Spain
71.	Sri Lanka
72.	Sudan
73.	Sweden
74.	Switzerland
75.	Taiwan
76.	Tatarstan
77.	Thailand
78.	UAE
79.	UK
80.	USA
81.	Ukraine
82.	Vietnam
83.	West Indies
84.	Yugoslavia

**Encouragement to Newspapers/Magazines in Hindi and other Regional Languages**

4806. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to encourage and provide assistance to newspapers and magazines in Hindi and other regional languages in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**STD/ISD Telephone Bills to Subscribers**

4807. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangalore Telecom Department has stopped giving itemised STD/ISD details to the telephone subscribers;

(b) if so, the details from which the said facility has been discontinued and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to continue giving itemised billing to the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): The facility has not been discontinued. However, recently due to some technical snag, the facility of detailed billing got disrupted for a while. Thereafter, issue of itemised bills has been resumed.

[Translation]

**Cellular Telephone Facility**

4808. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURAYA :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether such a facility has been developed recently under which the cellular phones owners could be contacted anywhere in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): The facility called 'roaming' between different Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) networks is one of the standard facilities available in Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) Standards. The Licensees of CMTS in the country are using systems based on GSM Standards. The government has recently permitted Cellular Operators to offer automatic roaming facility to their subscribers in the country, using the network infrastructure of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), based on a specialised signalling system called common channel signaling (CCS). Automatic roaming enables a Mobile Telephone subscriber of one cellular operator to use the facility of other operators, to originate and receive calls while he is visiting the service area of the other operator. Thus, the subscriber can be contacted in any city where the cellular service is available, provided both the cellular operators have roaming agreements.

(c) The facility is expected to be introduced gradually in the country by private operators, in the near future, in accordance with their business plans.

[English]

#### **Allegations of Corruption in IGNOU**

4809. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IGNOU has set up a committee to examine all allegations of corruption against the University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of complaints received and disposed of by this Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): According to information furnished by the *Indira Gandhi National Open University*, a Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of *Shri Anand Sarup*, former Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development to

deal with corruption cases in public services. However, the Committee has not received any complaints so far.

#### **All India Council of Physical Education and Sports Sciences Act**

4810. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the views of the States/concerned Departments and all other agencies in regard to long pending act of All India Council of Physical Education and Sports Sciences in order to monitor the uniformly updated sports sciences and physical education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether K.P. Singh Deo Committee recommendations have been implemented in full;

(d) if so, the manner in which integrated physical education and sports is being implemented in the country; and

(e) the achievements made so far in this field?

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

(b) So far only 18 States and UT Administrations have offered their views.

(c) to (e): The recommendations of the K.P. Singh Deo Committee on integration of Physical Education and Sports with school curriculum have been accepted by the Government of India in principle. All State Governments and UT Administrations have been requested to implement these. The recommendations of the Committee are to be implemented through the Departments of Education and Youth Affairs & Sports of State Governments and UT Administrations. To implement these recommendations, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has also constituted a Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of *Shri A.K. Pandya*, Secretary (Retired), Government of India. The committee holds its meetings regularly and monitors the progress made by the State Governments in this regard. The matter was also discussed in the recently concluded conference of the State Sports Ministers and emphasis laid on the implementation of the recommendations of the K.P. Singh Deo Committee on integration of Physical Education and Sports with school curriculum.

**Vendors for upgrading the Regional Loads**

4811. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation has shortlisted seven global power equipment vendors for upgrading the regional loads across the Northern and Southern India;

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

(c) whether its crucial RLDC upgradation exercise will be jointly financed by the World Bank and the European Investment Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The details are furnished in statement enclosed.

(c) and (d): The fund requirement for the Northern Regional Load Despatch and Communication & Southern Regional Load Despatch and Communications tied up with various funding agencies is as follow:

**NRLDC**

World Bank	\$ 40.7 million
J-Exim	\$ 48.2 million

**SRLDC**

World Bank	\$ 46.3 million
European Investment Bank	\$ 55.0 million

**Statement**

*Vendors for upgrading the Regional Loads*

Sl. No.	Package Name	Name of the Firms
1	2	3

**Northern Region**

1. **EMS/SCADA**
  - i. ABB Network Control, Sweden.
  - ii. CEGELEC, France.
  - iii. Harris Controls, USA.
  - iv. Siemens Energy & Automation, USA

1	2	3
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**2. TELECOMMUNICATION**

- a. **Fibre Optic**
  - i. Pirelli Cavi, S.p.a., Italy.
  - ii. Siemens AG, Germany.
  - iii. Joint Venture of Funukawa Electric Co. Ltd., Japan; Fujitsu Ltd., Japan; & NTT International Corporation, Japan.
  - iv. ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
  - v. JV of IVO International, Finland & Fujikura Ltd., Japan.
  - vi. JV of CEGELEC SA, France & Focas Ltd., UK.
  - vii. JV of NERA AS, Norway & Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden.
  - viii. JV of Northern Telecom, UK & BICC Cables, UK.
- b. **Microwave**
  - i. ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
  - ii. Harris Farinon, Canada.
  - iii. Harris Transcomm, USA.
  - iv. Siemens, Italy.
  - v. IVO International, Finland.
  - vi. CEGELEC SA, France.
  - vii. NERA AS, Norway.
  - viii. Northern Telecom, UK.
- c. **Combined for Fibre Optic and Microwave**
  - i. JV of CEGELEC SA, France & Focas Ltd., U.K.

1	2	3
	ii.	JV of NERA AS, Norway & Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden.
	iii.	JV of Northern Telecom. UK & BICC Cables, UK.

**Southern Region**

1. <i>EMS/SCADA</i>	i.	ABB Network Control, Sweden
	ii	CEGELEC, France.
	iii.	Harris Controls, USA.
	iv.	Siemens Energy & Automation, USA.

**2. TELECOMMUNICATION**

a. <i>Fibre Optic</i>	i.	Pirelli Cavi, S.p.a., Italy.
	ii.	Siemens AG, Germany.
	iii.	Joint Venture of Purukawa Electric Co. Ltd., Japan; Fujitsu Ltd., Japan & NTT International Corporation, Japan.
	iv.	ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
	v.	JV of Fujikura Ltd. Japan & NEC, Japan.
	vi.	JV of CEGELEC Sa, France & Focas Ltd., UK.
	vii.	JV of Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden & NERA AS, Norway.
	viii.	JV of Northern Telecom, UK & BICC Cables, UK.

1	2	3
b. <i>Microwave</i>	i.	ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
	ii.	Harris Farinon, Canada.
	iii.	Siemens, Italy.
	iv.	NERA AS, Norway.
	v.	CEGELEC SA, France.
	vi.	Northern Telecom, UK.
c. <i>Combined for Fibre Optic and Microwave.</i>	i.	JV of CEGELEC SA, France & Focas Ltd., UK.
	ii.	JV of NERA AS, Norway & Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden.
	iii.	JV of Northern Telecom, UK & BICC Cables, UK.

**Heritage of Indian Culture**

4812. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to inculcate in the youth an appreciation for the heritage of Indian culture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): while there is no such specific proposal at present, the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports does implement Schemes to encourage youth to understand, appreciate, preserve and develop the rich cultural heritage of the country. A National Youth Festival is organised every year during the National Youth Week involving Youth from all States and Union Territories in which they participate in various competitive and non-competitive programmes of folk and classical music, dance and drama, etc., depicting the richness and diversity of Indian culture. An art and craft exhibition from different parts of the country is also organised during the festival. Besides,



financial assistance is given to States/NGOs, etc., for organising National Integration Camps for youth in which youth from different parts of the country share and appreciate each other's culture and tradition. Financial assistance is also given for undertaking Youth Exchange Programmes to afford an opportunity to travel to other parts of the country to understand and appreciate their cultural and historical heritage.

#### **Environment Management in South Asia**

4813. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any seminar by the United State Information Service on regional cooperation to tackle the environment problems in South Asia was held in May 1998;

(b) whether there was a call in the seminar that India, Pakistan and Nepal should cooperate in the environmental management in the region;

(c) if so, the details of environmental management proposal in the seminar for cooperation among these countries; and

(d) the efforts the Government propose for meeting the cooperation of other countries in this region alongwith the area of their cooperation?

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

(c) and (d): The seminar made some broad recommendations which are given in statement enclosed. Most of the recommendations are part of ongoing regional cooperation.

#### **Statement**

*Recommendations made at the end of the Regional Environment Programme organised by USIS in May, 1998*

- Need to strengthen the mechanism for sustained interaction and sharing of expertise and experiences between NGO's within India as well as at regional level to promote sustainable development;
- Need for greater information sharing on the latest and most effective techniques for air pollution monitoring testing and control;

- Need for regular monitoring and control of river water pollution, especially of major rivers such as the Ganga, which is an important source of drinking water;
- Focus and share information on proper sewage interception and treatment system to treat city effluents. Need to ensure use of appropriate technologies for sewage treatment;
- Share information on Environmental Impact Assessment and Management;
- Initiate collaborative community level projects, especially in the area of water quantity monitoring, testing and removal of fluorides;
- Greater information sharing on environmental contacts and resource persons;
- Need to study and take effective steps to reduce pollution of the Hadiyara Drain by India before it reaches Pakistan;
- Need for accurate reporting, increased coverage and closer cooperation amongst environmental journalists.

#### **External Commercial Loan to PFC despite Sanctions**

4814. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has successfully raised \$ 100 million loan, the first major external commercial loan following N-Tests despite the sanctions imposed by G-8 countries;

(b) if so, the sources from which the said loan has been procured; and

(c) the impact of the sanctions experienced in raising the said loan?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The loan agreement for US\$ 100 million syndicated loan facility has been signed on 7th July, 1998.

(b) The above loan will be drawn from a group of 14 banks from different countries i.e. ANZ Grindlays Export Finance Limited, Arab Banking Corporation (BSC),

Baden-Wurtembergische Bank Aktiengesellschaft, Bank of Baroda, London, Bank of India, Jersey, Bank of India, London, Bayerische Vereinsbank AG, Berliner Bank Aktiengesellschaft. The Fuji Bank Limited, Singapore, Indian Bank, Singapore, Natexis Banque, Singapore, SBI European Bank PLC, London, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (Publ), State Bank of India, London, United Taiwan Bank S.A. Brussels.

(c) The sanctions were imposed while the syndication for the loan was in progress. In spite of this, syndication was successfully closed at the original price and other terms & conditions agreed with the Lead Arranger.

[*Translation*]

#### **Foreign Assistance for Environmental Projects**

4815. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign assistance received for environmental projects during 1997 and 1998;

(b) the names of the projects on which the said foreign assistance has been provided and spent, State-wise;

(c) the amount of assistance provided to Madhya Pradesh and other States out of the said assistance during the said period;

(d) where the amount provided has been utilized; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

#### **Forest Land for Industrial use in Maharashtra**

4816. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to release the forest land for industrial use;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines/norms have been laid down in regard thereto;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the forest land converted and allotted for the industrial use during the last three years in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The details of proposals received by this Ministry from Government of Maharashtra during last three years regarding release of forest land for industrial use is enclosed in statement-I.

(c) and (d): The Ministry has issued the detailed guidelines for processing of proposals under the Forest (Cons.) Act, 1980. These guidelines define procedure for giving clearance to diversion of forests for different type of non-forestry activities.

(e) The details of the forest land approved for diversion for the industrial use in Maharashtra during last three years is given in statement-II enclosed.

#### **Statement I**

S. No.	Name of the Project	Forest area proposed for diversion (ha.)
1	2	3
1.	Construction of Transmission-Cum-Receiving Tower Complex to Birla AT & T Communication Ltd., in Raigad & Pune district.	0.248
2.	Laying of Surface pipeline for the purpose of drawing sea water for Shrimp Seed Corpn. in Raigad district.	0.0038

1	2	3
3.	Laying of National Gas Twin pipeline from RCF, Thal to Usar in Raigad district.	0.867
4.	construction of Wind Energy Generation Plant. The Tata Electric Company Ltd., Bombay in Pune District.	1.285
5.	Construction of Dindora Barrage and K. 1. Weir in Wardha and Chandrapur district.	95.81

*Statement II*

S. No.	Name of the Project	Forest area approved/ approved in principle for diversion (ha.)
1.	Construction of Steel Plant by Lloyds Steel Industries Ltd., in Wardha district	45.75
2.	Development of Butibori Industrial Area in Nagpur district.	19.52
3.	Construction of transmission-Cum-Receiving Tower complex to Birla AT&T Communication Ltd., in Raigad and Pune district.	0.248
4.	Laying petroleum products pipeline from Bombay to Manamad.	18.77
5.	Laying of surface pipeline for the purpose of drawing sea water for Shrimp Seed Corporation in Raighad district.	0.0038
6.	Laying of National Gas Twin pipeline from RCF, Thal to Usar in Raigad district	0.867
7.	Construction of Wind Energy Generation Plant—The Tata Electric Company Ltd., Bombay in Pune district.	1.285
8.	Ash Sluicing Scheme Stage-III from B.T.P.S. in Jalgaon district.	115.00

**Poaching of Rhinos in Assam**

4817. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Rhinos were killed by poachers in the Pabitora Sanctuary in Assam;

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

(c) whether poaching is on the increase in Assam;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Govt. is aware that some Rhinos were killed by poachers in Pabitora Sanctuary in Assam. The number of Rhinos killed by poachers in Pabitora Sanctuary for the last three years is as given below:

1995	1996	1997
2	4	4

(b) The State Government is concerned about the poaching and has taken effective measures to check it. The Government is alert and keeps constant vigil by patrolling day and night. It deployed armed Home Guard, Assam Forest Protection Force battalion to assist the sanctuary's staff to check poaching.

(c) and (d) Due to the effective measures taken by the Government, poaching of Rhino in Assam has substantially gone down during 1997. Poaching figures for the different National parks and Sanctuaries in Assam for the last three years are given below:

Sl. No.	National Parks/ Sanctuaries	1995	1996	1997
1.	Orang Wildlife Sanctuary	10	9	11
2.	Kaziranga National Park	27	26	12
3.	Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary	2	4	4
4.	Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	1	—	—
5.	Others	2	1	2
Total		42	40	29

(e) The steps taken by the Government for protecting Rhinoceros and other endangered species are given below:

(i) A network of 6 wildlife sanctuaries and 3 national parks has been set up for conservation of the species and its habitat. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries, on request from the State Governments. A special scheme of 'Conservation of Rhinos in Assam' has now been transferred to the State Government alongwith resources since 1992-93 as per the recommendations of the National Development Council;

(ii) Rhino is placed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thus getting the highest level of protection;

(iii) Trading in Rhino parts and product is also banned by law;

(iv) Cooperation of police, BSF, DRI and Army is also taken, as and when required, in apprehending the poachers and illegal traders;

(v) India is a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and abides by the regulations of international trade in endangered species of animals and articles. Under the provisions of the convention, Rhino is covered under Appendix I of CITES which bans international trade in the species, products and derivatives.

(vi) With a view to providing alternative home for Rhinos and also rehabilitating them in their erstwhile habitat, schemes for 'Rehabilitation of Rhinos' has been started in Dudhwa National park and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary of Uttar Pradesh.

(vii) Special schemes for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos and their habitats are being implemented.

(viii) Raids are carried out by the Wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild animals reaches them.

(ix) Regional and sub-regional offices on wildlife preservation are set up mostly at the main exports centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(x) There is a scheme for payment of reward to the informers, which, among other things, helps in getting intelligence regarding smuggling of Wildlife products.

- (xi) A committee set up by this Ministry to look into the issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem which has been referred to the State Government for their comments and necessary action.

**Improvement in Implementation of Operation Blackboard & DPEP**

4818. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the implementation of Operation Blackboard and the District Primary Education Programme;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps in this regard have been worked out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): Launched in 1987-88, the scheme of Operation Blackboard was revised in 1993 to provide for third teacher and three class rooms in Primary schools with enrolment of more than 100 children. The scheme was also extended to Upper Primary Schools.

The report of the Working Group on Elementary Education for the Ninth Plan has recommended addition of two new components in Operation Blackboard to meet needs of girls at the upper primary stage and to improve school level supervision and management of primary schools. These entail provision of financial assistance to States for upper primary schools in Low Female Literacy Blocks and a Head-master in selected primary schools. Allocations for the Ninth Plan have not been finalised.

DPEP is an evolving programme and necessary amendments or modifications in the project parameters would be made as and when necessary based on the past learning experiences. A definite view in this regard has not yet been taken.

**ISD, Fax and Telex Facilities in Maharashtra**

4819. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for providing ISD, Fax and Telex facilities in the State especially in the rural areas:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these facilities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c): No such proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for the provision of ISD, Fax and Telex facilities in State. However, STD facilities to all the exchanges in Maharashtra state shall be provided by the end of IXth Five Year Plan.

**Level Crossing on National Highway**

4820. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are eight level crossings on the National Highway from Calicut to Connanore;

(b) whether these level crossings are bottlenecks on the National highway which cause inordinate delay and inconvenience to road passengers;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to construct over bridges at these level crossings;

(d) whether the Government of Kerala has made any request for the constructing over bridges at these points; and

(e) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The level crossings cause delay and inconvenience to the National Highway traffic.

(c) to (e): The State Government has proposed the following measures to solve the problem:

(i) Construction of road-over-bridge at Chorode in lieu of level crossing.

(ii) Construction of re-alignment at Quilandy, Chowva-Nadal to avoid 4 level crossings at Nandi, Chenkottukavu, Chova and Nadal.

(iii) Construction of Thalassery-Mahe and Calicut bypasses will avoid level crossings at Muzhappilangadu, Vengalam and Vengoli.

The above proposals are approved and construction can be considered in stages depending upon the availability of funds.

[Translation]

**Review of Performance of Power Finance Corporation**

4821. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Power Finance Corporation;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government on the basis of the outcome of the said review; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c): Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is a Public Financial Institution under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power. The Corporation has been signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) since 1993-94 and the same is evaluated by the Department of Public enterprises every year, PFC has been performing well against the targets set in the MOUs and has been rated "Excellent" since 1993-94 onwards. The performance of the corporation is also being regulatory monitored by Government.

[English]

**Mangrove Forests in Maharashtra**

4822. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area covered under the mangrove forests in the country and funds allocated to the States for the improvement of Mangrove Forests under each Scheme separately; State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to sponsor Scheme for the improvement and protection of mangrove forests in Maharashtra State; and

(c) if so, the details and salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL

MARANDI) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report 1997, area of mangrove forest in the country is 4,827 sq. km. The state-wise break-up is as follows:

State	Area (in sq. km.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	383
2. Goa	5
3. Gujarat	991
4. Karnataka	3
5. Maharashtra	124
6. Orissa	211
7. Tamilnadu	21
8. West Bengal	2,123
9. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	966

In addition there are some scattered patches of mangroves in coastal states.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests provides financial assistance for management action plans submitted by the State Government and Union Territory administration concerned for the conservation and management of mangroves under the scheme entitled "Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs".

The financial assistance provided under the scheme for conservation and management of mangroves during the eighth plan and 1997-98 is as under:

State	Assistance provided during eighth plan and 1997-98 (Rs. in lakhs)	
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	18.00	.
2. Goa	37.75	
3. Karnataka	62.74	

1	2	3
4.	Kerala	8.50
5.	Maharashtra	1.81
6.	Orissa	7.03
7.	Tamilnadu	38.52
8.	West Bengal	215.61
9.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	42.76

(b) and (c): State Government of Maharashtra is eligible to present its proposal for conservation and management of mangroves under the scheme of 'conservation and management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs'.

#### Corruption in KVS

4823. SHRI B.M. BENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in its 46th report standing committee on Human Resource Development had held that there was rampant corruption in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The matter is under inquiry/investigation.

#### Measures Undertaken for the Promotion of Sport

4824. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY :  
GENERAL NEVILLE FOLEY :

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

(a) whether the measures proposed to be undertaken to make India World Class in sports particularly in Hockey;

(b) whether Government propose to have high-tech training methods and pursue relentless sports science research; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The task of development of sports is a responsibility of National Sports Federations and Central and State Governments. The National Sports Federations hold national tournaments and championships and select sports persons and teams for taking part in international events. The development of Hockey is the sphere of the Indian Hockey Federation which is an autonomous body dealing with promotion of Hockey in the country. The Government is providing required assistance to the Indian Hockey Federation for improvement of the standard of the game. Some of the steps taken by the Government are:

- (i) spotting and nurturing talent at the young age through the Sports Authority of India and State Governments,
- (ii) assisting the federation for organizing national coaching camps, purchase of equipment, holding tournaments for the sub-juniors, juniors and seniors, holding international tournaments in the country and international exposure,
- (iii) assisting the State Governments and other sports bodies for creation of infrastructure and synthetic surfaces,
- (iv) setting up a Centre of Excellence for Hockey at Bangalore,
- (v) development of training module through an expert group.

(b) and (c): Yes, Sir. The Government is taking steps to introduce high-tech training methods in Hockey. Research in sports sciences is being continued through Sports Authority of India. The Indian Hockey Federation is being assisted for training of the national team. Besides the above, under the Scheme of scholarships for Training of Specialists and Outstanding Sports Persons in Sports, sports coaches, physical conditioning experts, sports scientists and research experts and those with excellent records in adventure sports are being sanctioned scholarship for undergoing training on latest techniques, coaching and research abroad.

**Sports and Games**

4825. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the sports and games in our country are in a pitiable condition;

(b) if so, the steps being adopted by the Government to pick new talents;

(c) whether the Government propose to restructure various sports/games federations of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The performance of country in the international sports events has not been satisfactory.

(b) The Governments, both at Centre and State level, are taking steps for picking up new talent. The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports is implementing a number of schemes for picking up new talent through the Sports Authority of India. Besides, Scholarship is being provided to talented sports persons showing outstanding performance in the competitions organised at State level, National level and University/College level. Under the scheme, "Promotion for games and sports in schools" assistance is being provided to State Governments for organising tournaments and giving prizes at the school level. Under the Rural Sports Programme, assistance is being provided for organisation of tournaments in rural areas.

(c) and (d): The National Sports Federations (NSFs) including the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) are autonomous bodies constituted under the Societies Registration Act. There is no law in regard to the relationships between the Government and the IOA and NSFs. The IOA states that it functions according to the Olympic Charter. In matters such as holding of the National Games or taking part in the international tournaments/championships etc., the NSFs are autonomous and not liable to answer to the Government. The IOA deals with participation in the Olympics, Asian and Commonwealth Games. Government has a system of recognition of the NSFs for the purpose of giving financial assistance. Guidelines have been formulated for giving financial assistance to the NSFs for promotion of sports. These guidelines, *inter alia*, include a provision for the NSFs to maintain certain basic standards, norms and procedures with regards to their internal functioning which conform to the high principles and objectives laid down by the concerned International Sports Federation

and which are also in complete consonance with the basic principles laid down in the Olympic Charter or in the Constitution of Indian Olympic Association. The Government is having constant interaction with the NSFs for taking appropriate action for promotion of sports.

**Manpower at LPTs/VLPTs**

4826. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided the required manpower/Staff at each of the VLPTs and LPTs for the optimum utilisation of the installed TV transmitters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c): No, Sir. Whereas VLPTs are unmanned installations and no staff is specifically required for their operation and maintenance, full complement of staff has been provided at 427 LPTs out of total 646 LPTs of Doordarshan which are presently functioning. Only partial staff sanction has been granted for 205 LPTs. The remaining 14 LPTs have been commissioned without sanctioned posts by temporarily transferring the staff from other installations.

**Power Generation by NTPC**

4827. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generation capacity of National Thermal Power Corporation projects and privately managed projects in various regions of the country, project-wise;

(b) the details of the actual production as against demands and the shortfall thereof, region-wise;

(c) whether the Central Electricity Authority has recently decided to clamp down the power generation by the National Thermal Power Corporation in the Eastern region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The power generation capacity of the National Thermal Power Corporation



(NTPC) projects and privately managed projects in the various regions of the country is given in enclosed statement-I and II respectively.

In addition NTPC is also managing Badarpur Thermal Power Station (705 MW) in the Northern region and Balco (270 MW) in the Western Region.

(b) The energy requirement, availability and the shortages region-wise during the period April 98-June, 1998 are as under:

Figures in MUs			
Region	requirement	availability	% Shortage
Northern	33366	31459	5.7
Western	36984	35421	4.2
Southern	29957	25732	14.1
Eastern	10517	10559	(-) 0.4
North-Eastern	1262	1137	9.9
All India	112086	104308	6.9

(c) to (e) The Eastern region power stations of SEBs, DVC and NTPC have to back down on account of lesser demand of power in the Eastern region. Efforts are being made to transfer power from Eastern region to other regions of the country.

**Statement I**

Sl. No.	Project	State	Fuel	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Northern Region &amp; National Capital Region</b>				
1.	Singrauli	UP	Coal	2000
2.	Rihand	UP	Coal	1000
3.	NCPP, Dadri	UP	Coal	840
4.	Feroze Gandhi, Unchahar	UP	Coal	420
5.	Dadri	UP	Gas	817

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Anta	Rajasthan	Gas	413
7.	Auraiya	UP	Gas	652
Total				6142

**Western Region**

8.	Kobra	MP	Coal	2100
9.	Kawas	Gujarat	Gas	645
10.	Vindhyaachal	MP	Coal	1260
11.	Jhanor Gandhar	Gujarat	Gas	648
Total				4653

**Southern Region**

12.	Ramagundam	AP	Coal	2100
Total				2100

**Eastern Region**

13.	Farakka	WB	Coal	1600
14.	Kahaigaon	Bihar	Coal	840
15.	Talcher STPS	Orissa	Coal	1000
16.	Talcher Thermal	Orissa	Coal	460
Total				3900
<b>All India Total</b>			<b>16,796 MW</b>	

STPS : Super Thermal Power Station

**Statement II**

*Details of private power projects  
in the country as on 31.3.1998*

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>		
<b>Gujarat.</b>		
1.	Sabarmati (AE Co)	450
2.	Vatwa CCGT	99
3.	GIPCL GT	167
4.	Hazira CCGT	515
5.	Peghthan CCGT	405
6.	Surat Diesel Sets	0.2
	Sub-Total	1636.2
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
1.	Trombay TPS	1150
2.	Trombay CCGT	180
3.	Dahanu TPS	500
4.	Bhivpuri HE	72
5.	Khopoli HE	72
6.	Bhira HE	282
	Sub-Total	2256
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>		
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Jagrupadu CCGT	235.40
2.	Godavari CCGT	208.00
	Sub-Total	443.40

1	2	3
<b>Karnataka</b>		
1.	Shivpur HE	18.0
	Sub-Total	18.0
<b>Kerala</b>		
	Manier HE	12.0
	Sub-Total	12.0
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>		
<b>West Bengal</b>		
1.	Molajore TPS	120
2.	Titagarh TPS	240
3.	Southern TPS	135
4.	New Cassipore TPS	160
5.	Korba GT	40
6.	Budge Budge TPS	250
7.	Dishergarh Seebopre TPS	46.38
8.	Sundarbans DG	0.14
	Sub-Total	991.52
<b>NORTH EASTERN REGION</b>		
<b>Assam</b>		
1.	Baskhandi GT	9.0
2.	Adamtilla GT	10.5
	Sub-Total	19.5
<b>Total All India</b>		<b>5376.62</b>

AE Co. : Ahmedabad Electric Co.  
 CCGT : Combined Cycle Gas Turbine  
 TPS : Thermal Power Station  
 HE : Hydro-electric  
 GT : Gas Turbine  
 DG : Diesel Generator

12.00 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**(i) Annual Report and review of the working of Indian Association for the cultivation of Science etc. for the year 1996-97.**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1262/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1263/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1264/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1265/98]

**(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between NHPC Ltd. and Power Ministry for the year 1998-99**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :— A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1266/98]

**(iii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of working of Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Calcutta for the year 1996-97.**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in playing the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1267/98]

**(iv) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Delhi University and Hyderabad University etc. for year 1994-95 and 1996-97 respectively.**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Speaker Sir, on behalf of Kumari Uma Bharati, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1268/98]

(3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1993-94 together with Audit Report thereon.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying he papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1269/98]

(5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1994-95 together with Audit Report thereon.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying he papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1270/98]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1271/98]

(9) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1272/98]

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva Bharti, Santiniketan, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visva-Bharti, Santiniketan, for the year 1996-97.

(12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1273/98]

(13) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva-Bharti, Santiniketan, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1274/98]

(15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1275/98]

- (17) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1276/98]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1996-97.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1277/98]

- (21) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1278/98]

- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam University, Silchar, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of working of the Assam University, Silchar, for the year 1996-97.

- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1279/98]

- (25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 1996-97.

- (26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1280/98]

- (27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Banaras Hindi University, Varanasi, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for the year 1995-96.

- (28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1281/98]

- (29) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (30) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at 29 above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1282/98]

- (31) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (32) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

[Place in Library, See No. LT 1283/98]

- (33) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(34) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (33) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1284/98]

(35)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kalakshetra Foundations, Madras, for the year 1996-97.

(36) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (35) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1285/98]

(37) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, together with the Audit Report thereon;

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(38) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (37) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1286/98]

(39) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(40) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (39) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1287/98]

(41) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology, Surat, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology, Surat, for the year 1996-97.

(42) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (41) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1288/98]

(43) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College Srinagar, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1994-95.

(44) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (43) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1289/98]

(45) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1995-96.

- (46) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (45) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1290/98]

- (47) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathakal, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathakal, for the year 1996-97.

- (48) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (47) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1291/98]

- (49) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English Versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (50) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (49) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1292/98]

- (51) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (52) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons of delay in laying the papers mentioned at (51) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1293/98]

- (53) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (54) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (53) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1294/98]

- (55) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (56) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (55) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1295/98]

- (57) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (58) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (57) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1296/98]

- (59) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (60) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (59) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1297/98]

(61) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(62) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (61) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1298/98]

(63) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

(64) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (63) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1299/98]

(65) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1996-97.

(66) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (65) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1300/98]

(67) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96

(68) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (67) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1301/98]

(69) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) University Grants Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(70) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (69) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1302/98]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up 'Zero Hour'.

Shri Vaiko to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow all of you because you have given a notice with regard to an important issue. Please speak one by one. Now I have called Shri Vaiko to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow Shri Vaiko, Shri Sathiamoorthy, Dr. Subramanian Swamy and Shri Baalu, Please speak one by one.

Shri Vaiko to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Muthiah, I will allow you also.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : I have given a proper notice. My name is at serial number 2.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would draw the immediate attention of the Central Government to the very serious problem of the Cauvery River water dispute ...(*Interruptions*)



[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Withdraw your support.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : That's not in his hands.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : I will come to you.

On 25th June, 1991, the Cauvery Water Tribunal passed an Interim Award to be implemented. Seven long years have passed. The matter went to the constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court of India. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA (Chikbalapur) : I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : This is 'Zero Hour'. I will allow you also.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this cannot be allowed. Tomorrow, this matter is coming before the Supreme Court. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : On 9th April, 1997, the matter came before the constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court and the Attorney-General for India gave a commitment before the Supreme Court that a scheme would be formalised, finalised and placed before the Parliament. Sixteen months have passed. Till this minute, nothing has been done. Therefore, it is an issue on which ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please take your seat for a minute.

Shri Jalappa, what is your point?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, tomorrow, this matter is coming before the Supreme Court. This matter is *sub judice*. This is likely to influence the decision of the Supreme Court. This matter cannot be allowed.... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, tomorrow, it is coming before the Supreme Court. ... (Interruptions)... So, it is *sub judice* now. This should not be allowed to be raised here. ... (Interruptions)... This is life and death question of Karnataka. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : It is not *sub judice*. It is a matter to be discussed here. It is a relevant matter to be raised in Parliament. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : I know, there is a threat given by Ms. Jayalalitha. They are threatening the Government. ... (Interruptions)... This should not be allowed. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please complete.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : This cannot be allowed. It is highly irregular. ... (Interruptions)... They must resign and get out ... (Interruptions) They are threatening the Government for anything and everything. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : The Attorney-General gave the commitment before the hon. Supreme Court of India that the scheme will be formalised and tabled in the Parliament of India. ... (Interruptions) The Government of Karnataka with all illegal and unconstitutional methods. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI R. JALAPPA : Impossible. There was nothing illegal. They want to ruin us. Sir, they are getting maximum water from Karnataka. ... (Interruptions)... They did not even allow us to have it .... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please complete now.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : We cannot tolerate this. They are trying to threaten the Government for anything and everything. ... (Interruptions)... They are blackmailing the Government. ... (Interruptions)... Instead of having such allies, the BJP Government must resign and go for polls once again. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : The Union Government of India should notify the scheme before the Task Force today and it should be tabled. ... (Interruptions)... The Counsel is going to appear before the Supreme Court. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. I will allow you also.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, under the matter of talks and negotiations, Dr. Karunanidhi and Shri Patel made dubious attempts to disturb the Tamils. ... (Interruptions)... I am telling you this ... (Interruptions)... No more talks and negotiations should take place. ... (Interruptions)... Two times, negotiations have taken place. ... (Interruptions)

12.07 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri R.L. Jalappa and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon, Members, this is not good. Please go to your seats.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : In the United Front, Shri Baalu was also the Minister *...(Interruptions)*... I would request the Government to give us justice *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jalappa and other hon. Members, please go to your seats. You can raise your point from your seat itself. It is not good.

12.08 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri R.L. Jalappa and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, we want our rights to be protected. Our basic rights should be protected. We want justice from this Government *...(Interruptions)*... The previous Government of Shri Devegowda and Shri Gujral destroyed the interest of the Tamils. They betrayed the interest of Tamils. The previous Government where Shri Baalu was also a Minister, betrayed the Tamils. *...(Interruptions)*

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

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Therefore, I would emphatically request and urge upon the Government of India to notify the scheme and table the same in the Parliament. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please conclude.

SHRI VAIKO : Today, it should be notified by the Government of India and submitted before the Supreme Court of India. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri T.R. Baalu, your notice is with me. I am going to allow you also to speak later. So, please take your seat now.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an urgent need to notify the scheme already formulated by this Government on Cauvery Water issue *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow Members from Kerala also. Hon. Members, please take your seats.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : There is an urgent need to notify the scheme already formulated by the Government on Cauvery Water issue with a view to effectively implement the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal's interim order. The interim order had been awarded as early as 25.6.1991. After that, it had been notified by the Central Government on 10.12.1991. Even after that notification in the gazette, the then Government not at all tried to implement that award. Afterwards the Karnataka Government had gone to the Tribunal itself and their plea had been dismissed by the Tribunal. After that, the Supreme Court also dismissed the plea of the Karnataka Government in this regard. *...(Interruptions)* Yes, your plea has been dismissed. After that, on the suggestion of the Tribunal and the Supreme Court the then Government had formulated a scheme by name 'Cauvery River Authority Scheme' in April 1997 itself. After that, on 30th September 1997 the matter came up before the Supreme Court, the then Government had gone on a request in the Supreme Court for the adjournment of the case. After that, the then United Front Government in which my friend Shri Baalu and others were Ministers had gone on record by asking postponement of the case. *...(Interruptions)*

12.11 hrs

*(SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, after Shri Muthiah, you are getting the chance Please do not exhaust everything now.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : They have requested the Supreme Court to postpone the case on five occasions. The participants in the United Front Government, that is, the DMK and the TMC have betrayed the people of Tamil Nadu. I have to place it on record in this House. After that it is coming up before the Supreme Court tomorrow. Even on 11th November, 1997 the Attorney-General had asked for only four weeks time. They had said it in December last year also. Even after all these things, the earlier Government as well as the present Government are not at all taking any interest in notifying the scheme already formulated by the Government of India. The Supreme Court cannot be asked now and then to postpone the case as the matter is burning in Tamil Nadu. The people of Tamil Nadu are asking us as to what for 40 Members from the State are there in the Lok Sabha without doing anything to, at least, get the notification of the scheme issued. Already the earlier

Government had betrayed the people of Tamil Nadu. The present Government has to do justice to the State of Tamil Nadu by notifying the scheme today itself. Otherwise tomorrow we cannot say anything. It is a burning issue for the people of Tamil Nadu. I have to warn the Central Government to at least do justice to the State.

Today is the crucial day. Please notify the scheme and place the scheme before the Supreme Court tomorrow and get justice for the State of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the Supreme Court of India has posted a list of issues pertaining to the Cauvery Dispute Tribunal award for tomorrow. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has sent a fax message on 16.7.1998 urging the Government to see that no further adjournment would be asked for from the Supreme Court. I quote only one line from his letter.

"I request you to kindly instruct the Attorney-General to report compliance of its earlier commitment by the Government of India before the Supreme Court of India on 21st July 1998 without seeking further adjournment."

We want to know the exact instruction that has been given to the Attorney-General by the Government of India, pertaining to the case posted for tomorrow. The Government of Tamil Nadu as well as lakhs and lakhs of Tamil people are very much insecure about the attitude of the Central Government. I want to have a categorical reply from this Government as to what instructions have exactly been given to the Attorney-General for tomorrow's case. ...*(Interruptions)* I need a reply from the Government. I want to have a reaction from the Government. The Government's attitude is lukewarm.

The AIADMK and the MDMK are part of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* They are shedding crocodile tears. That is why the Government is not coming forward....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, you have already stated whatever you wanted to state.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : We are walking out in protest of this attitude of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

12.16 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri T.R. Baalu and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : Sir, I will not repeat what Shri Muthiah has said.

I have only a short point. The short point is that there is a Supreme Court order and the Government of Mr. Vajpayee has already taken two adjournments; one on the 30th March and the other in April. Now, the case is coming up tomorrow. So, unless they become thoroughly confused or impotent, they must take a stand here what they are going to do tomorrow. They cannot take an adjournment. This is a very serious matter where the farmers of these States are vitally involved. When there is a Supreme Court order, the Government should have the courage to say that they are going to implement it. Or, if they do not implement it, they should be ready to face the consequences. But they should not shilly-shally and take another adjournment....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, the hon. Member, Dr. Subramanian Swamy has used the word 'impotent', ...*(Interruptions)* It might be normal to them because they have also been impotent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I seek a clarification from Dr. Swamy? What is the exact word that you have used?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mohan Singh, let me understand this.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I have used a parliamentary word to say that they are 'powerless', which means 'impotent'. I did not use it in the 'Viagra' sense!

SHRI RAM NAIK : I just want to draw your attention. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. JALAPPA : Is this the opinion of Dr. Swamy or his leader? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : You may kindly examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me hear the hon. Minister.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The hon. Member, Dr. Swamy did not have the courtesy even to say 'hon. Prime Minister'; he said 'Vajpayee'. So, I feel that the way he has been addressing in the House is not parliamentary enough. I request you to examine what he has said. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Is it his opinion? Is it Dr. Swamy's opinion or his leader's opinion?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, the DMK was part of the Government for the last two years. ...*(Interruptions)* Were they impotent then in the UF Government?

SHRI RAM NAIK : The hon. member himself is...

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : The DMK is the most impotent party in India. They can never protect the Tamils of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura) : Sir, we fully understand the meaning of the word 'impotent' we know it. He has clarified it. 'Impotent' means

*[Translation]*

an eunuch. Eunuch means. ...*(Interruptions)*

Hindi Speaking people know very well that 'impotent' means 'an eunuch'. We are not referring to anyone. You please explain it. ...*(Interruptions)* We know it very well.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : We know, you are not one. You have nine children, we know.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has already explained in what sense he has used that word. If it is unparliamentary, I will expunge it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : If it is the opinion of his leader, why should you remove it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : For that matter, if anybody uses any unparliamentary word, I will expunge it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : The Cauvery issue between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka is not the problem of today or yesterday. It is there for the last 100 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram) : Sir, the State of Kerala is also involved in this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : It is there only since 1974. He is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Muthiah, you were heard patiently. Let the hon. Member make his submission.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : It was not there for the last 100 years. He is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already given the ruling in respect of the word used by Dr. Subramanian Swamy. If it is unparliamentary, we will expunge it.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN : I am saying that they must respond. Otherwise, they have to face the consequences afterwards. ...*(Interruptions)* The consequences will be disastrous. ...*(Interruption)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me hear Shri Jalappa.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : He has distorted the truth. The issue is not there for 100 years ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Vaiko, let me hear Shri Jalappa. It is Zero Hour. You had your say. You cannot deprive him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let me conduct the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram) : Sir, for the Zero Hour. I have given the notice. I got the permission also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sathiamoorthy, I heard everyone of you. The hon. Member is also to be heard. How can you deprive him?

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : We want a response from the Government. We do not want to be interrupted by some other hon. Members...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sathiamoorthy, I am on my legs. Can you please sit? Just now, Dr. Subramanian Swamy, expressed a word about which many hon. Members took objection. I have given my ruling on that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Member say whatever he wants to say. After all he is also the Hon. Member of this House. He too has the right to say whatever he wants to say. You cannot deprive him.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Madurai) : The Government of hon. Vajpayeeji is speaking the Kamataka language. So, why should he speak? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, he is not speaking my language. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not supporting Shri Vajpayee's Government. It is these people who are supporting this Government. If at all he hears, it is their words and not mine. I have already told you that on 25.6.1991 the Cauvery Tribunal took a decision that the

Government of Karnataka must allot 205 TMC of water to Tamil Nadu. That is one part. Second part is regarding the schedule, that is the Government of Karnataka must release this much water in the first week, this much water in the second week, this much water in June and this much water in July. So, the tribunal wants that the Government of Karnataka should act as reservoir to feed water to Tamil Nadu at the cost of our farmers.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let him be heard.

...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : What is the attitude of the Government? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a very serious and an emotional matter. Shri Vaiko and others, you are all leaders of parties and you all will have to behave like leaders here. You are representing your State and he is representing his State. After all, this is the supreme law making body of the country; let him also say whatever he wants to say.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him speak; you may kindly take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, they have no respect for the rules and regulations of the Award. They are not abiding by the verdict of the Tribunal. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, he is imputing motives to the Award itself and it should be expunged.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, you had your say and everybody heard it. Let him also be allowed to be heard. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : He is imputing motives to the Award itself and it is not correct.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him say whatever he wants to say.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : I want to know your ruling. He is going into the conduct of the Tribunal's Award.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : He is speaking against the judiciary.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him say whatever he wants to say.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, without allowing him to say what he wants to say, how can you come to the conclusion?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, his observation was on the matter of conduct of the Tribunal itself.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever it may be, he can say that and you cannot object that. It is not that at your mercy, he has to speak. Please do not do that. Let him have his say.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, he cannot discuss it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is good on your part to deprive him of the opportunity to speak. This is not good. Please do not interrupt him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, we cannot compromise on our birthright... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, you had your say. The hon. Members from Karnataka also have to say something about it. Please do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. Please do not interrupt. This is not the way. Do not interrupt him like this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : If he talks something against the Tribunal, then I will definitely interrupt him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, suppose he speaks strictly on the lines, I will allow him; if there is any unparliamentary words or some objectionable part which he expresses, then I will not allow.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I respect the Chair; but he should not speak anything about the Tribunal.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, this is not the way.

Shri Muthiah, I have given the floor to Shri Jalappa. Please do not compel me to name you. You are a leader of a political party of this House. I have given the floor to Shri Jalappa. Let him be heard.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : But he should not speak anything about the Tribunal or the judiciary. He himself said that it is *sub judice*, then, how can he speak about it?  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If there is anything objectionable, I will see. I am here to conduct the House and not you. Please do not do that.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I respect the Chair and obey by whatever it says. But he should not mislead the House.  
...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, I am on a point of order....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has raised a point of order.

...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, it will apply to parliamentary procedure at any point of time.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to yield to a point of order. Shri Swamy, under what rule are you raising your point of order?

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I am quoting Rule 41.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please read out.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : It is at sub-rule (xiii) in page 20. The issue is this. He can ask as to what the Government's stand is. He cannot comment on what the Supreme Court has said. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a point of order raised by him.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, they do not understand what is a point of order. They understand only disorder. They are in disorder. The whole Government is in disorder. He has the right to ask a question to the Government but he cannot comment on the order of the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Sir, there is no point of order in 'Zero Hour' ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : You are reading only RSS constitution. There are no rules in RSS. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I give the ruling? I have gone through page 20.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me give the ruling. He has raised a point of order

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : There is no point of order in what he has said.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since I have allowed him to raise a point of order, I am giving the ruling.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : During 'Zero Hour' it has been the convention of the House that no point of order as allowed. Dr. Swamy knows it very well. He is interested not in getting the Cauvery water. He is interested only in technicalities.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, he is a new Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No he is not a new Member.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I am as old as you are. You are interested only in technicalities. Sir, he is not interested in getting water.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhanajaya Kumar, I ask you to resume your seat now. Let me deal with him.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, they have already presented their case. Now, we must be heard. Before pronouncing your ruling, we also must be heard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly resume your seat. I will call you. After Shri Jalappa speaks, you are going to be called.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Jalappa has not referred anything about the Tribunal and therefore, the question of the point of order does not arise.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : He has commented about the Tribunal. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : He has referred to the orders of the Tribunal and the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : The Government of Karnataka has no respect for law. The Supreme Court itself has said it about the Karnataka Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : As far as I understand, I heard him. I was also hearing him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear me. He was only narrating the history and not the findings. Whatever has gone on record can be referred. Let me tell you and we all know that any case pending before any court or tribunal amounts to *sub judice* and that will not be referred to here. Everybody knows it. He is a senior Member. As far as I could follow, I did not hear any such thing. Therefore, Shri Jalappa, having taken note of it, may please make his submission and conclude.

SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : We are pleading here the same that we are pleading before the Supreme Court. He was just referring to the history of the case ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : My point of order is that this discussion is going on in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. In my opinion with regard to the Cauvery issue this Government is. ...*(Interruptions)* At least listen to me. My point of order is that. ...*(Interruptions)* Be patient Mr. Jalappa, have patience. If it is not settled then withdraw your support from the Government. We all will arrange for a 'Panchayat'.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : What do you know about 'Cauvery dispute'?

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, please sit down. Now, Shri Jalappa will speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIJAYA SHANKAR : I asked you to give me an opportunity to speak, but you didn't. Don't I have a right to speak? Please allow me too to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You'll also get a chance.

*[English]*

Please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am standing on my legs. Now, let us hear Shri Jalappa.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : He cannot criticise the Supreme Court.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, he will not do so.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are neighbourly States. We have hitherto been living as brothers. Only in 1991, when this decision came, there was a turmoil. Properties worth crores of rupees were destroyed. A lot of lives were lost. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Our people were killed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, I am asking you to keep quite. You cannot conduct the House like this.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I respect you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him complete it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no; I will not allow you to speak like this.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Keeping all things in view, we wanted to see that this matter was settled amicably. When Shri S.R. Bommai was in power, there was an understanding between Shri K. Karunanidhi and Shri Bommai that they need not go before any court or tribunal. They would settle it among themselves. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him say.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no, Shri Sathiamoorthy.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : These two parties, that is, the DMK and the AIMK, Just to settle the accounts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want the Government of India to do?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please resume your seat.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : In 1991-92, we—to the people of Tamil Nadu—have released 332 TMC.

.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, let him complete.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : In 1992-93, we have released 367 TMC.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is nothing objectionable in that. Please let him complete.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : In 1993-94, we have released 223 TMC. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the figure given by

\*Not recorded.

their own Government, that is, the Government of Tamil Nadu. These are not my figures. ...*(Interruptions)* In 1995-96, we could not release more water. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want the Government of India to do?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is 'Zero Hour'

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : I am requesting the Government to convene a meeting of four Chief Minister and decide it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shri Dhanajaya Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, secondly, I would like to bring to the kind notice of this august House that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, we do not want ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, he is ...\*

supporting the BJP ...*(Interruptions)* He wants to score political mileage. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko and Shri Baalu, I am on my legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please resume your seats?

...*(Interruptions)*

\*Expunged as Ordered by the Chair.



SHRI VAIKO : Sir, these people have compromised. ...*(Interruptions)* we will never compromise...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA (Chikbalapur) : Sir, I have already requested the Government to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers and decide that matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jalappa, please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Yes, Sir. Day in and day out they have been threatening that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, it is not a part of it.

Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, we want justice which has been denied to us for all these years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, I have called the name of Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let me give the floor to Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, We want justice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya is from Karnataka, let me hear him please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the Members from Kerala should also be heard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you will be given a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, this Government has gone to dogs *(Interruptions)* Let them dissolve the House and go in for elections *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, Kerala is also entitled to the share of the Cavery water ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Thomas, I have already said that you will be given a chance. Now let me hear the Member from Karnataka.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : We are not interested in polluting the Cauvery with politics ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Nobody is playing politics ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : You people wanted to fish in troubled waters ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : How can you say that? ...*(Interruptions)* This is our right. ...*(Interruptions)* We are not here to play politics ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : You cannot have monopoly over the Cauvery waters ...*(Interruptions)* We equally are involved in it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It seems nobody is allowed to talk here.

Shri Mullapally, would you please resume your seat?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, we are not emotional ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everyone of you is emotional. I find no exception.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : It is the right of our State. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. You all are emotional.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muttaiah, please take your seat. I am on my legs.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, we are not against it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, please take your seat for a minute.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I will be very brief ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : After all, it is a serious and emotional matter. Kindly restrain yourself

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, it will decide the future destiny of Tamil Nadu ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I ask my friend, Shri Vaiko to please sit down? It is an emotional issue for both the States and for other States as well. You have said whatever you wanted to.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, we are the affected people. ...(Interruptions) We are the people who have been denied justice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way you should behave. Do you want the House to be run properly or not?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I have called the name of Shri Dhananjaya Kumar:

Shri Kumar, please avoid all controversial matters.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I will be brief. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (Madhubani) : What about our notice ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How will you get the chance? Even one topic has not yet been finished.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset let me assure Shri Vaiko, Dr. Swamy, Shri Muthaiah and other friends from Tamil Nadu that we are for a moment not against the rights to Tamil Nadu. Let them be rest assured. We will never deny them their due share. When I say 'we', I mean the Government of Karnataka. I am giving them an assurance. Let them not interfere like this. ...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Are you speaking on behalf of the BJP?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Yes, the BJP is also committed to protect their right. The people of Tamil Nadu will get their due share. We do not deny that. We are on a very specific point today. There has been an age-old dispute between the two States on the sharing of cauvery water. ...(Interruptions) I am helping you. Why are you interfering like this? The tribunal has passed an interim award wherein they have said that every year Karnataka should ensure releasing about 205 TMC of water to Tamil Nadu. There is no dispute about that. ...(Interruptions) Why are you interfering? History says, right from the day of the interim award of the tribunal, that is from 1991-92 to 1997-98, every year Karnataka has ensured that more than 205 TMC of water is released. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : I it is the distortion of facts. He is misleading the House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : These are facts. They cannot dispute it. They are on technicalities. They are only interested in dispute. They are not interested in getting water. This is the difficulty with these people. They are not interested in getting the water released. I am very sorry to say this. ...(Interruptions) Shri Vaiko must understand, the Parliamentary etiquettes require that when a Member has presented his case, he should hear others also ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthaiah, will you resume your seas?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : We have heard them and the Parliamentary etiquettes require that they must allow others also to have their say ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not necessary that you should get up after every second. Let others also say something.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, they should hear me patiently. They cannot interfere like this. You must come to my rescue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, you please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : He is misleading the House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you must protect me. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not allowing me to conduct the House. Every second you stand up and start saying something or the other. That is my difficulty. How can I conduct the House? I think nobody can conduct the House like this.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : You can allow a special discussion on this. There are other Members also who wish to raise certain important points. If all of them agree, you can allow a special discussion on this.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, facts are facts, because of what Shri Vaiko, Shri Muthaiah or Dr. Swamy are saying, the day will not become the night or the night will not become the day. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do not want the Government of India to do?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I am coming to that. No amount of shouting will help them. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR CHAIRMAN : I am asking Shri Dhananjaya Kumar and not you. You have already stated what you wanted to.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may come to the point. What do you want the Government of India to do?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : What they want is, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should tell, what do you want and not what they want.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, unless I say what do they want, I cannot say what I want. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Shri Baalu, you have \*\* the people of Tamil Nadu when you were in power. I have never cheated the people of Tamil Nadu. Today, you have no moral right to speak for the people of Tamil Nadu ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I would like the Government of India to prepare a scheme for implementation of the interim award of the tribunal. My point is, all along Karnataka has been faithfully abiding by the interim award of the tribunal.

The fact remains that the scheme is not prepared. Nothing is going to happen within 24 hours. ...*(Interruptions)*

\* Not recorded

SHRI VAIKO : Sixteen months have already passed. There cannot be any further delay. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Shri Vaiko, Dr. Swami and Shri Muthaiah, all of them are party of the National Agenda for Governance prepared by this Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Shame! Shame!

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Why do you Shout now?

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, It was Dr. Karunanidhi, Shri Baalu and his party who had\*\* the State of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, the whole House and the nation know that the National Agenda for Governance clearly says that this Government is going to pronounce national water policy. Our only plea is that the river water policy be announced first. Then only this award can be implemented. The whole issue can be settled then.

SHRI VAIKO : This is a delaying tactic again to betray us.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, Shri Vaiko Knows very well that heavens are not going to fall within a day.

SHRI VAIKO : The Government should notify it today.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, their demand is there and our demand is also there. Ultimately the matter will have to be resolved amicably. We request the prime Minister to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of all these States. Let there be a meeting convened of the Chief Ministers by the hon. Prime Minister and let the matter be amicably settled.

SHRI VAIKO : I warn the Government not to commit a grave mistake by notifying the award today itself.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Cauvery water dispute is a very sensitive issue. It is my request to the Government that this matter must be viewed with the amount of seriousness it deserves. As you are perhaps aware, river Cauvery flows through Mananthavady of North Vyanad which is in my constituency. So, this is not an issue between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu alone. It is an issue pertaining to all the four southern States of the country. So, it is in the fitness of things that Kerala is involved in any discussion on the dispute. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : You can also go to the tribunal. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. What is objectionable in it?

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not disturb him.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not approve of it. You kindly sit down. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way to react. What is wrong in his speech? For everything or anybody, you stand up. I will allow nothing of that sort. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a limit. You are one of the Members of Panel of Chairmen. You have to behave properly. I am sorry to state that. Will you please resume your seat? I am on my legs. What is objectionable in his speech?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way to behave in this House. I am sorry to state that. You should not behave like this. What is objectionable in this speech?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said is, not only these two States, but all the four States are interested. Is anything wrong in that? That is not the way to behave.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Not now. Let him finish.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is applicable to you also.

Shri Mullapally Ramachandran.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while deciding the issue, it is my humble request that the State or Kerala is to be involved in the discussion. Time and again, the State of Kerala has represented this matter before this Government. Unfortunately, nothing has been done and it is sleeping

over these representations. It is in the fitness of things that the State of Kerala is to be involved in all the discussions regarding Cauvery water dispute. Otherwise, it is going to be more serious, more intricate and it cannot be resolved amicably. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mallikarjuniah.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : There will not be any discussion. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no need for any discussion.

SHRI VAJAYASHANKAR (Mysore) : I would like to say only this much. ...*(Interruptions)* I am coming from Mysore constituency. The entire issue lies in my constituency. Under any circumstances, this Tribunal cannot solve this problem\* I have got every right to say. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not do that. It is a matter of judiciary. That will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : What you want the Government of India to do now?

SHRI VIJAYASHANKAR : I straight away come to the point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I ordered for its expunction.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. VIJAYABHASKARA REDDY (Kurnool) : Somebody must answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister will be there to react.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYASHANKAR : Fortunately we have received good rains ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want the Government of India to do?

SHRI VIJAYASHANKAR : This issue is going to be politicized. What I would like to say is, the National Water Policy should be formulated immediately, through which this problem should be solved. There is no other go and it should be done immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : It should be notified today itself. ...*(Interruptions)*

\* Not recorded

\* Not recorded

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I could tell about stand of Government, our hon'ble Mulayam Singh ji and Baalu ji said that shame on ADMK. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I did not utter such words. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Yes, you didn't.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : But, you have just now mentioned my name. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I was speaking about Baalu ji ...*(Interruptions)* About you I would like to say that ...*(Interruptions)* I have read a story 'The grapes are sour' ...*(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : He should not tell us any stories in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, allow me to conduct the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : As far as this is not unparliamentary, I can allow it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Baaluji must have the patience to listen ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I am on a Point of Order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : He should not tell any stories during Zero Hour....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no Point of Order.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I would like to speak about Shri Mulayam Singh. He has said, withdraw the support today. I would like to comment on it that the story of a fox and grapes befits him well. I would like to tell Baalu ji. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BALLU : They are going to withdraw support today.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Khurana ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Khurana.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : This matter is going on for the last seven years and in April 1997 Attorney General had given a written understanding to the Supreme Court that we would bring some positive proposal. ...*(Interruptions)* Baaluji, you were a Minister in the previous Government, Mulayam Singh ji, you too were the Minister in the previous Government ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What is the reaction of the Government?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please take your seat. The hon. Minister is on his legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Your Government was in power for eleven months, even after the written undertaking to the Supreme Court you did nothing. ...*(Interruptions)* and you call shame on us ...*(Interruptions)* virtually you did nothing even after submitting the written undertaking ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What is the reaction of the Government? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

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\*Not recorded

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, will you please let him say?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us hear, Shri Khurana, first !

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I would like to tell Baalu ji that calling shame on us will not serve any purpose. This matter is very sensitive ... (Interruptions) This matter of Cauvery River water dispute is pending in Supreme Court and the concerned states are unable to arrive at a consensus. This is a highly sensitive matter. Right now, any comment on it can influence the proceedings of the Supreme Court. That is why no definite assurance can be given at this stage . I will convey the feelings of the House to the Prime Minister. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, we are not satisfied with the reply of the Minister. In protest, we are walking out.

13.04 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri T.R. Baalu and some other hon. Members left the House.)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, this is our consistent demand. We will not compromise on this ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is over now. We have spent 45 minutes on this.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, from the last 15 days the teachers of the Primary and Secondary Schools in Uttar Pradesh are on strike ... (Interruptions) At present all the Primary and Secondary Education institutions are closed there ... (Interruptions) The teachers of these primary and Secondary Schools of Uttar Pradesh are on strike for the last 15 days. Primary and Secondary Educational Institutions of the state are closed, at present. The parents of children all over the state are worried about the admission of their wards. In the revised pay scales the administration has withdrawn all the basic facilities provided earlier to the teachers whereas other employees are provided all these facilities. I condemn this partial behaviour towards the teachers of the Uttar Pradesh and I demand immediate restoration of the earlier basic facilities of the Primary and Secondary teachers so that the strike be put to an end and the teaching work could be resumed soon in the schools. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : The DMK people did not walk out because the Press is watching them! They never walked out. They are simply sitting here. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

Mr. CHAIRMAN : You had the whole 45 minutes. You have almost taken 50 minutes. Others have also important matters. Shri Muthiah, please cooperate with me. You have taken 50 minutes. There are other matters pending before me. Let me call some of them also. Otherwise, I will be doing injustice to them. Let there be order in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Primary and Secondary teachers of Uttar Pradesh are on strike for the last 15 days, all the educational institution of the state are closed; Parents are worried about the admissions of their wards. All teachers are on strike because the Government has withdrawn the basic facilities in the new pay scales, earlier enjoyed by the teachers.

I demand that the facilities similar to other staff, previously enjoyed by the teachers be restored and the teaching work be started immediately, by calling off the strike

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chaubey, why are you interrupting? Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is going on here?

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not being able to conclude. I may be allowed to speak.

The strike should be immediately called of because the future of children is in peril. I conclude my speech with these words.

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Sir, I want to bring a very serious matter to your notice.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shastri, Kindly resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Shastri, what are you doing? Speak only when I call you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What are you doing, what is going on here?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to put forward my views. A calling attention motion was moved in this House in which the Government had assured that the wheat import scandal will be investigated by CBI. It was a scandal of Rs. one thousand crores, it involved a kickback of more than Rs. 100 crores but the CBI has not initiated that inquiry so far. Yesterday also, I had a talk with the CBI officers and they told me that the Government is reconsidering the matter, but no such order has been given to the CBI to reinvestigate the wheat import scandal ...(Interruptions) The Hon'ble Minister of the Union Government is present here, he should give clarification as to why the investigation of such a big scandal has not been handed over to the CBI? Why are you delaying it, why are you trying to save those involved in committing excesses on the farmers, why the case has not yet been handed over to the CBI? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the assurance has been given in the House on the directions of the Prime Minister.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : But that is not being fulfilled.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him speak, what is this?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : This is the scandal of the previous Government, that is why we don't want to cover it up and moreover ...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI : There is something fishy. You are trying to cover it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ajit Jogi, let the Minister say. You please allow him to say.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I told you that an assurance was given in this House itself about the CBI investigation regarding the quantity and number of times the wheat was imported during the last three years.

There is no question of withdrawing now. If the Hon'ble members would like to know the stage at which this case is, I will find out and let him know.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Facts are being concealed ...(Interruptions) according to our information, nothing is being done. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Your information is always incomplete.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Jogi ji, he is saying, that he would give you information, please take your seat.

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (Bahraich) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me permission to raise this matter which is of extreme public and constitutional importance.

Yesterday all the newspapers have carried a news item and it has also been on major TV channels where the Union Urban Affairs and Employment Minister, Shri Ram Jethmalani has made very critical remarks about the hon. Chief Justice of India. The Minister is reported to have said that some of the nominees of the Chief Justice, Justice M.M. Punchhi are not the best persons for the job. He further said that, "I do not want to get into the names nor do I wish to tell you what the allegations are but certainly there is a good bit to be said that they are not the best persons who are being selected." They are selected by the Chief Justice of India and he further alleged that..."

These allegations amount to vilifying the Judges, scandalising Judges, bringing down the courts in the esteem of the people, I can understand, that the problem with the Ministers of this Government is that they do not have much experience of being not in the Opposition. The Constitution places restrictions even on this hon. House. This august House cannot discuss the conduct of Judges either of the Supreme Court or of the High Court except upon a substantive motion...(Interruptions)

Yes, that is what substantive motion means. The Constitution places a bar on this august House, on Parliament, and does not allow any discussion about the conduct of the Judges and a Minister of the Union Government goes public, makes remarks which are not only critical but that he says in very important. He says that..."

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

This is a reflection; he is not only making remarks about the conduct of the Chief Justice of India. He is also making a reflection on the character and integrity of the hon. Chief Justice of India. It is a well settled law-it is extremely important, I thank you for permitting me, I will take another two minutes—of the land that the remarks of this nature are not only directed against the Judge but are directed against the public because they result in the erosion of the confidence of the people in courts and any attempt which results in the erosion of the confidence of the people either in the judges or the erosion of the court is a negation of not only democracy but a negation of the constitutional existence and rule of law.

The gravity of the Constitution can be realised from the fact that the Prime Minister's office has been constrained to issue a statement yesterday in which they have distanced themselves from the statement which has been made by the hon. Minister. But very cleverly the Prime Minister's Office has said that the remarks which have been made by Shri Ram Jethmalani about the powers of Chief Justice regarding the appointment of Judges may be different and said that the Government did not question the right of the Supreme Court. It is not a question of changing the powers or rights of the Supreme Court. What I am taking objection to and what I feel this hon. House must take objection to are the reflections which have been caused on the integrity and character of the judge when an hon. Minister of the Union Government says that... He has not merely questioned the powers and right of the Chief Justice. What he has done is he has tried to undermine the independence of the Judiciary. He is trying to bend the judiciary to the tune of the Executive. The Executive is showing intolerance for the freedom of the judiciary. I consider this as extremely important. The House must taken note of it. I am saying this with all seriousness that unfair accusations against constitutional authorities, not traditionally free to retort, should not be and cannot be glossed over by this hon. House. The Chief Justice of India is not supposed to report to the statements which are made by the Union Minister.

Sir, I thank you for permitting me to raise this issue. I take this opportunity to use the strongest possible sentiments to condemn these statements which are aimed at undermining the independence of the

judiciary and the freedom of the judiciary? Unfortunately, the Union Minister, who is a legal luminary, was involved in that controversy which was started on the eve of the appointment of Justice Punchhi as Chief Justice of India. Now, he has become a Union Minister and is trying to misuse his position to settle old scores. I have already said that the problem with him is that he does not have much experience of not being in opposition. ... (Interruptions) I am saying that he does not have much experience of being in the Government. This is what I am saying.

Sir, at least this branch of the Executive must not be allowed to undermine the freedom of the judiciary.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : Sir, I fully subscribe to the issue raised by the hon. Member. This has another dimension also. I have also given a notice on this issue. This issue has brought the highest judiciary of the country to disrepute by the irresponsible statement of the hon. Minister.

A number of vacancies are pending for the last so many months in the highest judiciary of the country. According to the existing norms, which is the law of the land, it is incumbent on the part of the Government to accept the recommendation of the Chief Justice. But the recommendation of the Chief Justice is being returned. I am not saying that the Executive should not have their say in this matter.

The hon. minister of Home Affairs had said that there should be judicial reforms. Shri Ram Jethmalani has come out with an irresponsible statement, which is almost amounting to denigrating the judiciary. If that is the stand of the Government, let them come before the House and suggest their *modus operandi* for selection of the judges. But, today, what is happening that a panel is being forwarded by the Chief Justice of India.

A question was asked in Parliament whether there is any file pending before the Government. The answer was given by the Minister of Law in Parliament that no file is pending with the Government. But the fact remains that on the 7th, 8th and 9th, after this question was raised in the House, the file was sent back with a noting which shows total lack of confidence in the highest judiciary of the country. Some names were proposed of the depressed classes, Other backward Classes and Scheduled Castes



and Scheduled Tribes. I do not want to go into the names. The attitude of this Government, the Ministry of Law and the hon. Minister, making a statement, is contemptuous to the backward classes.

Some of the outstanding names which are being recommended have been sent back with silly reasons and are totally unconvincing. Sir, their problem is, as said by the hon. Minister, that at the time of appointment of the Chief Justice also, these people were raising the same issue. Now they are misusing their position in the Government. As Ministers of the Government of India, they are misusing their position and they are taking up a fight with the Judiciary, which is denigrating the position of the Judiciary in the country. They should come out with a concrete suggestion. I want your direction in the matter, Sir. You have to direct this Government to tell this House what action they are going to take for filling up the vacancies in the highest judiciary. They have not taken any decision in the matter. Not only in this judiciary, in the Allahabad High Court and also in various other High Courts in the country, a number of posts are lying vacant for the last many months, but none of the recommendations proposed by the Chief Justice of India is being accepted by this Government. This is a contempt of the system which we have accepted. So, you may kindly direct the Government to make their stand very clear in this House and also the disrepute which is brought to the highest judiciary in the country should be rectified. This cannot be allowed, Sir. So, I request you to direct the Government to make a statement in this House on this matter.

MR CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, please allow me for a minute to speak on this ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : On this, many names are there and if everybody is to comment on this, other issues which we have listed will have to forego.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I will take only one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No one minute, Shri Acharia. If I may tell you, there are a lot of Members here who want

to speak on this point. It is difficult to accommodate everybody.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, we condemn the irresponsible statement made by the Minister of Urban Affairs in regard to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Acharia, there are some more names to be called before we adjourn. At 1.30 PM we are going to adjourn the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir how can a Minister, a member of the Cabinet, make such a statement in regard to the appointment of Judges? This is most unconstitutional and is denigrating the independence of the Judiciary. There is a demand for a Judicial Commission which will look after the appointment of Judges. Why can the Government not bring a Bill for a Judicial Commission so that Judges can be appointed by that Commission and the vacancies can be filled up?

SHRI GEORGE EDEN (Ernakulam) : Sir, I am new Member from Kerala State. I have not been given a chance to speak up to this time. Three times I have given notice but, unfortunately, I did not get a chance before this. I thank you for giving me a chance this time.

I am raising a very important matter regarding the State of Kerala and the Cochin Port. Cochin Port is a natural port with all modern facilities. It is very near to the international shipping channel. This Cochin Port has been recommended as the suitable port to set up the proposed Container Terminal at Vallarpadam near Cochin. But I am sorry to say that some vested interests are trying to take away this Vallarpadam Container Terminal to Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu. It is very unfortunate. Mr. Frederick Harris, who is a Dutch expert, has made a thorough study in this matter and has recommended the Cochin Port as the most suitable port for this Container Terminal. So, I request the hon. Minister to intervene in this matter and to set up this Container Terminal at Vallarpadam itself.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, My area has been flooded due to heavy

rains. Rain water from Himachal and Jammu Kashmir has inundated Patiala, Sangrur and Mansa districts of Punjab and have destroyed the crops, the houses and a number of animals have been perished. I would request the Government to construct a dam in these hilly areas to control flow of rain water. If dams are constructed on Ghagar, Tagri and Markand rivers, this will not only control the floods but the water can be utilized for irrigation purpose also.

My second submission is that the Government should compensate for the damages done due to heavy flood.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Khurana ji had said that he will give a statements on the flood ...*(Interruptions)* There should be a debate on this issue. This is Monsoon session and in every session a discussion on the floods. ...*(Interruption)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mohan Singh ji, I had asked him to speak he has not yet concluded, why are you interrupting.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Sir, he has concluded his speech.

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA (Churu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was speaking on Confidence Motion, he had declared to give special assistance to the farmers, he spoke about the upliftment of the farmers. But I am sorry to say that whenever the farmers needed the Government's help, the Government just failed to do so. I have raised a number of issues relating to the farmers in this House. Today, the farmers are not getting seeds.

Farmers in Rajasthan are passing through very hard times. These days an insect named 'Katra' is breeding very fast in Rajasthan. They are very much worried about their means of livelihood as their crop is on the verge of destruction. The farmers of Rajasthan cultivate particularly pulses (Gwar, Month, Moong) and oilseeds which are consumed in various parts of country. But today when the farmers are asking for the Governments help to eliminate 'katra' insect, Government is not coming forward to help them. The Government of Rajasthan has often been making this statement that if the Centre and the state is ruled by the same party, the State and the nation prospers. Presently Rajasthan and Centre is being ruled by the same party. Through you, I urge upon the Government to send a team immediately to Rajasthan to look into this problem. Effective steps should be taken to

eliminate this 'Katra' insect. This matter cannot be delayed because if delayed even for a week the entire crop of farmers of Rajasthan will be destroyed. Government should provide financial assistance to the farmers and take immediate effective measures to kill the insect so as to save crops from being damaged. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is something very serious ...*(Interruptions)* Today the poor people and farmers of Rajasthan are unable to raise their voice ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Hon'ble Minister will respond to the statement made by Shri Ram Jethmalani.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Arif Saheb has read only half part of the Government statement. about the Governments stand, it has been said in the clarification that those were the personal views of Shri Ram Jethmalani.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : How can it be possible? Can any Minister give such a statement ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You are a well educated person and an old friend of mine. You please listen to me first and then react ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Can you cast aspersions on judiciary like this ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please first listen to the reply of the Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Let it be decided first as to whether it was a statement by the Minister or that were his personal views. ...*(Interruptions)* It should also be decided whether the statement given by the hon. Minister was an official statement. ...*(Interruptions)* Any Statement made by the Minister either in the House or out side the House or in some seminar, it is considered as an official statement.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Shri Mulayam Singh ji has expressed his view at three places. He said that no reservation will be given. ...*(Interruptions)* We do not have faith in the Judges. We will not get justice. Both the matters are related. It is not fair on the part of Mulayam, Singh ji to cast aspersion on the judiciary. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Shri Mulayam ji is not a Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the reaction of the Minister.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I was saying that only yesterday itself an explanation came from the Government that that was not the statement of the Government but I'll convey the feelings of the Members to Mr. Jethmalani. I'll request him to come to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Please listen to me. I am saying that he'll give his statement in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is not fair.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Sir, when any matter is raised, he says he'll convey.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I mean to say that he will come to the House and explain, he will remove your misunderstanding. ...*(Interruptions)*

13.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.42 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at forty-two minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*)

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as regards the point raised during the Zero hour that Jethmalani ji should make a statement, I at that time only had assured the House that I will convey the feelings of the hon. Members to Jethmalani ji and he will make the statement. Jethmalani ji is present in the House now. If the hon. Members want him to make a statement right now he can do so or else the statement can be made after the Matters under rule 377 are taken up, Jethmalani ji is sitting here, choice is yours.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister can make the statement after taking up the Matters under Rule 377.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I have an issue which I wanted to raise during the Zero Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can raise it tomorrow during the Zero Hour. Today, the Zero Hour is over. Now, we are taking up the Matters under Rule 377.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, if I am permitted, I will raise it as a Matter under Rule 377.

MR. CHAIRMAN : A notice pertaining to the Zero Hour cannot be transferred and taken up under Rule 377. You can raise it tomorrow. You can meet the hon. Speaker and say that you did not get a chance today

14.44 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

#### (i) Need to set up Telephone Exchanges in Muzaffarpur and Vaishali Districts, Bihar

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the telephone subscribers of Sahibganj, Deoria and Lalganj of district Muzaffarpur and Vaishali in Bihar have to wait for hours together to get their call through. Though ten local residents each of Paru, Marwan, Bakhda, Bada, Daud and Samraspur areas have applied for telephone connections, yet undue delay is being caused in setting up telephone exchanges in these areas.

I, therefore, request that telephone exchanges at Sahibganj, Deoria and Lalganj should be set up at the earliest so that telephone connections could be given to the applicants of these two districts as early as possible and the areas where ten applicants have asked for telephone connections are benefited and residents are provided with this facility of talking to each other on telephone.

#### (ii) Need to write off the loans of weavers in Gaya District of Bihar

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY (Gaya) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the kind attention of the Prime Minister towards waiving off the loans of weavers of Bihar.

The Government of India had launched a scheme in 1990 whereby the loans of the weavers and other artisans were waived off. Under this scheme loans upto Rs. 10,000 of weavers in various districts of Bihar have already been waived off. The Secretary, Department of Cooperatives, Patna, Bihar, had also made an announcement that the weavers and artisans who have suffered loss of assets

due to any reasons would also be given relief from the debt. But it is a matter of regret that Manpur under district Gaya in Bihar has not been given such relief. Thousands of weavers are self employed in the cottage industry and are also providing employment to the people of backward and poor class. Step-motherly treatment has been meted out to some of the weavers in this area and they have been deprived of the benefits of this scheme. The concerned Bank is Magadh Central Cooperative Bank.

In this regard, a decision to provide a list of persons where loan was to be waived off was taken at a meeting of the representatives of the Magadh Central Cooperative Bank, Gaya and the representatives of the weavers. As per the decision the weaver societies submitted the aforesaid list within specified time. But the Bank which was to write off the loans, on the contrary issued notices to the weavers for repayment of loan.

I would like to urge upon the Prime Minister to waive off the loans of these economically weaker weavers and provide employment to them. It is also requested that the steps to remove the bottlenecks in procuring the yarn should also be taken.

**(iii) Need to preserve forests in the country especially in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI GAURI SHANKAR CHATURBHUI BISEN (Balaghat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to indiscriminate felling of trees, to meet the demand of fire wood and timber the state of Madhya Pradesh is falling in the front line among the States where forests are shrinking day by day. As per the latest report of Forest Survey of India about 5500 sq. kms. of forest area of the country have been denuded in the past two years out of which 396 sq. kms fall in M.P. alone which is quite distressing to note. The forests have been denuded on a massive scale in the States where tribals are in predominance. Crores of Rupees are being spent in the States on afforestation, reclamation of the forests etc. but the gain is negligible. Exploitation of mineral resources on a large scale is responsible for the present situation of the forests. It is playing a major role in causing pollution in forest area and destroying the natural resources. If forests are not preserved the situation will assume alarming proportions.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to preserve the forests and protect the environment.

14.49 hrs

(SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair.*)

**(iv) Need to take steps for early inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi tribal community of Assam in Scheduled Tribes list.**

[*English*]

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANSHI (Mangaldai) : The people of Koch Rajbongshi Tribal Community of Assam are poorest amongst the poor economically, intellectually backward, ethnically and historically the oldest sons of the soil. With the great demand from the people since 1967, the Koch Rajbongshi Community of Assam was enlisted as ST(P) *vide* Ordinance No. 9, 1996 dated 27 January, was repromulgated *vide* Ordinance No. 19, 1996 and Ordinance No. 30, 1996 and Ordinance No. 3 of 1997. In spite of continuous repromulgation of the said ordinance for the forth time, it was not enacted in time leading to its lapses. As a result, those candidates of the Koch Rajbongshi who appeared in the A.P.S.C. entrance examinations for Medical/Engineering and other jobs of the Government of Assam as ST(P), were suddenly deprived even after their selections as ST(P) candidates as the concerned authorities denied the admissions/appointments due to expiry of tenure of the Ordinance under the provisions of the Constitution. The last Ordinance No. 3, 1997 was lapsed. This way, a great injustice has been done to the Koch Rajbongshi Community of Assam by denying the fundamental rights under the Constitution of India as the issue under reference is still hanging.

It is observed that all the Ordinances pertaining to the inclusion of the communities as SC/ST in the past were replaced by the Bills within a maximum period of six months after the promulgation of the Ordinance. But in the case of Koch Rajbongshi community of Assam, even after lapse of two years, the promulgation of the 1st Ordinance No. 9, 1996 dated 27 January, 1996 is yet to be replaced by a Bill. The Parliamentary Select Committee has submitted its report in the month of April, 1997 recommending for the inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi Community as ST(P). The Government of Assam had also submitted their opinion on the report the Parliamentary Select Committee recommending for the inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi Community as ST(P) *vide* their letter No. TAD/ST/92/PT.V/266 dated 12 November, 1997. In the event of the Bill could not be reintroduced in the current session of the Parliament and to remove the constitutional crisis, the Ordinance which has been promulgated four times may kindly be repromulgated to meet the immediate end. The Koch Rajbongshi Community is now hanging between the ST(P) and OBC. Hence, I appeal to the Government to initiate the matter immediately to instil the confidence in the people of the most backward tribal community of Assam. The Koch Rajbongshi of West Bengal, Tripura and Meghalaya had already been unscheduled but not in the case of Koch Rajbongshi of Assam.

**(v) Need to enhance quota of Foodgrains to Maharashtra State***[Translation]*

SHRI VITHAL TUPE (Pune) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, prior to introduction of target oriented Public Distribution System the Government of Maharashtra used to get about 1.50 lakh mt. tonnes of foodgrains per month under Public Distribution System but as soon as the new system was introduced the above monthly quota of 1.50 lakh mt. Tonnes was reduced to 1.25 lakh mt. tonnes out of which 60,000 mt. tonnes of foodgrains were meant only for people living below the poverty line. The Central Government fixed the quota of the State Government equal to the average of the total foodgrains lifted under Public Distribution System during the last ten years. As it is known to all there had been a marginal difference between the prevailing prices of foodgrains supplied through the public distribution system and the prices of open market for the last several years hence the State Government did not lift foodgrains in larger quantity under the public distribution system. But the Central Government have made it the criterion of allotment which does not fulfil the requirements of the people.

Sir, on repeated requests, of State Government, the Central Government made an additional allotment of 10,000 mt. tonnes of rice and 15,000 mt. tonnes of wheat in December 1997. Thereafter additional allotment of 50,000 mt. tonnes of wheat and 10,000 mt. tonnes of rice were again made in January, February and March and thus in this manner requirement of the people could be fulfilled smoothly. I, therefore, request that the additional allotment should be regularised for ever so that the poor people could get foodgrains as per their requirements under the Public Distribution System.

**(vi) Need to clear the proposed action plan of Madhya Pradesh Government to check Naxalite activities in Rajnandgaon**

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, district Rajnandgaon of Madhya Pradesh is badly affected by the activities of naxalites and hence the inhabitants of this area and the people visiting this area constantly live under terror. The district administration has taken certain steps in this regard in consultation with the State Government, 'Striking Force' has been constituted and an action plan has been submitted to the Union Government for approval.

I urge upon the Minister of Home Affairs to accord sanction to the Action Plan pertaining to the Rajnandgaon district immediately so that the district administration can take appropriate steps in the public interest.

**(vii) Need to remove the Excise Duty of finished product of Electric Bulbs***[English]*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : Sir, in our country, electric bulbs are manufactured both by the large scale and small scale industries. The *per capita* production cost of electric bulbs produced in the large scale industries is comparatively less than that produced in the small scale industries. So, the imposition of the excise duty on the finished products of the electric bulbs all alike will cause unhealthy competition between the large scale and the small scale industrial firms. In such a situation, the small scale industries will be compelled to close down their business.

Under the circumstance, the Union Government is urged upon to remove the excise duties from the finished products of electric bulbs to facilitate the small scale industries to tide over the present predicament that they have been put in.

**(viii) Need to Include Goad Caste In U.P. in the list of Scheduled Castes***[Translation]*

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ (Lalganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of the people of 'Kahar' caste in Uttar Pradesh who are known as 'Goad' also. They carry water, pick up dirty 'Pattals', cook food and do other menial jobs. They earn their livelihood by serving the people in the Village. They are Adivasis. Their condition is pitiable and they are treated as untouchables. Keeping in view their social and economic condition, I request the Government to include the 'Goad' caste in the list of scheduled castes.

**(ix) Need for construction of a Railway over-bridge in Cuddalore Town, Tamil Nadu***[English]*

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN (Cuddalore) : Sir, Cuddalore is a historical town with an ancient port and it is also a district headquarters. The World Bank funded Eastern Coast Highways from Chennai passes through Cuddalore. Hence, there is a need to avoid traffic congestion. An alternative road to handle fast moving vehicles is a must.

Thiruppathiripuliyur Railway Station is in Cuddalore town. Chennai main line linking Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Rameswaram, Tirupathi, Madurai passes through

Cuddalore. Hence the level crossing on Cuddalore-Tirukkivilur Anicut Road divides east and west of the town. People on their way to railway station and main market have to go through this level crossing. Since the line handles more traffic and the gates are closed often, this causes heavy traffic snarl-up.

Hence, I humbly request the Ministry of Railways to construct a railway over-bridge there at the earliest to ease congestion. So, I request the Central Government to allocate funds for this above-mentioned railway over-bridge.

Now that gauge conversion work in the Villupuram-Thanjavur main line during this financial year is on, it becomes all the more important to construct a railway over-bridge in Cuddalore.

**(x) Need for construction of a Bridge on Sone river on Ghorawal via Guruwal Shilpi Road in Sonbhadra District of U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSHAKAL (Robertsganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency, Robertsganj, U.P. the people of 40 villages living in the Western part of Development Block Chopan in Sonbhadra district are facing a lot of hardships due to lack of transportation facilities. Basic facilities like roads, electricity and water are not available there. This area is surrounded by rivers from three sides. On the one side there is the river Renu and on the other side is the Sone river. Even after fifty years of independence the people are deprived of these facilities.

I urge upon the Government of India to construct a bridge on Sone river on Ghorawal via Guruwal Shilpi road in Sonbhadra district so that the people of the area could have transportation facility.

14.59 hrs.

**NATIONAL JUDICIAL COMMISSION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES OF HIGH  
COURTS AND SUPREME COURT**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the hon. Minister may give a personal explanation.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity for making personal explanation on a controversy which was raised during 'Zero Hour'. It is

very unfortunate to state that though I was present here yet at around 1.30 p.m. that is, a couple of minute after I left, a point was raised.

15.00 hrs.

Sir the National Agenda for Governance to which the present Government is fully committed in the 23rd paragraph solemnly promises that 'we will set up a National Judicial Commission, which will recommend judicial appointments in the High Courts and the Supreme Court and draw up a report of ethics for the judiciary.' The background of this proposal is well known. The earlier constitutional interpretation that the Executive was paramount in the decision-making process relating to appointments and transfers, was inconsistent with judicial independence and produced deadlock. The new interpretation vesting paramount powers in the judicial branch, that is, the judicial family itself, has also failed of its purpose. Questionable appointments have seeped through the hole in this process as well. General opinions in the country, have therefore, veered round to a third alternative, namely, the Judicial Commission composed of all relevant elements including the Leader of the Opposition which will have exclusive powers of appointments and transfers as well as removal. The impracticable procedure of impeachment will be displaced.

Sir, every judge and practitioner at the Bar has come to know that there is currently a deadlock in Judicial appointments even though judicial appointments are urgently required to be made. Everybody knows that some extremely worthy appointments are held up because they are presented as a part of a package in which some questionable appointments are mixed up. It is equally well known that the consultation procedure laid down by the Supreme Court itself to which even the learned present Chief Justice is a party, in not being properly followed.

Sir, I may tell this hon. House and take it into confidence, it is a matter of great importance, that even on the present process which is currently in operation, at least, five or six serious disputes have arisen. Question is whether the consultation by the Chief Justice should be with only two judges or should be with the five senior-most judges of his own Court. The second is whether matters regarding which the Government has some reservations, should be considered by the Chief Justice alone or along with other two or five Judges. Thirdly, whether the Government is entitled to know the views of the other judges which are to be transmitted by the Chief Justice along with his views, whether these are two or five for. Fourthly, whether consultation by the Chief Justice of India with two senior-most is necessary in respect of the transfer of Chief Justices or judges in keeping with the principle of collective opinion.

[Shri Ram Jethmalani]

Sir, these questions have to be decided. What happened was that I came to know sometime last week and this was confirmed by the learned Attorney-General on the night of the 17th when I happened to meet him that a public interest litigation has already been filed in the Supreme Court by a lawyer by the name of Mr. Gupta in which he seeks the relief of mandamus the Government to make all appointments as recommended by the Chief Justice of India. Obviously, this matter is now *sub judice*. The hearing is fixed for the 28th of this month and I am quite sure that the Attorney-General and other lawyers will appear and make their submissions to the court and the Supreme Court either in the Two-Judge Bench which has been constituted or may be a larger Bench in view of the constitutional importance of these grave questions, will decide that issue.

Sir, on behalf of the Government, I wish to make it clear that the Government respect the Constitution. The Government respects the current constitutional interpretations put by the Supreme Court itself in the decision of four or five years ago, known as the *Supreme Court Advocate Association Versus so and so*. The Government will not refuse to implement that decision unless that decision is reversed by a Constitutional Amendment creating a National Judicial Commission or by some other methods. Ultimately, when the consultative process is fully satisfied even according to the current procedure, the Government will be totally bound by the respectful opinion of the judiciary itself. But Sir, I wish to say and this was a subject matter of comment that 'why did Mr. Jethmalani speak?' I was delivering a Key-Note Address at an organisation of the Lawyers of India organised by the Bar Council of India, and Sir, I have not lost my right to even impress upon my own Government that in our National Agenda to which we are publicly committed, we have placed ourselves to creating of a National Judicial Commission.

In view of some of the deficiencies that have come to light now, my Government should take steps on a priority basis to implement that part of the agenda. Ultimately if the Government cannot implement its own agenda, the Government has to come back to this House and seek to two-thirds majority. It gets it with your concurrence and with your cooperation, the Government will proceed in accordance with the wishes of both Houses of Parliament. The Government is not going to act in a arbitrary manner, as indeed it cannot.

So, what I said at this Conference was what I have been pleading for in my public life even long before I become a Minister. The Minister's role is not to speak inconsistently with the Cabinet decision upon the point.

The Cabinet has taken no view upon this particular matter. If and when it does, I will have to put myself in conformity with the Cabinet decision. But until then my convictions and my conscience of many years ago remains in tact and I have the right under the Constitution to express my views and even impress my view upon the Government of the day. That is precisely what I did at this Conference of Lawyers. Unless this House prevents me from doing so and issues a *mandamus* to me which I will respectfully follow, I will continue to follow the dictates of my conscience. I have done my duty in the public interest.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : He has not said anything!

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has not clarified the point. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN : I request for a discussion on this issue in the House. A lot of discussion has already taken place in this House regarding the appointment and transfer of Judges. This is a very serious issue ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is difficult to decide anything if so many members speak simultaneously ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I have a point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Hon'ble Chairman, please listen to me first. The hon'ble Minister did not clarify the point raised by us. The point raised was whether minister can give a statement on the subject which is under consideration of the Cabinet. The matter relating to appointment of few judges is pending with the Cabinet at present. A particular minister has publicly stated that the Government is in a fix on five or six names recommended by the Chief Justice of India in regard to the appointment of judges.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has raised a point of order.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : The Prime Minister has. ...(Interruptions) repudiated this statement and said that the Government disassociate itself from this statement. The point is as to whether a minister and the Prime Minister can give two distinct statements on the same subject? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain order! Please take your seat.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : The question before this House and the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon'ble Minister has not given a reply to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has a point of order.

*[English]*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : My point of order is, it has been the practice in this House that after a statement is made by the hon. Minister, no discussion can take place on that.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : That is not applicable to Zero Hour. It relates to Zero Hour.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Be it Zero Hour or any other Hour.

*[English]*

After the statement is made by the hon Minister, there will not be any further discussion on that in this House.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : This is not a *suo motu* statement. Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, this is an issue which relates to Zero Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen. I am going to give some ruling on the point raised by him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain order. He has raised a Point of Order. You have conveyed your point. Now kindly listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : My submission is that it has been the practice in the House. Kindly suggest a way out ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please maintain order. Kindly listen to him. He has raised a Point of Order. A decision has to be taken on that.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : This is just a reaction of Zero Hour. This is not a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : When some hon. Members raised a point in this regard during the Zero Hour, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister assured the House that hon'ble Minister Shri Jethmalaniji will submit his personal explanation in this regard. On this the hon'ble Minister...

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : No such assurance was given at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What was that?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He gave assurance when we raised this point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It was not like that. On the request of Parliamentary affairs Minister he has responded. He has responded to the Point raised by the Hon'ble members and has given personal explanation. There is no scope now for further discussion on this issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : He has not clarified the point raised by the Members. The point was whether a minister can give any statement in regard to the statute of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Why are they not honouring the ruling given by you ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The matter related to the appointment of Judges and he has not given explanation on statement given against the Chief Justice. ...*(Interruptions)* the point which had led to this controversy ...*(Interruptions)* Even the Prime Minister's office ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

The Prime Minister's Office has distanced itself from the statement made by the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment. He has not clarified the point relating to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translations]*

He has not given any explanation to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have heard you kindly take your seat now.

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Our demand is also for the appointment of a National Judicial Commission. Let a National Judicial Commission be constituted.



[Translation]

MR CHAIRMAN : Kindly take your seat. There is a limit to it.

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : I want to draw your attention towards rule 352 which talks about discussion on judicial matters. The hon. Minister has made it very clear that somebody has filed a petition in the Supreme Court. The rule says and I quote:

"A member while speaking shall not refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending."

This matter has gone to the Supreme Court. I agree with my colleagues that this issue is a serious issue.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It does not require any support.

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : The issue of appointment, transfer and impeachment of judges is a serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)* Let this House discuss this rising above party considerations. This is a very serious issue. We do not want to interfere with the judicial appointments. But the way the judges are also behaving, it becomes a very serious matter. Let us discuss this whole issue. We cannot discuss this matter at the moment. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has clarified his position but the issue which is before us is quite important. We fully agree with the opinion of the hon. Members that matters relating the appointment, transfer and postings of judges, which keep coming to our notice time and again, should especially be debated in the House and the views of the members should be given due weightage and action should be taken accordingly.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It's all right. You have expressed your views. Hon'ble Minister please move the Bill.

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH (Narasaraopet) : Sir, I have a small point to make. I want to seek a clarification on the statement.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It was not a statement. The hon. Minister just responded. It was personal explanation.

[English]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH : I am not on a point of order but kindly allow me to seek one clarification from the hon. Minister. Shri Ram Jethmalani has now confirmed what has appeared in the Press. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have expressed your views. Kindly take your seat now.

[English]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH : Sir, you will have to protect our rights.

He has confirmed what he has said in the Press earlier. That is contrary to the law existing today. As a Minister, if he wants to influence his own Government, this is not the method. He cannot influence his Government through the Press, Public meetings and seminars. He has got the right to argue his case within the Cabinet.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : This is a matter between me and the Prime Minister, not you.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Ram Jethmalaniji has...

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Now Lalooji has started speaking. It will not do. You must give your ruling

MR. CHAIRMAN : But you are also on your legs. Kindly maintain order.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Hon'ble Ram Jethmalaniji had given a statement earlier now he has come out with another statement. The Union Government has repudiated his statement at both the levels. But can a Minister or any other person be checked or stopped from making a statement? Yesterday hon'ble Jethmalaniji had stated that he does not belong to any party.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : Sir, I do not want to have the last word on \*

15.15 hrs.

## ELECTRICITY LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, be taken into consideration".

Sir, I rise to move the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998. An earlier Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13th March, 1997 was referred to the Standing Committee on Energy on 20th March, 1997. The Standing Committee on Energy was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Jagmohan, Member of Lok Sabha, The Standing Committee on Energy held detailed consultations with experts in the power sector and submitted its report to Speaker, Lok Sabha on 3rd December, 1997. The Standing Committee had made several important recommendations and suggested modifications to the Bill. The major recommendations were:

(i) Overall planning of the transmission system should be under the scope of CEA, POWERGRID and SEBs.

(ii) There should be only one main transmission agency in each State and at Regional/National level. For the transmission system within a State it should be the respective SEB, or its successor organisation. At the regional/national level it should be POWERGRID.

(iii) There main transmission agencies indicated at (ii) should continue under Government ownership.

(iv) The main transmission agencies should decide which part of the required transmission augmentation within their responsibility should be entrusted to the private sector.

(v) The private transmission company should be required to enter into a transmission service agreement with the concerned SEB/POWERGRID for making available its *transmission assets* to the latter. The private company should not be concerned with wheeling and third party access issues.

(vi) The transmission company should operate and maintain its assets in accordance with the directions of the Regional load dispatch Centre/State load dispatch centre. The RLDC/SLDC should be under POWERGRID/SEB (its successor organisation).

(vii) The private transmission company should be given a license on the basis of a recommendation of the concerned main transmission agency.

The Government has accepted all these recommendations of the Standing Committee on Energy and these have now been incorporated in the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

The Bill will provide a legal framework for recognising transmission as a distinct activity and for regulating transmission through licensing and for fixation of transmission tariff. This is necessary since transmission entities have been established at the national/state level (POWERGRID, GRIDCO) and some States are proposing to create separate transmission entities. Under the existing Electricity Laws, Transmission can be taken up only in conjunction with generation or distribution and not as an independent activity.

Before dealing with the salient feature of the Bill, I will briefly review the development of the transmission sector. With the enactment of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 the State Electricity Boards become the nodal organisations for expansion of the transmission and distribution network. In the mid-60s, the Regional Electricity Boards were established and the process of linking the power system of the individual States within the region was initiated. From the mid-70s onwards the Government of India started establishing Central generating stations (thermal and hydel) in the regions along with their associated transmission system. The Central sector transmission system was designed to deliver power to the States based on their share of power from the Central generation stations. In 1989, the POWERGRID Corporation of India Ltd. was set up to move blocks of power from the Central generating agencies and also transfer surplus within and across regions.

An extensive network of transmission system with over 1,10,000 circuit kilometre of extra high voltage lines at 220 KV and higher voltage including HVDC are in operation today. Apart from these 1,30,000 circuit kilometre of sub-transmission lines of 66 KV and 110 KV or 132 KV have also been established.

A critical problem in the power sector is the inadequacy of the transmission and distribution network. The sort of power blackouts and failure that we are seeing are invariably due to the weakness in this sector. The

[Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam]

two major areas of weakness actually are (i) lack of power integration of transmission and distribution system with the generation plant as a result of which generation capacity cannot be fully utilised and (ii) inadequate investment in transmission and distribution as compared to generation.

The expenditure incurred in generation as compared to that on transmission and distribution has been of the order of 1:0.46. In other words, when we spend Re. 1 generation, we spend only 46 paise for transmission and distribution. This is much below the recommended standard norm of 1:1. This was the norm that was recommended by the Rajyadhyaksha Committee on Power. It is necessary to correct the imbalance by providing a legal framework under which private investment can supplement the efforts of POWERGRID Corporation and the SEBs.

An important area of concern relates to the manner in which integrated operation of the regional or the State Grid would be ensured when licences are sought to be granted to private transmission licences for putting up transmission projects on Build-Own-Operate-Maintain basis. The responsibility of the transmission licensee will be only to construct and maintain the transmission lines and associate substations in good working conditions so that the lines are available for transmission of power.

The scheme under this Bill is in that order. The transmission licensee will not be concerned with the amount or the quantum of energy that would be transmitted on the lines. The POWERGRID or the SEBs, under an agreement with the transmission licensees, will have the exclusive use of the transmission system. The decisions with regard to power flows will be taken by the regional load dispatch centres at the regional level and the State load dispatch centres at the State level. The regional load dispatch centre presently under the control of the POWERGRID shall issue directions which will be binding on the State Electricity Boards, generating companies, bulk distribution licensees and transmission licensees to ensure integrated grid operation.

Similarly, the directions of the State load dispatch centre presently under the SEBs will be binding on all licensees—transmission licensees and generating companies—for the smooth operation of the State Grid. If I may submit, this is essentially required to come as a Bill so that we understand that transmission is no longer an activity that can be said to be either part of generation or of distribution. It is a distinct activity for which there are distinct incomes and distinct relevance.

We have one major problem, in fact, in the transmission arena, in addition to what I have mentioned and that is, redundancy. We need to create redundancy

in the transmission arena so that in the event of any mishaps or any unfortunate situation that arises, circuiting power away through another route would also be possible.

We have a situation today where we have about 2,000 MW of surplus power in the Eastern region and there is a market available for it in the South. But unfortunately, due to lack of proper transmission links, we are not able to move this power down to the South. The investment that is required just to do this one small activity of moving 2,000 MW is so substantial that we are taking about tens and thousands of kilometres of circuit to be put into place. We have managed to put in a couple of large circuits and we are in the process of doing more. But until we achieve a situation where, nationally we can flow power from one part of the country to another part of the country where there is a shortage, we really would not be meeting the demand of a modern growing nation.

Therefore, in the light of this, as it is often misunderstood, I want to make it clear that we are not privatising transmission totally. On the contrary, what we are doing is only bringing or making available or facilitating investment in the transmission sector but the investment so based will be investment to build and maintain but the real operation will remain within the control of the Government and its agencies and not under control of any private body. This is the sum and substance of the Bill.

I commend that the Bill be now considered by the House with all the inputs that are there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved.

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I stand to support the Electricity Law (Amendment) Bill which has been moved by the hon. Minister.

Electricity is a key input for overall socio-economic development of our society. The State has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring adequate supply of electricity at economic cost and ensuring the quality and the reliability. Unfortunately, the State has not been able to adequately meet its responsibility.

A little overview would be in order if we compare India and China. Both India and China started with the same capacity in 1950. India had an installed capacity of 1560 megawatts as against China's installed capacity of 1850 megawatts. If we look at the situation after four-

and-a-half decades, in March, 1998, India has an installed capacity of nearly 90,000 MW while China had galloped to an installed capacity of 2,20,000 MW. Our consumption of electricity is 350 units *per capita* per year as against the world average of 2200 units. Electricity consumption is an important parameter of socio-economic development. It is well documented that there is an energy shortage of about 11.5 per cent and the peaking shortage of over 18 per cent. Inadequacy in infrastructure started engaging our attention after we initiated the economic reforms. We started reforming our electricity by laws and these efforts have had some effect. If you look at the overall generation scenario further, we may find that peaking shortage is met by hydro generation. Ratio of thermal and hydro generations, as against the ideal ratio of 40 per cent hydro generation and 60 per cent thermal generation. Today we have only 25 per cent hydro generation and 75 per cent thermal generation, nuclear generation being very marginal. Out of about 1,30,000 MW of hydro potential, we have been able to exploit only 14 per cent. We are still beset with high transmission and distribution losses which are well above the world average. We are running losses at about 21-23 per cent, although efforts at improving the electricity scenario over the last seven to eight years have resulted in improved plant load factor from 55 per cent to about 65 per cent.

We have had growth in electricity generation on a regular basis. But a lot more needs to be done. We all know that electricity has three main aspects, namely, generation, transmission and distribution. The reforms, which were carried from 1991 onwards focussed mainly on generation aspect of the electricity scenario. Because of inadequacy of State funding, the entry of private sector was sought. The electricity loss were amended. We send delegations all over the world inviting private participation in our power sector. Some people did venture to come in. We gave them special facilities. We call them fast track projects.

The experience of these fast track projects over the last seven years has been very dismal. Firstly, we focussed on generation and neglected the other important aspects, that is, the transmission and the distribution aspect. Even in generation, the situation is pathetic. In the Eighth Plan, against a target of over 30,000 MW, we could achieve only 16,400 MW. Against an expectation of the private sector participation to the extent of 2,800 MW, we could get only 1,400 MW. The private sector is not rushing headlong to invest in this country unlike what my friends in the Left or the *Swadeshi Jagran Manch* might think. The investment will go only where there is a reasonable return. Therefore, having neglected the important transmission and distribution sectors, there have

been serious distortions. In the present set-up of electricity availability there are frequent outages. The frequency and voltages are off the standard resulting in equipment, burning out. Timely power is not being given to industrialists and agriculturists. A major distortion has come in. Just now, the Minister informed us that there is an availability of surplus power and availability of generating capacity in certain parts of the country. But we are not able to evacuate that power because of lack of adequate bulk transmission facilities. Therefore, major initiatives are needed.

Even the last Government, in their Common Minimum Action Plan for Power set out certain priorities. One of the priorities of that document was that transmission sector would be considered as an independent activity and then, we would see that private investment comes in transmission.

The Ninth Plan also looked at the overall energy scenario, energy being a very important sector of the infrastructure. They laid emphasis on completing the incomplete projects, improving the plant load factor, reducing the transmission and distribution losses, reforms in electricity laws, institutional reforms and also sought to improve the hydel and thermal mix.

An important focus was also on creation of high capacity inter-regional transmission lines. The important objective of the Ninth Plan was to shift the emphasis from regional and State level grid control to national integrated grid operation. Of course, the laws were sought to be made for simplifying investment through private sector—both indigenous and foreign. And captive power generation was also to be encouraged. All these were good objectives. But unfortunately, the Ninth Plan document is in doldrums. I think, the BJP is now again looking at it and wants to review and reform it. I am afraid, it may not see the light of day.

The Working Group of the Planning Commission wants to add a capacity—there is a requirement of 57,000 MW in the next five year—of about 40,000 MW is planned. This 40,000 MW of additional capacity would require an investment of something like Rs. 1,60,000 crore at an average cost of rupees four crore per MW.

According to the Rajadhakshya Committee, about which the hon. Minister has referred to, the ideal investment mix is, for every rupee that you spend for generation, a rupee should be spent for transmission and distribution in equal proportion. But unfortunately, right from the Fourth Plan—we need not go beyond that—the investment in transmission and distribution which has 47 per cent of the total investment in the Fourth Plan, has

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been coming down steadily for the Fifth Plan onwards. In the Fifth Plan, it was 39 per cent. In the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Plans, it has been steady at about 33 per cent. A great distortion has set in.

Now, availability of funds have been the main problem. Given the Tariff Policy and the way in which our State Electricity Boards are functioning, there is no chance of any internal resource generation. The net rate of return the SEBs is estimated to be a negative 18 per cent. If we want to have a zero per cent rate of return, then we will have to increase the average tariff by 38 paise. We know the political will for increasing the power tariff. If we want to get a rate of return of three per cent, then the average rate per unit would have to be increased by 43 paise. The Electricity Law amendments about the Regulatory Commission, which this House passed recently, is a step in this direction. But I do not think that this Government has been able to generate the political will across the Party lines, the entire polity, to agree to a reasonable tariff policy. I think, the Government must continue to take the initiative so that the tariffs are not distorted.

Sir, only 40 per cent of the energy that is produced earns revenue. The rest 60 per cent of the energy goes either as uncalled for losses or commercial losses, which are nothing but euphemism for theft, or as unmetered supply to various sectors. The high T&D losses, the technical losses are because of inadequate transmission and distribution network. Therefore, upgrading transmission and distribution network to achieve optimum Plant Load Factor has to be the top priority keeping the overall power scenario in this country in view.

15.38 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

The formation of the POWERGRID in the year 1989 was major step in this direction. Now, what is the investment that is required in the Ninth Plan? Some documents say that an investment of Rs. 56,000 crore is required. Now, if they talk of generating a capacity of 40,000 MW and also of an investment of rupees four crore per MW, meaning thereby an investment of Rs. 1,60,000 crore in the generating sector, then they have to be spending a similar amount in transmission and distribution by their own argument. So, the need is anything between Rs. 56,000 crore, as per documents, and about Rs. 1,22,000 crore according to the former Chief of the POWERGRID has talked about. So, the need is enormous. The POWERGRID alone and the SEBs together can only invest something like Rs. 20,000 crore through their internal resource generation. The rest has to come from the private sources.

Sir, the present provisions of the electricity laws, the two laws that we have the Indian Electricity Act of 1910 which deals with the rights of the licensees and the Electricity Supply Act of 1984 which defines the role of the Central Electricity Authority and the State Electricity Boards, as amended from time to time, does not provide for transmission to be an exclusive and a separate entity as against generation and distribution which could an exclusive entity.

In the Act, for transmission, there are no provisions for a independent organisation. Therefore, as the present law provides, transmission lines can only be provided alongwith generation by a generating company or smaller low voltage sub-transmission lines can be provided alongwith distribution by a licensee of a distribution system.

This Bill seeks to define transmission as a separate activity and permits private sector participation exclusively in the field of transmission as a licensee. The Government had set up an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Shankerguruswamy. The Group submitted its Report last year and it has the guidelines for private investment in transmission and distribution. This Bill has by and large come out of the recommendations of that Expert Group. Therefore, focusing on the Bill and focusing on the transmission aspect of the power scenario, we have about 1,10,000 circuit Km. worth of extra high voltage, that is 400 KV and 220 KV of A/C transmission lines and about 1700 circuit Km. of high voltage D/C transmission lines of 500 KV. There are plans to go to the next higher level because losses would be much less. The next higher level is 765 KV A/C. I do not know when the project is going to start. Sooner we go to the higher level better it is. I know money is required for that.

Coming to the specific aspect of the Bill. It is a well-accepted fact and the Shanker Guruswamy Report highlights it, that transmission is a natural monopoly and it should remain a State monopoly. Transmission activity should not be handed over to a private sector organisation. Therefore, what is being sought is that will have a Central level Transmission Utility and a State level Transmission Utility. The Act provides for the creation of these utilities. Both the Electricity Acts have sought to be modified. These utilities would then licence independent power transmission companies (IPTC) which will work under the Regional Load Despatch Centre and the State Load Despatch Centre. They will not be responsible for operation of the grid, therefore, they are not responsible for the grid parameters. They would only offer the infrastructure which they would engineer, design, construct and maintain. They will operate it under the directions of the Load Despatch Centres.

Coming to Clause 3 of the Bill which seeks to amend Section 27(b), I have some worries. The State Transmission Utility can be SEBs or the State Government. First of all, it is accepted that the transmission utilities will be the State Government's monopoly. It is said in the amendment of Section 27(b) that the State Transmission Utility can be a State Electricity Board and in the same breath it is also said or a successor "organisation". Now, the Government is planning to privatize the State Electricity Boards. In Orissa, the State Electricity Board is privatized. In Haryana, there is some initiative in this regard. Therefore, are you contemplating a privatized State Electricity Board to become the State Transmission Utility? If it is so, you are going against the concept of transmission being a State monopoly. I would like to seek this clarification. Otherwise you will have to remove from Section 27 (b), sub-clause 1, reference to State Electricity Boards or mention that 'State Electricity Board as long as it is Government-owned'. I am afraid, when you say a 'successor' organisation, it need not be a Government organisation.

Where the State network of transmission is already in existence, does the Act permit that network could be sold to an Independent Power Transmission Company (IPTC) or will the IPTC necessarily have to create a new infrastructure? Is leasing of existing infrastructure to the IPTC is permitted?

The third point I would like a clarification on is, if IPTC are not responsible for maintaining grid parameters like voltage and frequency and if those parameters are not met because of may be non-availability of a perfect working grid, how are the disputes ongoing to be settled? What is the dispute settlement mechanism? Will the Central Transmission Authority or the Central Regulatory Commission settle disputes? We do not know. The Bill does not clearly talk about it.

The next aspect of the Bill is this. How is private sector participation going to be decided? The Committee very clearly states that a negotiate route is not preferred. The Committee has said that the State Commission or the Central Transmission Utility should design the grid, the network and the specifications, draw bid documents and finally should go for open competitive bidding and not for negotiated route as we had gone for in the case of the fast track projects. The Minister has not spelt out whether giving entry to private sector will be only through an open competitive bidding process or not. That needs to be clarified. Otherwise, tomorrow he could go back to the negotiated route and we know as happened to the now famous Enron project in my State.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Mumbai South) : Is it famous or notorious?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : The project itself is not notorious because we need that power. The negotiations, both by the Government which started the project and the Government that took over from the previous Government, and the entire negotiating process was totally opaque. We have apprehensions that the power which would flow from Enron will be very expensive.

We do not want to go for an opaque negotiation route but we want to go for transparent competitive bidding route.

My next point is, the Minister has stated that the State and Central Transmission Utilities will be working transparently. But, will there be public hearings? Tariffs will, of course, come out of public tenders. Supposing you want to modify, supposing somebody complains to either the Central Transmission Utility, will an open public hearing be held? There is no such provision in the Bill. I was member of the Standing Committee on Energy in the last Lok Sabha which went through this Bill. I think this issue had also come up that whenever Tariffs are being fixed, whenever contracts have been awarded, whenever a private transmission operator is to be selected, it should go through a public hearing. I think the Bill does not clearly mention that it should be done.

I have a little worry about Section 27(c), sub-clause 5 and Section 27(d), Sub-clause 5. I think, this is in clause 3. Why are exemptions being granted? The Minister says that under certain very special circumstances, it need not be necessary to take licences. Why is this clause there? I do not know what are the intentions behind this. This clause worries me because it is an escape route. Tomorrow, without going through the process of obtaining a proper licence, a State or both the State and the Central Governments can permit somebody to transmit power without obtaining a licence.

I do not understand why this exemption route is kept there.

The new amendment to Section 27(6) is regarding the role of Parliament. It says that any new notification or any new contract has to be presented before the two Houses of Parliament and the State Legislature within a certain time. It is a good suggestion. Do you need ratification from Parliament within a certain time-frame? If that is the purpose, then I think, perhaps, the way

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Parliament is functioning now, it may not be able to ratify with a given period of 30 days. I do not know the intension. Of course, going to Parliament is good. You must keep the two Houses of Parliament informed about what is going to happen.

The proposed law does not indicate the time for which the licence will be granted. In the first case, it shall be 20 or 30 years with an option of review it for a certain period of time. I think, initially, this should have been included in the law. It should not be left to the rule-making or delegated legislation because we are treading into a new area. As Shankarguruswamy Report has indicated, there is no adequate experience in independent transmission companies anywhere. Here, we do not have at all. But even internationally, there is no adequate experience in the independent power transmission companies. We should tread very carefully, otherwise we could be taken for a ride.

Regarding the draft agreements, I know and the Minister knows, how long it took to get into the Power Purchasing Agreements in the case of IPPs and now you have got, what you call, the Transmission Agreements. We would like to know, whether any work has been done on the Draft Model Transmission Agreement. I do not think that anything has been mentioned here. There is a chapter in the Report where it talks about the Transmission Agreements. But this is an area which one has to go through very carefully. —

What are you going to do about land acquisition or what are you going to do about forest clearances? Because when you are going to set up Inter-State and Intra-State Transmission lines, and a private company is going to come and set up a line, say from Bihar to Orissa or say in the Chicken's neck or connecting Maharashtra and Karnataka, you have the problem of land acquisition. If towers have to be set up at particular distances, about half an acre of land is required for each tower. You know the land acquisition procedures. Unless forest clearance and other procedures are simplified and there is a fresh look at these laws, I think, many foreign transmission companies which otherwise are willing to invest in this area, will be discouraged.

Finally, it is a welcome legislation, but the experience of privatising generation has not been very good. Even our Fast Track projects took years and years before the first unit of electricity starts flowing. Perhaps, this year we might see some energy flowing out of the private generating projects. If you are going the same way as in the transmission projects, the purpose will be defeated. Transmission lines need all the investments that we can get so that the distortion which has been there for a long time can be corrected.

With these words, I support the Bill with the worries and objections that I have underlined. The hon. Minister in his reply, I am sure, will clarify some of the doubts that we have raised.

I conclude by saying that we have a very dynamic Minister-in charge. He has rightly been trained politically. But I am afraid, whether he will be allowed to work in this present scenario, where Government does not seem to be working. Let us, at last, get some legislations through before the Government which is already tottering finally collapses. Thank you.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I stand in support of the Bill.

The Bill seeks to amend certain provisions of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity Supply Act of 1948 to empower the Central Government or the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission to have effective transmission of power, either inter-State; or the State Government or the State Electricity Regulatory Commission to have intra-State transmission.

Sir, for the first time, the Government wants to consider transmission of power as a distinct activity. In fact, generation, transmission and supply or distribution are three different and distinctive activities. As soon as we put on a switch and the light starts glowing or a motor starts running at a distant place, the power which is generated at another corner will have to travel thousands and thousands of kilometres.

We know the situation of power that is energy, in his country. Very often, it is being quoted as 'miserable'. It is estimated that there is a shortage of 11 per cent of power on the whole in the country and the shortage during peak hours is about 18 per cent. It is alarming to note that the average loss in transmission and distribution at the national level is estimated at 16 to 22 per cent. Had proper attention been given to improve the transmission system and also the distribution system, probably there would not have been a shortage in power supply. The system will have to be improved.

Recently, we have passed the Central Electricity Regulatory Authority Act. We must empower that Authority to effectively participate in improving the power supply position. As I have already submitted, generation of power is one thing and before it is put to actual use, it will have to be transmitted either in bulk or in small quantities from one place to another place. It also involves transmission of high tension power from one place to the other place.

It is said very often, the loss in transmission is caused because of conversion from high tension to low tension. After all, we will have to convert the power from high tension to low tension before it is actually put to use. The only solution for this is to improve the transmission system.

We have a very old system of transmission. The hon. Minister was mentioning a while ago that we have constructed thousands of kilometres of circuit. We have transmission towers. We have transmission lines.

16.00 hrs.

We have also the transformers to store energy. Then, we have to improve the supply from a particular point to another point. Unless the whole system is improved, the power which is generated at an enormous cost, cannot be put to proper use. Very often, the inefficiency of the transmission system has been the subject of discussion in this House also. Whenever a question is raised, the Minister would stand up and give a reply saying that though power is available yet we are not effectively able to transmit it. Just a while ago, the Minister was making a mention about that. We have about 2000 MW of more power in the Eastern sector while there is shortage in the South, but we are not effectively able to transmit that power to the Southern sector.

We have the concept of grid. We have the national grid system. We have the regional grids. But still, we are finding it very difficult to properly transmit the power from one point to the other effectively and that will add to the cost of the power at the point of the consumer. When it is being utilised by the consumer, he will be burdened with more cost. In this Bill, the Government intends to entrust the rights of transmission to a Central Transmission utility. In the States, for intra-State transmission, the State Transmission Utilities are to be set up. They are also empowered to fix the tariff for transmission.

As rightly pointed out by my friend, Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan, there is a doubt regarding the authority being conferred on these transmission utilities in the matter of fixation of fee for transmission. Fixation of licensing fee is one thing but the charges that are being levied, or, are being collected for actual transmission of the power, is another thing. Care will have to be taken while fixing the tariff. As rightly pointed out, it should be transparent. There should be a proper discussion or deliberation before fixing the tariff. Otherwise, again, I am afraid that will add to the cost, and that will impose a heavy burden on the consumer.

So far as the improvement of the transmission system is concerned, the materials which are already used for construction of the towers and for the transmission lines

have become very old. Maintenance is not properly done. As rightly pointed out, for the proper maintenance of the system, we require a lot of money. On the one side, we require investment for generation of power and on the other side, we require a lot of funds for the improvement of the transmission system. Over a period of time, there has been a step-motherly treatment, rather, the transmission sector has been neglected. In fact, suggestions were made that equal investments would have to be made for generation, transmission as well as distribution. Since the transmission and distribution sector have been neglected, today, we are running up with a shortage of power.

The Minister will have to clarify how by authorising this central transmitting utility or the State transmission utilities, how they propose to augment the resources which can be re-invested in improving the transmission system; except that there is a mention about granting the licence by the collecting a prescribed fee here is no other provision which entails augmentation of resources of re-investment in this sector. Then it will also have to be ensured that the resources mobilised by granting licences for transmission and by leaving the operation for transmission the entire resources will have to be re-invested for the improvement and upkeep of the transmission system.

And today as we see, like the example we have in my State, Karnataka, we have two different bodies, one for generating the power, that is, the Karnataka Power Corporation, then the State Electricity Board for transmission and distribution. It is seen that the generating company is always making profits, but not to the tune to which it ought to have made, because the other entity, that is, the Electricity Board which involves transmission and distribution has to give a lot of money to the generating company. Why does this problem come? Why can the transmission and distribution not be properly compensated, why can resources not be mobilised by ensuring a proper transmission distribution of the system? We will have to improve the transmission system, no doubt, because everybody would like to have quality power supply at the point of payment.

So, proper attention will have to be paid to the transmission system as well as the distribution points. We hope that with the authority being conferred with various Government agencies and with the proposed participation, of course in a limited way, the situation may improve. My friends from the Left may have reservations for the participation of the private sector in the transmission and distribution of power, but we know it very well—Shri Basudeb Acharia also knows—that in



[Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar]

Mumbai we do not have a shortage of power because the generation as well as transmission is entirely in the hands of a private company. Even in Calcutta for that matter it is so. So, we cannot entirely put the blame on private parties and private participation will help in augmenting the generation as well as maintaining a proper supply of quality power.

Care will have to be taken to see that the consumer is not exploited and they live up to the expectation. Wherever we have seen it, after all the private parties are also citizens of this country and they will have to participate along with the Government in the building up of the infrastructure of the nation. It is after all a nation building activity. From Generating sources we can get money for investment in the infrastructure sector. We will have to invite and tap that source and we will have to allow them to come and participate in building up the infrastructure, the basic infrastructure of the nation.

So, I hope, with the passing of this Bill, the Government will be fully empowered to set up proper transmission system in the entire country and power can be transmitted from one corner to the other corner of the country effectively and the losses which are found in the transmission as well as in the distribution system are minimised to the lowest and quality power is supplied to the consumers.

With these few words, I, once again, support the Bill. I thank you for the opportunity given.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I oppose the Bill. I oppose it on the simple reason that this is an attempt to privatise the entire electricity supply of the nation.

The first attempt was made when the Electricity Regulation Act was passed. At that time, we had pointed out that that was an attempt to privatise this sector. The hon. Minister was pleased to deny our allegation. He said that it will not be an encroachment on the powers of the State. Subsequently, he brought in one or two amendments to the Bill which he had moved first and those amendments made it optional. The States may follow the Electricity Regulations Act or may not follow the same. So, it was made purely an optional matter as far as States were concerned and that too was done after much criticism from this side. The hon. Minister's attempt was to make it compulsory on all States. But I am sorry to point out that only after intervention by this side that he brought in two amendments to make it optional.

Now, this is in continuation of the Electricity Regulation Act. The Bill which he had brought and passed

as Electricity Regulation Act of 1998. But what prompted the hon. Minister to bring in such a legislation? After all, we have the Indian Electricity Act of 1910, which was subsequently modified and we have another Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948. These two acts were there and they were functioning in the nation without much difficulty. Moreover, it is admitted that our production of power has increased every time, as per the provisions of the Five Year Plans. I do not want to go into the details of those matters.

We are in the Ninth Plan but even now we are deficit in the matter of power supply. In my State also everyday there is power cut for half-an-hour irrespective of the fact whether there is a rain or not. That is the situation. So, everywhere there is power shortage. In spite of the fact that we made serious attempts to increase the generation of power, we have not been able to succeed in this matter. That may be due to many reasons. The reason is that power infrastructure was far below the standard. The hon. Minister would also admit that power sector infrastructure is very much below the standard and hence it results in huge transmission loss. Every year we have been losing crores of rupees by way of transmission loss which we could not prevent. This could have been prevented provided our infrastructure was strongly built up. But that we could not do. Moreover, most of the State Electricity Boards were mismanaged. That we all know. They were mismanaged due to various reasons, such as, occasional interference by State Governments, occasional interference by political parties, if I may put it, and so on. There are interferences which did not give a free hand to the State Electricity Boards to function in a proper way. That we all do admit. But that will not be a reasons for privatisation. This is a clear case of privatisation, that is very much admitted. Like our national agenda where there is a hiding programme, here also we have a hidden programme of privatising the entire electricity system. That is very definite. Why it is definite is because the Central Transmission Utility is a authority which will come into effect after this Bill is passed. There is no doubt about it. It also provides for State Commissions and State Transmission Utilities as well. There is a provisions that the licensee can be a private individual. There is no bar on that. The State Electricity Board need not be the State Utility Commission. It need not be the Commission for State Utility. It can be private individual. That is self-evident from the provisions of this Bill which my learned friend has introduced before this House.

In the definition clause, it is mentioned that 'State Transmission Utility' means the Utility notified by the State Government under sub-section (1) of section 27B. Similarly, 'transmission license' means a licence granted under Part IIA to transmit energy. There is a clear

provision that the licensee shall be a person who can be a private individual. It need not be the State Electricity Board. So, the real attempt would be to hand over the entire KSEB or Karnataka State Electricity Board—my learned friend is not here—to a private individual. Moreover, I have a report which I got from my learned friend. The title is 'Framework to Facilitate Private Investment in transmission Projects'. There also what they are educating is that there should not be a joint venture because it will not lead to anywhere else. The joint venture will not be proper. Either the private agency should take up the transmission or the State agency should take up the transmission. There cannot be any scope for joint venture. That is what the report says. If that be the case, it is definite that the State agency will be eliminated from the picture and private agency will be instituted in its place.

This is an attempt to do that. The hon. Minister may deny my allegations, but the fact remains undisputed that once this Act comes into force and those States which incorporate the provisions of this statute will definitely have to obey the directions given by the Central Transmission Utility. That authority will be issuing directions in every way. So, the entire position is that it is a clear attempt on the part of the Minister to bring in privatisation in electricity or power sector which I cannot agree to because by doing this, thousands of workers, employees, engineers and all technical hands are left at the mercy of some private firms. People who have earned credence from universities abroad are working under the Electricity Boards. All these engineers and technical men who are working in the State Electricity Boards will be forced to work under a private individual who can terminate their services at his whims and fancies, without any difficulty. That is the position. That will create a situation in which exploitation by private individuals will be the order of the day.

We have our own experience that the private distribution system or the private transmission system will not do any good. Electricity, as you know, is a service sector. Of course, I do agree that it is an industry, but there must be a community service so far as electricity is concerned. We will have to bear some losses for providing electricity to the farmers. We are giving them power connection at a very high rate. The agriculturists are getting connections at a very high rate and they will be forced to be exploited by the agency or by the licence who is to be appointed under the provisions of this Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)

He is not listening because he is sure that he can get it passed without listening to what we say. We are all proposing certain things. He must, at least, show the courtesy of listening to what we say.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, his voice without the headphone, overrides everything and with the headphone it will definitely override.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, he is not interested in any Parliamentary discussion. If this is his attitude, what can we do?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to assure him that without the headphone his voice will override everything. He has got a clarion call and with the headphone I cannot think anything else. So, I can assure that I am listening to him.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, he knows why I am submitting these things because his father had a tradition, though he may not claim to be a traditional fellow. His father and his father's father had a tradition. But his tradition may be otherwise; maybe opportunism or otherwise, I do not know. But I know his father said his father's father in Madras. ...(*Interruptions*) I am sorry, it is Chennai now. There is a passion for the word that we should use only Mumbai for Bombay. If we say Bombay in Mumbai we will be put to difficulties and if we say Madras in Chennai, we will be put to difficulties. Shri Bal Thackeray will not meet a person if he is saying Mumbai as Bombay. That is my own experience. He will not talk to that person who uses the word Bombay. He is very particular that the word Mumbai must be used.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : What about Kerala?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : In Kerala there is no such thing. But I will point out one instance about Kerala. Our Capital is Trivandrum. That was the word used by the Englishmen. But Thiruvananthapuram is the official word now.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, what about the Electricity Bill?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I am coming back to the Bill.

I would like to invite the attention of the Minister to the salient features of the Committee of Experts constituted to suggest guidelines regarding private investment in transmission projects. What are the recommendations of that Committee? One of the recommendations of that Committee says:

"The above main transmission agencies should continue under Government ownership."

The Expert Committee was headed by Shri D. Sankaraguruswamy. He was asked to prepare a report and submit showing that facts leading to privatisation.

[Shri Varkala Radhakirshnan]

But what he actually recommended was that in the matter of power transmission. If at all any agency should be allowed, the above main transmission agencies should continue under Government ownership. Does the Minister agree with that recommendation? The present legislation will not lead to such a situation. He is surrendering or submitting the entire process to a private agency. That is self-evident.

The next recommendation of the Expert Committee says:

"The above main transmission agencies have to decide as to which part of the new transmission augmentation within their responsibility they would like to entrust to private sector."

They have said that the decision-making authority should remain with the State Electricity Boards. Another recommendation says:

"Even in the case of transmission system to be entrusted to private company, the SEB/POWERGRID should continue to be responsible for preparation of Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report and obtaining necessary clearances, the procedure for which should continue to be generally as followed at present."

So, he has recommended that the present system should continue without any hindrance. But I would say that the Minister's Bill, when it is passed and implemented, will definitely change the entire system. I am very sure about it, because the Bill is framed in such a way as to give the entire transmission to private agencies.

The Expert Committee further says:

"The main transmission agency should then issue a specification and obtain offers from private companies for taking up the construction of new transmission facilities on ownership basis."

The Expert Committee was very particular that entire ownership should be with the State Government or with the Central Government, as the case may be. That is the recommendation of the Expert Committee. I am sorry to submit that the hon. Minister bringing out a legislation which will not lead us to the recommendations of the Expert Committee and after all,—I am not convinced—he is not in a position to explain as to why this legislation is necessary. We have sufficient legal safeguards. Our position is safe. The 1910 Act is sufficient. The Electricity Supply Act is sufficient. But he has brought forward another legislation. Now, to complement that legislation he is bringing this Bill and this will lead to complete privatisation. That is why, I oppose this move.

The next that I would like to make is about the tariff. Who will determine the power tariffs? Is the Government or this agency? He must tell us as to who is the determining authority. As per the provisions of this Bill, it is the agency or the licensee who is responsible for fixing up the tariff. Suppose the matter is taken to a court of law, then the court will decide. If this Bill is passed in terms of the provisions now contained, I am sure that they will succeed in establishing that the tariff can be determined and decided by the agency or by the licensee who is appointed under the provisions of this statute. Can he deny that? Otherwise, there must be sufficient safeguards in the Bill.

Sir, he may say that he would refer to the provisions in the Electricity Supply Act and also to the 1910 Act. But he has amended all those sections. In the matter of transmission he is making very drastic changes. If you enunciate drastic changes, there must be sufficient safeguards in determining the tariff. There is a very burning issue in Tamil Nadu about concessions to agriculturists and farmers. The State Government is giving them power at a very concessional rate. This will not continue if this Bill comes into operation. Shri Muthiah, I may tell you that after the enactment of Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, it will not be possible for Tamil Nadu to supply power at concessional rates.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, please conclude because you have already taken 20 minutes. Your party is allotted 30 minutes and there is another speaker also from your party.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, Section 27B says:

"(1) The State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify the State Electricity Board or any Government company, as the State Transmission Utility.

(2) The functions of the State Transmission Utility shall be to—

(a) undertake transmission of energy through intra-State transmission system;

(b) discharge all functions of planning and coordination relating to intra-State transmission system with—

(i) Central Transmission Utility;

(ii) State Governments;

(iii) generating companies;

- (iv) Regional Electricity Boards;
- (v) Authority;
- (vi) licensees;
- (viii) transmission licensees; ..."

Now, the transmission licensees are there in the picture. The transmission licensees will not be the State Electricity Board. It will be or can be a private agency because the option is there. The State Transmission Utility shall exercise supervision and control over the intra-State transmission system.

Now, what about the exemption that is granted? The Central Commission has the power to grant exemption to a licensee. Why should it be there? What purpose will be served if you allow to continue this provision in the Bill? Now, Section 27C(1) says:

"Until the Central Commission is established, the Central Government and thereafter the Central Commission may, subject to the provisions of subsection (4), grant a transmission license to any person."

Therefore, that provision is there. That is why, I hold the view that it is a clear-cut case of privatisation.

Sir, before I conclude, I may point out that in our State as well as throughout the nation the burning issue is power production and power supply. I do concede this. Especially in these matters, we should not strictly follow a policy of commercialisation. Of course, commercialisation is there, but the policy must have 'service' as its motto. The farmers should be given all possible concessions in the matter of their profession. As you know, more than 60 per cent population belong to agricultural sector. So far, we were not giving them proper consideration, proper power supply and proper weightage also.

So, whenever any new legislation is brought in, the primary question to be discussed is as to how far we can help the farmers. Now-a-days, commercialisation is the order of the day and, that is why, we are speaking about multinationals and liberalisation. When we speak about these aspects, I would submit that we always forget one aspect and that is the 'service moto' behind all these actions. We should help the farmers and there should not be any attempt to destabilise the machinery that is giving concessions to the farmers, and that must be continued.

Moreover, another factor which I would like to emphasise is about the household connections. A majority

of the population is far below the poverty line. A power connection is not a pleasure or a rich man's convenience, but it is being used by almost all sections. Just we take our food, we should have power connections in our houses. That is why, we must give maximum concessions to the household consumers. They must be given the maximum concessions when we give effect to this legislation. If we can do some justice to these people, then, definitely, we can be proud that we are doing a service by producing the electricity

With these words, I oppose this Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I support the Bill moved by the hon. Minister.

First and foremost I would like to say that electricity is the prime concern of human life. There are many States in the country where supply of power for agriculture and industrial sector is not adequate. The previous Government had also brought a Bill in this regard. I would like to thank this Government for bringing this Bill in Lok Sabha so early. The hon. members have expressed their views on this Bill. A number of members have opposed it also but my friends from the Congress have extended their support to this Bill. Electricity is an important subject. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had once stated that had the supply of power been adequate, there would have been network of industries all over the country. Today almost 26 lakh small scale industries in this country are sick due to inadequate supply of power. Had the industries been managed properly it would have provided jobs to all the educated unemployed particularly in the small scale sector. Those industries are also lying sick due to erratic supply of power. If supply of power had been regular after independence then so many industries would not have gone sick.

If you look at the agricultural sector you will find that most of the State do not get adequate supply of power. There are many villages in the country where there is no electricity at all. It is all happening because of the discriminatory policy of the Government. On the one hand we find ample supply of electricity in the cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Calcutta which are always bright lit and on the other hand our 65 percent population living in rural areas is deprived of this basic facility even. If the supply of power had been good such a situation would not have arisen.

If the distribution system had been proper there wouldn't have been shortage of power in the rural areas. Even today there is no supply of power in those villages

[Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria]

where peasants are engaged in cultivation. If there is power supply better irrigational facilities, can be provided to them. There is no supply of electricity even for drinking water which is also a big problem for the agriculturists. Likewise the figures given by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* I am talking about Uttar Pradesh. Apart from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, M.P. and even Hindi speaking areas have shortage of power supply. The situation there is quite miserable as well as deplorable. There is no proper distribution of power. I would like to give some figures regarding the position of electricity. I would like to tell you that the percentage of electricity of public sector has decreased from 21.8% in 1992-93 to 20.9 per cent in 1994-95. If we compare these figures with the developed countries we will find that the above percentage is dismal. Mere statistics will not solve the problems. All such Bills which were brought in Lok Sabha have got to be monitored. Theft of electricity should be stopped. This country is losing crores of rupees due to the theft of electricity. Electricity meant for consumers is not being supplied to them. The Government bring a number of bills in this regard but leave it at the mercy the States after implementing it. Electricity worth crores of rupees is being pilfered in the States. I think every consumer will get electricity if this pilferage is checked. There will be enough electricity if they succeed in checking theft. All these points have been mentioned in 1994-95 figures. It is stated that the total consumption of electricity is around 800 MW but electricity worth 50 crores of rupees is being pilfered every year in the country. I feel there will be drastic improvement in distribution and transmission of electricity if they succeed in checking this theft I have already stated about the conditions prevailing in rural areas and industries. In support of this Bill I just want to say that steps be initiated to check the theft in order to provide electricity to the people. With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the Bill presented by the hon'ble Minister before the House seeks to amend certain provisions of the Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity Supply Act of 1948. All the Parties on the basis of their experience gained from being in power in the States now hold this view, that if the problem of power is to be solved the role of private sector cannot be ignored and their participation alongwith the Government is equally important. Therefore, I am not going to oppose this Bill. While moving the Bill hon'ble minister has stated something which created some doubts in my mind and in order to clear those doubts and seek clarification, I wish to submit a few words. I have gone through the Bill. It is mentioned in C(1) that—

[English]

"A transmission licence granted under sub-Section (1) may authorise the transmission licensee to construct, maintain and operate any inter-State

transmission system under the direction, control and supervision of the Central Transmission Utility. Every application under sub-section (1) shall be subject to such terms and conditions in such form accompanied by such fees as may be notified by the Central Government or by the Central Commission, as the case may be."

[Translation]

After going through the entire Bill it appeared to me that the Government is going to give licence to the Private Sector for transmission only. But after listening to the views of hon'ble minister, I come to understand that the Government is also going to give authority for distribution of power also to the Private Sector. If it is so, whether any Bill or law is proposed in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* If the Hon'ble Minister wants to say something, I have no objection.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : I would like to clarify that this Bill deals with only transmission. With regard to distribution, the existing law permits the State Governments to give licences for private distributors. It is the State Government which has the authority to give licences for distribution.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, that is why I got little confused and I wanted to know whether the hon. Minister, besides, this Bill is going to bring another Bill through which management of distribution network will be given to the private sector. If this authority for distribution power is already there then he should do something to amend this Electricity laws. But as far my individual opinion is concerned I am against giving the distribution rights to the Private Sector.

Hon'ble Speaker, it is further stated in Article 6 of this Bill that:

[English]

"Whoever, in contravention of the provisions of this Act or regulations of license conditions, engages in the business of transmission of energy shall be punishable with fine which may extend to three thousand rupees and in case of a continuing contravention, with a daily fine which may extend to three hundred rupees."

[Translation]

Hon'ble Members have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister towards the problem of transmission which is a serious problem. The definition of transmission has

not yet been specified. The Electricity Board and their officers consider it as transmission loss whereas the complainants feel that theft of electricity has a lion's share in this transmission loss. If it is a part of theft of electricity then how will it be decided under this Act? If it is detected that there is theft of electricity on a large scale, during transmission then a fine of Rs. 3000 will be imposed which I feel is quite inadequate. Therefore, this section of the Bill has got to be re-defined and the Government should clarify its stand in this regard.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, it is stated in sub-section 10 of Article 11 of this Bill.

[English]

"Until the Central Commission is established, the Central Government and thereafter the Central Commission in the case of Regional Load Despatch Centre and until the State Commission is established, the State Government and thereafter the State Commission in the case of the State Load Despatch Centre of that State, may, by notification, specify the fees and charges to be paid to the Regional Load Despatch Centres and the State Load Despatch Centres, as the case may be, for undertaking the local despatch functions entrusted by the Central Government or by the State Government, as the case may be."

[Translation]

What will be the norms for fixation of tariff? When a person from private sector enters transmission sector he will also consider expenditure incurred at the point of generation and distribution. Will he undertake transmission of electricity without profit? It is, therefore, necessary to have a well-thought out view in order to solve this problem and also to frame a clear cut regulations under this act. This is my submission which got to be paid attention.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, besides there are some other basic problems too which are related to the employees and officers working in the Power sector. Engineers of Electricity Board of U.P. are, on strike from today onwards and the Assitt. Engineers and Junior Engineers are going on strike from tomorrow and day after tomorrow respectively, thereafter all the employees of the Board will go on strike. When the Government of India and the State Government has agreed to give a fresh look to transmission, generation and the distribution of power. It is also required that a fresh approach be adopted in respect of the terms and conditions of the employees working in the Power sector. Separate rules and regulations should be framed for their salaries, and other allowances because if their terms and conditions are not decided right now, then I think we will have to face a

turbulent times ahead. There will be disputes between the workers and the management. If we will have such clashes in the power sector then instead of solving problem of power we will be confronted with a lot of new problems and difficulties.

The fourth point is related to the revenue collection which is a serious problem and almost daily we read about it in the newspapers. The High Court has issued a directive in this regard. The name of sitting and ex members and leaders on which electricity bills amounting to rupees 2.50 lakhs to 3.00 lakhs are due have been published in the newspapers. This is the state of our leaders and the Members of Parliament. Same is the story of the big industrial houses, big capitalists, big commercial organisations who not only indulge in theft of electricity in connivance with Vidut Board but also tamper with the metre readings.

They ignore the tariff on electricity due against them and try for a cut in it. The revenue collection is a big problem. If you are going in for privatisation of transmission then which agency will collect the revenue and how will you pay them? What about the Amount due against them? How will it be collected? The hon'ble Minister should think over it as it is a serious problem, because of this problem we have not been able to invest the amount in power generation and power transmission which we should have actually done. The hon'ble members have cited the example of China, where power generation has gone up substantially. Indeed we are far behind China in power generation but Pakistan too is in a better position whom we take very lightly. There was a time when Pakistan was in a position to supply us power and we were ready to take it had we been able to have better relations with them. We are lagging behind Pakistan in Power generation, power transmission and power distribution. China is far ahead.

I would urge upon the hon'ble Minister to bring a comprehensive bill in this regard taking into account all these points. That will be much better. I am not opposing the bill, I intend to support it. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH (Maharajganj) :  
Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this amendment bill moved by the hon. Minister. The whole country is facing the problem of power. Farmers, industries or organisation working for the cause of eradicating unemployment all are facing this problem. Wherever we look, we find the power crisis. I do not say that efforts have not been made in this direction, but I would like to mention that now when we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of independence, the achievement in power sector has not reached the extent it should have been during these

[Shri Prabhu Nath Singh]

50 years. In this connection a meeting was called on 3.10.96 and 3.12.96 of Chief Ministers of States under the Chairmanship of the Prime Ministers and in that meeting it was decided that it is not possible to supply power through public resources. Laws should be framed and permission should be granted for participation of private sector in the field of transmission and distribution of power. Hon'ble Minister has brought this bill in the same context in the House. Members of all parties are giving their suggestions in this regard and expressing their views. It is said that no State Electricity Board in the country gets profit, in generation of power. Why such a situation arises? During 1996-97, 19 states as mentioned in the report, incurred losses. The loss was to the tune of 37 paise per unit and the total loss to 19 states was of Rs. 7420 crores. On one hand the loss of 37 paise per unit and on the other hand pilferage of power, these two aspects contribute to the closure of state electricity boards. So far as its privatisation is concerned. Commercially three factors viz generation, transmission and distribution are most important. Besides providing security to the grid ensuring efficiency looking after management performance and control are also important. We are going to provide licenses to private investors on commercial basis. I have apprehensions about its success for the reason that we cannot ignore the political and social aspects. As per existing practice surplus power generated in a State is supplied to the other States with the intervention of the Central Government. But when we will transfer it to the private sector we will not be able to do so and hence we will have to face problems. Therefore a strict vigil will have to be kept through law. We think that the previous Government were not willing for it. Had it been so, super thermal power project at Nabi Nagar in Bihar would not have been left in lurch for which the State Government sent the proposal in the year 1988, and a survey team was sent by the Central Government which submitted its report with the recommendation that land is available at the site, coal is also easily available, there is no problem with regard to water; even environmentally this project can be established there. Thereafter, Central Government floated the tenders for it but unfortunately no party was inducted into it and till today the Central Government is keeping mum. Hon'ble Minister is present here—we will request him to start the Nabi Nagar Super Thermal Power Project. We are saying this because due to the national agenda in Bihar, a new crisis is about to come up. I am saying this because you have talked about the division of the state in the national agenda and the day you will divide the state all the power generating plants situated in South Bihar will go that part only and Northern Bihar will reel under darkness.

16.59 hrs.

(SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

Thus is the face of new crisis Nabi Nagar Thermal Power Projects in Central Bihar should be started ...*(Interruptions)* I am saying that it should not be divided. ...*(Interruptions)* that is what I am saying.

17.00 hrs

As far as power is concerned, it is inked with the Ministry of Coal. One thermal power plant is in Kanti in North Bihar. One rake of coal was supplied to the Kanti thermal power which was full of stones and husk. With the intervention of Government of Bihar the coal was lifted back after many days but accounts have not been settled as yet. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister of contact the Ministry of Coal and talk to them. Stones, while damage the plant on one hand, on the other stop the generation of power. This is not just a tall tale, this has happened in Thermal Power station situated at Muzaffarpur. Therefore I would request the hon. Minister to talk to the Ministry of Coal and pay attention to all these things.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Same problem will be there in Nabi Nagar also.

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH : This is what I say. Government should have the will to do so. ...*(Interruptions)* I want that the Government should exhibit its will power strongly. ...*(Interruptions)* I will not speak at length. I will conclude within two to four minutes. I just say that wherever there is a colliery, the officers of the Department of Coal are setting the coal in connivance with each other to earn their own profit, which could have generated the power. In Dhanbad and Hazaribagh in Bihar, two private persons had applied and they were given sanction too. I feel that by generating power the problem of power of the area could be solved. Therefore, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to discuss it in detail with the Ministry of Coal. Keeping this need in view, if such an arrangement is made that the coal which was pilfered and sold clandestinely to pocket the money so received by the Coal employees of the Department of coal, is used in power generation, the problem of one part of Bihar will be solved.

I would request the hon'ble Minister for one more thing. I have written a letter to the hon'ble Minister. I wrote in the letter that I am from such an area which has no district headquarters. I come from area between Siwan and Chhapra. In fact, Mir grid station is located at Chhapra and the power grid station at Siwan. They serve the needs of both of these districts but the area, from

where I come, remains untouched. Therefore, a power sub station be set up at Baniapur, Masrat or Basatpur in Maharajganj constituency, so far as availability of land is concerned we would provide it. We will get your name inscribed on a big stone, you just lay the foundation stone. You have written in reply that this work will be done after receiving the proposal from the State Government. You are a Minister in the Central Government. Please make arrangements to get the proposal from the State Government and approve it and provide money for the same. I will put a big marble stone there and tell that private money and not the funds provided by you will be spent on it. Thank you very much.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister has brought the amendment to the Electricity Laws Bill. We see that position of transmission is in bad shape. Amendment Bill seeks to improve the position of transmission. This has been indicated in the objectives of the bill.

Today no development is possible without power. There is crisis of power in the country. There are no two opinions about the fact that various States, particularly Delhi is facing acute shortage. The power system can be divided into four—first is generation, second transmission, third distribution and the fourth electrification and in this regard there is a fixed principle in our as well as other countries of the World that.

*[English]*

The investment on generation, transmission, distribution and electrification has to be in the ratio of 4.2:1:1.

*[Translation]*

It means that four parts have to be spent on generation, two parts on transmission one part on distribution and one part on electrification. You have brought this bill to improve the transmission system but generation system is very poor. Therefore, firstly there should be improvement in generation and then in distribution and electrification. Presently, we have a capacity of 84,000 megawatt. All States of the country are reeling under power crisis. In the next 7-10 years the country would require additional one lakh MW of power, then only the requirement of power can be met. Therefore first, improvement should be made in generation only. Today in order to generate a single megawatt of electricity a capital of Rs. 4 crores is invested, and if an additional capacity of one lakh megawatt is to be installed, we would require 4 lakh crore of rupees. According to the above formula 2 lakh crores will be needed for

transmission and 1 lakh crore for distribution and one lakh crore rupees will be required for electrification. In total 8 lakh crores of rupees are required then only we would be able to come out of this crisis. Then, India would be able to go forward and there will be overall development.

In the present era development of any country or State without energy is impossible. Not only in the present era but since earlier times power has been worshipped in India. Power has been given the status of Goddess. In Bengal idol of Maa Durga is worshipped as a goddess of power. Reference of worshipping Shakti can be found in our Shastras and Puranas, it is presumed that nothing is possible without shakti. Today electricity, energy and power are forms of Shakti and no development is possible without it. Generation has been neglected and the size of ninth five year plan shows that there can't be any improvement in the generation. If any government wants the solution of power crisis and development, top priority should be given to power, otherwise development can't be thought about.

You have brought the legislation regarding transmission of electricity you think that a little amendment in Electrification Act, 1910 and Electricity Supply Act 1948 and privatisation of the transmission, would bring us out of the crisis. It is a fact that in the absence of a proper system of transmission generation of power even upto 2000 mw would not solve the problem. Possibility to store the power produced has not been explored as yet. The electricity produced requires to be transmitted immediately and if the generation is more the arrangements for transmission should be made accordingly. I agree with the views of hon'ble Minister and acknowledge his worry about transmission, but why is he thinking about transmission first, leaving generation asides. Therefore as has just been said by Mohan Singh ji that a comprehensive Bill should be brought. Therefore the laws relating to generation be amended first. He says that private investment is inevitable but has there been only investment?

We want to know about the investment made by private sector in the field of generation? Now it is said that there will be private investment in transmission. It should be made clear whether the transmission will be owned by private parties. I doubt that private investment may not make them full fledged owner. It will be dangerous to transmit from one place to another. Recently they were worried about the transmission of surplus electricity in eastern region because they didn't have the capacity for transmission of power from eastern region to every where else. It was thought that national grid will be constructed and it will be connected to all parts of the country. Whenever power would be surplus it would be supplied to the other parts of the country. Now it has



[Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

been seen that in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana or whenever coal is not available, thermal power stations are being set up and where there is coal there it is not being set up. The coal alongwith ash content should be carried by train to the nearby areas where it is not available and then power should be generated there. Therefore for political reasons power station should be set up at distant place where coal and ash has to be brought and not at coal pit station or coal pit head station.

Sir I would like to ask one question pertaining to economics. Please tell me whether transportation of coal is cheaper or transmission of power is cheaper. We will not transmit power but we will transport coal and ash and will satisfy all. Where there is coal there is no thermal power station. All these manipulations are just to set up a thermal power station here.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give an example that it has been the practice all over the world in department of power that in order to ensure better supply of power, the ratio should be 60:40.60 per cent thermal power and at least 40 per cent hydro electric, otherwise there could not be any power supply because power is not consumed during all the 24 hours. Amount of consumption during night and day is different. If you use 100% Thermal power then it is possible that at time when you will require more electricity, you will have no supply of electricity and for the period provision of 40 per cent hydel power is necessary. Just now it was told that the ratio of hydro electricity is 25 per cent and in Bihar it is 6-7 per cent. But in the Koyalakaro project 725 megawatts is generated. It is the biggest project of the country. In 1980 it was submitted to Central Government. In 1998 it was approved by the sub-committee and cabinet committee. It was accorded approval by Central Electricity Authority also. All formalities were over. But the Central Government. *...(Interruptions)*  
\* Due to that it has not been implemented so far. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU (Mahasamund) : He is referring to Central Government. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is an unparliamentary word.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The only small issue is that he is using it in the normal sense as used by Bengali or Bihari. It is because the word. ...changes according to the usage.

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I did not use the word for the Hon'ble Minister, I used it for the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Any how the word is not proper, it will be expunged.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, when Mr. Salve was the Minister of power, he had laid three conditions. The first condition was that whatever electricity will be generated, State Government will have to purchase it at a prescribed rate. The second condition related to providing employment opportunities to the displaced persons. As per the verdict of Supreme Court 75% jobs were to be provided by the NHPC and the remaining 25% were to be provided by the State Government to the displaced persons. But NHPC did not agree to it and stated that they can't provide even one per cent jobs. It was then decided that cent percent jobs will be provided to the displaced persons by the State Government itself and the third condition was that maintaining law and order will be the responsibility of the State Government. At that time it was said that the State Government who are ready to accept these conditions will be provided Rs. 10 crore and when the State Government accepted all the three conditions, it was said that they had no funds. The Government has been providing thousands of crores of rupees for various projects of the country but are not providing funds to the State Government but they do raised point of law and order. *...(Interruptions)*

To my knowledge an amount of Rs. one thousand crore was provided where a helicopter was shot at, but the places where just some slogans were raised they said that the law and order situation was bad. An enquiry should be conducted as to why the work of 'Karo Project' is lying pending. It is not in the interest of the country and the State to carry on work of 'Karo Project'? Transmission will only be possible once power is generated there. If there is no power generation what will they transmit? Therefore, Government should take steps to rectify the system of electricity generation, transmission, distribution and electrification.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have covered all the points, Now you please take your seat.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Now the Government have brought this Electricity Law (Amendment) Bill. Investment will be needed for electricity

transmission from one part to another part of the country. In Bihar there is already a power grid, even then I don't know why they are not constructing transmission lines in Bihar. When Shri Kalpanath Rai was the Minister of Power, transmission line was laid from Mau to Muzaffarpur and Muzaffarpur to Bihar Sharief. We request that a technical survey should be conducted. We would like to know why the Powergrid Corporation, responsible for planning of transmission system in the entire country, want to connect only South Bihar with the transmission network and not the North Bihar. Therefore, a transmission line should be constructed from Mau to Muzaffarpur and Muzaffarpur to Mokamghat in Bihar Sharief. There is regular Power supply in South Bihar whereas situation is quite different in North Bihar. The power supply is quite erratic there and therefore there is a need to set up a National Power Grid so that power from surplus States could be transmitted to other States which are facing shortage of power. Similarly, the Power Grid Corporation should be made responsible to ensure proper transmission links so that power can flow from one part to another part in the State.

Lastly, I would like to emphasize that Thermal Power stations should be set up near the coal fields. There should be transmission of power all over the country from there. Only then the objectives of this Bill will be achieved. ...(*Interruptions*) We can overcome the power crisis only by determination and not through any other means.

[*English*]

SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY (*Kendrapara*) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are now discussing the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998, to further amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. The proposed Bill aims to remove the obstacles in the transmission of the power generating units in this country. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has rightly pointed out that if you have proper power generation but could not transmit it, there will be a problem. We have production of wheat and rice in different parts of the country and without any obstacles. They move from one part of the country to another as per the demand. Likewise, I welcome the introduction of this Bill wherein the Power Minister has aimed to remove the bottlenecks in improving the power supply system which at present is very adversely affecting the consumers at large including the rural areas. It ensures quality and reliability of supply of power thus reducing the burden on the exchequer which is caused due to very heavy transmission and distribution losses.

To my knowledge, the Government could not achieve even 50 per cent of the target in power generation in the Eighth Plan. This shortfall alongwith the requirements for the Ninth Plan and also taking the GDP into consideration will require about 60,000 megawatts of additional power generation. Investment required to achieve this generation will be about Rs. 2.40 lakh crore which comes to Rs. 4 crore per megawatt of generation. This may be achieved by hydro-power generation or through power generation by coal sector or atomic sector. If there are obstacles in the transmission system and does not reach consumers, then the whole achievement will become futile and will not help the development of the industry as well as other sectors of our country.

There is a need of investment from overseas and indigenous sources with private sector assistance in achieving a portion of the proposed outlay. But at present, there is no scope of private sector and joint sector entering into power transmission sector until the proposed Bill is passed by the Parliament.

As a rough estimate, about Rs. 1,20,000 crore would be required to deliver the proposed generation of 60,000 MW at the door steps of the consumers. It will be, therefore, appropriate to allow private and joint sectors to enter transmission sector so that at least transmission facilities can be achieved.

In my State, I have observed that the transmission and distribution network is so poor that when power is available even for a short time, the voltage is so low that it is not possible to read. There are also long lines in the range of 11 KV and 33 KV. Extra high voltage lines of 132 KV will solve the problem. It will not only see to it that there is quality and reliability of supply but also see that the transmission system is improved. Similar difficulties are faced in urban areas where distribution network is in a mess. In my State, a few private sector entrepreneurs showed their interest to generate about 10,000 MW but due to inadequate transmission lines, the stations are not coming up. The proposed Bill will provide opportunity for the private sector and joint sector to come up with the proposal to take up the transmission network. At present, power cut continues in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu even after the rains. This problem can be totally solved if there is transmission of high quality reaching the consumers. As I understand, coal is being despatched from Bihar and Orissa to the Southern Grid.

Because of this long range despatch of coal, the cost is about Re. 1 per unit. If the proposed Bill is passed by the Parliament, it will reduce the total cost on per unit of coal, despatched from one destination to the other destination, to the extent of 50 per cent.

[Shri Prabhat Kumar Samantaray]

Once the extra high voltage transmission system is established, the cost of despatch on energy per unit will drastically come down by more than 50 per cent. Besides, at a national plan, about 50,000 MW of hydro potential in the North and North-Eastern Region and 40,000 MW in the Southern Region are available. These projects can only come up after the transmission system is strengthened. The present Bill will go a long way to solve the above problems. The domestic consumers and the industry will be benefited by these transmission facilities.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Members have apprised this House of their valuable views, regarding the Electricity Law (Amendment) Bill. I would like to inform this House through you about the intention of the proposed Bill and the section of this bill that should have been amended. The hon'ble Members have been drawing the attention of the House towards the great disparity between the poor and the rich. During Nehru's era, hon'ble members, particularly Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, used to say in this House that the ratio of wealth between the poor and the rich should not be more than 1:10 in our country. Today electricity is beyond the reach of 25 per cent population in India. The Bill seeks to make provisions for privatization. As a matter of fact, everybody knows that after privatization electricity tariff will go up. Still lakhs and crores of people are deprived of this basic facility of electricity in our country. Electricity is out of their reach. We have not been able to erect even electricity poles for them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is not present in the House, I wanted to toll him that in Rajasthan the farmers have not got agricultural connections even after thirteen years of their applying for a connection whereas industries get electricity connection immediately after submitting application. I would like to reiterate the fact that in Rajasthan, the farmers who had applied for electricity connection in the year 1986-87 have not been provided with electricity connections so far. You are talking about privatization. There is a need to revamp the System. I do not intend to talk about the hidden-agenda of this Government, but it clearly reflects their intentions towards the poor.

Mr. Chairman, wherever privatization has taken place, the interest of labourers and employees have been ignored. I would like to share my experience with you which I had about privatization. Once, I stayed overnight at Baran Rest House of Rajasthan. In the morning a class IV employee told me, though he has been employed

on a salary of rupees six hundred per month for working eight hours daily but in fact he is made to work for 24 hours and even then he has not got his salary. When I brought it to the notice of the District Collector then only he could get his salary. Therefore, the Government will have to take care of all such things. I am not accusing the BJP Government that it is a party of capitalists and is against the poor. But this matter is related to infrastructure and industries.

We have to see whether better amendments could be brought than the proposed amendments in the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill. At least a clause should have been included in the Bill to control any increase in tariff after privatisation. Hon. Minister might have seen the clause imposing penalty on the defaulters. In case of default a cultivator who is not in a position to pay Rs. 500 as monthly electricity rent of a tubewell shall have to pay an amount of Rs. 3000 as penalty the same amount which a millionaire running a factory has to pay. On the other hand you have said about loss in reply to question No. 238 dated 7th July, 1998. You have given data of 1995-96 and have told that maximum loss in Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, 60 per cent of theft of electricity is reported from the posh colonies whereas in agricultural sector it is not even 2 per cent. In Delhi 60% of the theft of electricity is reported from posh colonies whereas you claim it as merely 48 percent. Jammu and Kashmir comes second in north region. You cannot check the loss of Delhi Electricity Board. All state electricity are running in loss but in Delhi the loss is maximum which will further increase after privatization.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have never wasted the time of the House. You have given me an opportunity to speak for the first time but ringing of the bell as a reminder of the time limit is irritating. But your wish is supreme.

Sir, I visited Kota dam. I found that you want to augment the transmission of power by erecting the power lines or by rectifying the Grid Stations or whatever is the means of transmission. Hydel power is generated in Kota dam and it is the cheapest one. If the channels are repaired the speed of the circulation of the reactor will increase which will further increase the generation of power. No attention is being paid on this aspect. More than half of the total generation of Hydel power of India can be generated in Utarakhand itself but no attention is being paid in this direction. You would have observed that whenever an electric pole comes down in the village nobody comes to repair it. If one cultivator in village does not pay the electricity bill then the power supply of the whole village is stopped whereas on the other hand in cities if a person does not pay the electricity bill, the supply of the whole area is not stopped. You should convey this point to the Minister of Power of the States.

The gap between generation and distribution of electricity cannot be bridged with the same pace even after privatization. The Govt. should also think over this matter. Privatization does not mean that the Govt. will do any decision. The Hon. Minister should inform the House regarding the steps the Govt. is taking to increase the generation and meet the shortage of electricity. The electricity boards of Delhi and other states are running in loss. The condition of the electricity boards is deteriorating. The hon'ble Minister should pay attention to improve the conditions of the boards and to check the loss.

I would like to say to the hon. Minister that there is too much power cut these days. It is reported in the newspapers that rural areas remain out of power of 6 months in a year. If the transformers go out of order, they are not replaced even upto six months in the village. The Minister should visit the village and send their representative to the village. The power there is for name sake only. I am not talking about Rajasthan, condition of Uttar Pradesh is also bad. I am talking about the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh. There is no body to attend to your complaint in village. You will see power lines, but there is no current in these lines. Nobody will attend to your complaints for months. The situation of the rural areas is deteriorating. There is some fault in our system. There is need to rectify it.

I want to talk about Rajasthan. There are no meter readers in the state. There are only 50 per cent employees of the required strength in the State Electricity Board. The Govt. should take steps to improve the condition of the board so that they could check the theft of power and can do other necessary work also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to conclude by making a request. We talk about the generation of Conventional energy. You should give that amount to electricity boards for the generation of power which we are spending on the purchase of equipments and other means of solar energy. Definitely such a scheme can be formulated. Further I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to bring certain amendments in this Bill so that something can be done in favour of the peasants and poor people after privatisation. You can also bring some amendments to provide similar rights to the agriculturists as being provided to the industrialists. Poor people should also get these rights so that they can get their electricity connections. With these words I support the Bill with the hope that you will bring such amendments in this Bill which will provide electricity at the doorsteps of poor people, will provide regular electricity supply to the peasants and will also ensure that the transformers, which are out of order and not get replaced for even six months period by the Electricity Board, get replaced at the earliest.

SHRI JAUL ORAM (Sundargarh) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. Hon'ble Minister should have brought this Bill earlier as it is an important Bill

which seeks to separate the generation, transmission and distribution system of power. As you know Orissa Legislative Assembly has passed the Electricity Reform Bill in 1992 which had a provision for Electricity Regulatory Commission, a quasi-judiciary body. When transmission, distribution and generation of electricity were handled under the same authority, it had often been seen that whenever problem arises with the transmission, distribution and generation of electricity, they kept shifting their blame on each other. Now they will get separate identity

You will see that a lot of data have been given but I do not want to delve deep into those details. In our country transmission loss is shown to the highest level but in fact it is not that much. Most of the loss is the result of power theft. Those employees who are engaged in the distribution work are indulging in a lot of malpractices. This transmission loss is a pretext. The bill introduced by the hon'ble Minister to improve the transmission system is quite a good Bill. There is not much to be criticized in this Bill. There are three sections in this Bill. They are: The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and sections 41 and 55 of the Indian Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 in which you are going to have major amendments. I want to draw his attention towards clause 41 of the original Act.

[English]

Penalty for unauthorised supply of energy by non-licencee'

[Translation]

There is a provision in the Bill which states.

[English]

"Whosoever, in contravention of this provision of Section 28, engages in the business of supplying of energy shall be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 3000, and in the case of continuing contravention, with a daily fine which may extend to Rs. 300."

[Translation]

You have brought the same thing in the amendment and you are adding 41(a) therein. You are giving the same thing there also. I am unable to understand this point. I urge that while giving reply please clarify the point whether you will ask to regulate the transmission after incorporating this clause. Will it be sufficient. For the purpose where there is theft or illegal use, there is a provision for imposition of a penalty of Rs. 3000/- and a penalty of Rs. 300 a day, but it is too low.

[English]

because it is a distribution system. But in case of transmission.

[Shri Jaul Oram]

[Translation]

and the loss or theft in transmission

[English]

would be of a high magnitude.

[Translation]

You cannot regulate it by just adding this small clause. Secondly you have written that you will create State load centre and Regional load centre SLDC and RLDC. I would like to tell you that initially they are working. They were almost working. Transmission will be done through these. But you have incorporated a proviso. The powers which are given to them through this and the arrangement that is made, it appears if the private parties who will see the affairs do not agree to it

[English]

then, you do not have sufficient power to control them.

[Translation]

In this regard there is no sufficient provision in it. Therefore I would like to say that the bill which you have brought is all right because you have brought this on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. It is very good but after further study if further amendments are required to be brought, please incorporate those amendments also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to bring one thing to the notice of Hon'ble Minister that since some time back we are not paying much attention to captive generation. There are so many large organisation such as SAIL, NALCO, or other organisations to whom we could not provide power. Therefore, they started installing captive power plants and some organisations have installed the power plants and are generating power. Many organisations in private sector are also in favour of installing captive power plants.

[English]

Medium sector companies are also interested to have their own captive power plants.

[Translation]

I would like to say that it is not proper on the part of Government to create problem for this by imposing strict rules and regulations. It should be liberalised. The Government should make arrangement for installation of captive power plants by them on easy terms. The figures given to us regarding electricity are not actual. The requirement of power in future will be actually much higher. At present we are able to meet only 75 per cent of required power. I understand, actually we meet less than this.

[English]

We are able to meet only 60 per cent of the demand.

[Translation]

The thing is that we just provide figures and nothing else. You can see any rural area. There is a cut in power supply for six to eight hours a day. But figures show that the cut in power supply is for two hours or one hours only. But actually it is for more than that duration. Therefore, more attention should be paid towards captive generation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, secondly I want to submit that our attention towards generation through hydel plants is not as much as is being given to thermal power generation. The Government should pay more attention to hydel power generation. Thirdly we are not paying enough attention to the new technology for the existing plants, whether they are hydel or thermal power plants. If we use old technology in old plants and modernise the plants,

[English]

it can give additional installed capacity of power and generation of additional megawatts of power.

[Translation]

Attention should be paid towards this.

Thirdly, the electricity regulation is not proper. There had been so many disasters. I would like to refer to the Baripara fire accident. There was huge camp of Nigmanand Bhakta at Baripara wherein he had been supplied with a special transformer with the supply of electricity through overhead lines. But when the provision of overhead lines were made, residential accommodations for the devotees was constructed. Had the electricity inspector or regulatory authority paid sufficient attention on it that disaster would not have taken place. At present there is ample provision of electricity licence but it is used very casually. Several organisations are not using Indian Standard Installation. Consequently grid is also being affected and problems are also being faced in maintaining the frequency. Hon'ble Minister should give an assurance for doing it strictly.

Now I would like to say something about my state. You know that American Electric Supply has given licence to construct three phase for generation of electricity in IB valley. The proposal for three phases consists of

[English]

Two units of 500 mw generation capacity for the first 500 mw and again two units for the next phase of 500 mw each generation capacity. There is also the third stage.

[Transition]

But in agreement for power purchase, the rates are very high. When we were MLAs in Orissa we raised this issue frequently.

[English]

Even Shri Srikant Jena who was Kendrapara MP at that time,

[Translation]

was saying that there has been a lot of bungling. But when he became a Minister then he accepted the power purchase agreement and the memorandum as it was. I would like to urge that it requires a review.

[English]

It is in the larger interest of the State.

[Translation]

Because the power tariff there

[English]

will be more than Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 2.80 per unit. According to that, I would request the hon'ble Minister to review it.

[Translation]

A lot of thanks for giving me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA (Chikballapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I have stood up to support the Bill. The hon. Minister may be surprised. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am from Karnataka where there is a paucity of electricity supply. Our entire agricultural population is put to a lot of inconvenience, and they are unable to pay even the loans they have borrowed to install the pumpsets because of non-supply of power regularly. We are not even getting power for three to four hours in a day hereby agricultural production has come down. Not only agriculturists, but educated youth also are coming to towns in search of jobs.

Wherever these NRWS are there, the villagers are not getting even drinking water because of non-supply of power. Even if they supply power for two or three hours, there will be no voltage. This is the position of the power supply. The agriculture is now losing its charm and agriculturists are trying to migrate to cities and towns in search of work.

Secondly, we are trying to get power from the National Grid. There also the voltage is very flexible and very low. Ultimately, I have come to the conclusion that not only this transmission but generation and distribution

also should be privatised. I want electric power and you supply me power; whichever way you want. As a farmer I want to survive. In my own farm, I have got two generators of 25 KV. each. But how long can I sustain? It is not possible.

The management of Electricity Boards is highly callous in all the States. They have fixed Rs. 300 or Rs. 500 per HP per year stating that we do not have meters for our pump sets. Whatever thefts of power that take place in the industry, they say that it is transmission loss. That comes to about 25 per cent to 28 per cent. This is how they have been defrauding the people and when we question them, they say that the farmers are using so much of power and all that. When the power is not available and when we cannot run the motors for three hours a day, how can we consume so much of power and from where does the question of wastage comes?

Looking into all these things, when I was a Cabinet Minister, I used to tell them that they were not able to manage these things, so let it be given to private agencies. This is what I have been advocating from the very beginning. That is why, in the beginning, I said that I am supporting this Bill.

Yes, I do support it but my only apprehension is whether it will be beyond politics or not. There should not be any politics in approving this legislation and there should not be any red-tapism.

Sir, I have some important thing to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. An MoU was signed with regard to Congentrix 1000 MW power project when Shri Bangarappa was the Chief Minister about seven or eight years back. For the last seven years nobody questioned those transactions but now somebody has filed a writ petition stating the bribe has been given in this case. It has not been stated in the petition to whom it is given and how much bribe has been given and all that. The High Court has said that let there be a CBI enquiry. Then the State Government filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court and there was a stay on that.

I would request the hon. Minister not to take shelter of this litigation and tell us that this should be cleared only after the clearance of the litigation. What has it to do with the litigation? If anybody has taken any bribe, let there be a CBI enquiry and let him go to jail. But till this case is over in the Supreme Court, I do not think that you would be able to give clearance to this Congentrix project in your term as Minister for Power.

You know you are surviving by the power supplied by the AIADMK grid from Tamil Nadu ! Sometimes, the voltage drops ! Sometimes, the voltage will very high!

[Shri R.L. Jalappa]

...(Interruptions) You are suffering because of it! Sometimes, you are suffering because of the low voltage! ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Shri Kumaramangalam can manage anybody !

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : When such is the position, I would request you to kindly see that this is cleared as early as possible. Please do not mix politics in this. In addition to that, there are several projects that are pending with you. They are (1) the MoU in regard to Crude Liquid Fuel Project, that is, 200 MW Hassan Power Company Project, (2) 100 MW Peenya Power Company project, (3) 115 MW India Power Partners project, and (4) 100 MW IPS Power Corporation project at Nanjangud. I do not know why they should be withheld. Please clear them as early as possible. When you are interested in improving the position of power in this country, there is no reason to withhold those projects. This is also a part of the country. Please clear them.

Secondly, I do not know why the barge-mounted projects should be withheld. There are two barge-mounted projects near Mangalore. They have come. They are pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests. There is no pollution. There is nothing. This power will be produced in the sea, keeping at the generators and all that. You know very well than me. Please see that these are cleared.

Then, there is a 350 MW coal-based project at Bijapur. It is pending with the CEA. Can you use your influence and see that that is cleared? I have a list of many more such projects which are pending with you. If you permit me, I will come and discuss with you personally. I will bring all these things to your kind notice.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The hon. Member is always welcome if he find time.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : At Kudremukh, they want to produce 60 MW of their own power. It is yet to be cleared. Then there are hydroelectric projects. They are Sivasamudram and Mahadayi projects. We are already generating power at Sivasamudram. If we want to enhance it by 40 MW, unfortunately, the Government of Tamil Nadu is objecting to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Mr. Minister, kindly react on his remarks.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please sit down.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : After producing power, where does the water go? I do not know why they will be so cruel on this. I cannot understand that.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It is detrimental to the riparian areas. At first, you settle the Cauvery issue. You cannot go further.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : You are not repaired to settle it. After production of power, where does the water go? It will come to you. On the other hand, it acts as a reservoir for you. Even the Kudremukh project and all that will act as reservoirs.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The real problem is that you could separate the problem of water with generation of power. There are two projects. They are Sivasamudram and Hogenakal. It could be discussed between the two Chief Ministers and sorted out. But the approach has to be positive. It is not one of snatching.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : At first, you settle the issue of Cauvery. Without that, how can they clear? What happened to Sivasamudram project?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Both of us should survive. For years to come, we cannot go on fighting with each other by destroying our own property and human lives. It is not possible. It has to be settled.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jalappa, pleased conclude.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : I have already requested the hon. Minister to allow us to come and discuss things with him. With these few words, I will support this Bill. The hon. Minister should see that such projects are expedited as early as possible. Thank you.

18.00 hrs

DR. SAROJA V. (Rasipuram) : Hon. Chairman, at the outset let me welcome this Bill and at the same time I urge that the people of Tamil Nadu, the farmers' community, should be given free electricity.

Secondly, the Scheduled caste and Scheduled Tribe community should be provided free electricity for their one line system.

Thirdly, the long pending Jayagundam Project should be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we will have to take the sense of the House because there are 18 Members more to speak.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We can continue tomorrow. Please adjourn the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We may allow a few Members to speak.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The Members seem to be of the view that they should go into the matter in depth. We can continue tomorrow.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 21, 1998/Asadha 30, 1920 (Saka)*

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