

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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CONTENTS

[Thirteenth Series, Vol. VI, Third Session, 2000/1922 (Saka)]

No. 23, Tuesday, April 25, 2000/Vaisakha 5, 1922 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Questions Nos. 421 to 423 and 425	1—30
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Questions Nos. 424 and 426 to 440	30—56
Unstarred Questions Nos. 4579 to 4808	56—352
BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE	353
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	353—358
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS	
Second and Third Reports	358
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS	
Statements	359
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE	
Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Reports	359—360
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS	
Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Reports	360
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE	
Third, Fourth and Fifth Reports	360
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	
Ninety-Third, Ninety-Fourth, Ninety-Fifth and Ninety-Sixth Reports	361
MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENTS ADDRESS	
-Adopted	361—368
Shrimati Sonia Gandhi	361
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	366
STATEMENT BY MINISTER	
Price Policy for Copra for 2000 Season and Raw Jute for 2000-2001 Season	
Shri Sunder Lal Patwa	389—392

*The sign-marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ELECTION TO COMMITTEE	
Central Committee of the Tuberculosis Association of India	392—393
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	393—399
(i) Need to provide funds to State Government of Rajasthan for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Bawanvas region.	
Shrimati Jaskaur Meena	393
(ii) Need to extend National Highway No. 86 From Kanpur upto Bhopal	
Shri Virendra Kumar	393
(iii) Need to allocate some part of salt cess For the repair of Sonala and Sumpur road in Orissa	
Shri Anadi Sahu	394
(iv) Need for four laning of National Highway No. 8A from Surajbari to Samkhiyali, Gujarat	
Shri P.S. Gadhavi	394
(v) Need to open LPG outlets at Shree Hargovindpur And Ghuman towns in districts Gurdaspur, Phillaur Parliamentary constituency, Punjab	
Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary	395
(vi) Need to set up a regional provident fund Office at Kottarakara in Quilon district, Kerala	
Shri Kodikunnil Suresh	395
(vii) Need for all-round development of North Malda in West Bengal	
Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni	396
(viii) Need to amend CRZ Notification for the Benefit of Fishermen of Kerala	
Shri T. Govindan	396
(ix) Need to provide necessary funds for Rehabilitation of evictee families of Airport Authority land being rehabilitated at Lothukunta And Kukatapalli in Andhra Pradesh	
Shri Ram Mohan Gadde	397
(x) Need to ensure early laying of rail line Between Etawah and Shahjahnpur in U.P.	
Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh	397
(xi) Need to link Himalayan rivers with Peninsular Rivers and clear the Ganga-Cauvery link Garland Canal Project	
Dr. S. Jagathrakshakan	398
(xii) Need to take steps for removal of rock Patches and widening of the mouth of Nhava Creek at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust at Raigarh, Maharashtra	
Shri Ramsheth Thakur	398
GENERAL BUDGET—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2000-2001	
Ministry of Communications— <i>voted</i>	400—504
Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev	401
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	409

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri Rupchand Pal	414
Shri Prabhunath Singh	421
Shri K.A. Sangtam	424
Shri Subodh Mohite	429
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	437
Shri Maheshwar Singh	441
Dr. V. Saroja	445
Shri Ram Mohan Gadde	448
Shri Ramsagar Rawat	449
Vaidya Vishnu Datt Sharma	451
Shri Lakshman Singh	453
Shri A. Brahmanaiah	457
Shri Ramdas Athawale	460
Shri S.S. Palanimanickam	462
Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar	466
Shri E. Ahamed	471
Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale	475
Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora	475
Shri Ram Raghunath Chaudhary	477
Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar	481
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	482

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 25, 2000/Vaisakha 5, 1922 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Education Guarantee Scheme

*421. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to implement Education Guarantee Scheme in the country;

(b) if so, the basic details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to have greater community participation at the village level therein;

(d) if so, the details of financial assistance proposed to be provided to the States thereunder;

(e) whether some time limit has been fixed to ensure implementation of the scheme in all districts of the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether any study has been conducted for ascertaining the reasons for the children dropping out of schools; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (h) The scheme of Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE), which is currently being finalised, provides for a learning centre in all habitations not having a school within

a radius of one Kilometre, based on local Jemand. This component of the AIE Scheme is also known as the Education Guarantee Scheme. The scheme will involve participation of the community through Panchyati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Village Education Committees (VECs). An amount of Rs. 245.00 Crores has been earmarked for assistance to State/UT Governments during 2000-2001 for the AIE scheme. Actual transfer of funds will depend on proposals from the States/UTs.

The revised scheme is likely to be operationalised in the current financial year. The scheme will cover the entire country.

There have been several studies on the problem of school drop-outs. Two nation-wide analyses were carried out as part of the 42nd Round (1986-87) and 52nd Round (1995-96) of the National Sample Survey. Major reasons identified for school drop-out in these surveys are (i) Child not interested in study, (ii) Failure or inability to cope with studies, (iii) Financial constraints, (iv) Participation in household economic activities, (v) Parents not interested and (vi) Domestic work.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to ask two supplementaries.

[English]

They will be in two parts. I would ask the first part of my first supplementary. The 83rd Constitution (Amendment) Bill was introduced in 1997 to bring elementary education under fundamental rights.

[Translation]

This bill is pending since 1997. It is my request to the hon'ble Minister that in this bill.

[English]

When you are talking about bringing elementary education under fundamental right, will this Bill be passed in this year itself? This is part (a) of my supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohite, you are entitled to ask two supplementaries.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: The second part is this. What steps is the Government taking to ensure affordable education, including technical and professional education, for children belonging to middle, lower and backward classes?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, though this question is not related to fundamental rights, still I would like to tell that after introduction, this Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. Standing Committee submitted its report, we had discussion with the State Government on these reports and subsequently a draft cabinet note was forwarded to the Cabinet which is under consideration. It has been sent to a group of Ministers. Further action will be taken after receiving a report from there....(Interruptions)

My reply is very clear that further action will be taken when the outcome of Group of Ministers is known.

As far as your second question is concerned many schemes are run with a view to affordable education such as, Navodaya Vidyalayas, which are especially set up in backward areas. In these schools, there is an arrangement for giving incentive for studies to the children belonging to Backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

[English]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: The hon. Minister has not given a proper reply to my first supplementary.

[Translation]

My question was whether the cabinet will take this decision this year. But I did not get reply to that.

[English]

I would put the first part of my second supplementary. The average school education of adults in developing countries like China, Sri Lanka and Korea is five, seven and nine years respectively. However, in India, why is the average school education of adults only two years as compared to other developing countries?

The second part is, that the female literacy rate in India is lower than most of the developing countries like Africa. What are the flaws in the system and the reasons for lagging behind in the field of education?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, in fact his main question relates to guarantee of education for SC and ST and not related to original question. Still whatever information I have I want to share it. Women education lagged behind in many states in our country due to some social reasons. Now we have tried to accelerate the pace

of literacy. The rate of literacy which was eight per cent earlier has now gone up to 50 per cent. Still it is a fact that the rate of women literacy in our own country is far below in comparison to that in many countries, including some African countries. Efforts are being made to accelerate this rate but owing to social and economic reasons the desired rate has not been achieved.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, we must appreciate that the Government has come up with an Alternative and Innovative Education Scheme to see that literacy is increased and the drop-outs are reduced in the nation. In this connection, I would like to request the hon. Minister to do one thing. I would also like to draw his attention to the fact that Andhra Pradesh has formed the Village Education Societies long back. During the year 1997-98 itself, the Village Education Societies have been formed and the parents have been made members of this particular Scheme. A statutory recognition has been given and the management bodies are also elected by the parents of these children. The State Government has also requested the Union Government to fund this particular Village Education Society Scheme. This particular Scheme, which has now been contemplated by the Government of India, which is to be commenced from the year 2000-2001, was started in Andhra Pradesh during 1997-98 itself. The Government has asked for reimbursement of these funds. I would like to know whether the Government of India is going to reimburse the expenditure that has been incurred and the money spent by the State Government with effect from 1997-98.

Regarding part (b) of this question, I would like to say that the question has not been properly replied to. I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to part (e) of my questions which is:

"whether some time limit has been fixed to ensure implementation of the scheme in all the districts of the country..."

Is there any time frame that has been worked out? It is not merely the introduction of the Scheme during the year 2000-2001 which matters. What is the total time frame to implement this particular Scheme in all the districts? Within one kilometre of the area, you will have to locate the schools and implement this particular Scheme. You will have to see that all the children get educated under the Education Guarantee Scheme. So, in this connection, I would like to know what are the steps that are being taken by the Government of India to achieve this objective.

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Many States have launched such schemes. Such schemes are in progress in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh also. Similarly different type of schemes are in progress in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. We are regularly funding the schemes which are under Central Government. Funds will also be provided to the States from the year 2000-2001 wherefrom the proposals are received under Education Guarantee Scheme. But under this scheme, there is no provision to provide funds retrospectively, since the scheme will be effective from year 2000-2001 only. State Governments will have to approach their Finance Department in this regard. There is no such scheme here. As far as the implementation is concerned, our target is to admit every child of this country in the age group of six to 14 years in any capacity in school and by the year 2005 we want to achieve literacy rate of 75 per cent in India.

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: In the last paragraph of the statement laid on the Table of the House, the hon. Minister has drawn attention to the reasons for school drop-outs. May I suggest to him that he should also take into consideration the reasons for school retention?

As has been demonstrated in the States like Madhya Pradesh, immediately granting a small sum of money to start a school with community participation has a major impact on school retention. The experience of Tamil Nadu definitely shows that if cooked meals are supplied at schools, not just grain, it will lead to a very very high level of school retention. The provision of sanitation facilities in schools has a major impact on the retention of adolescent girl students in the schools. Will the Minister please take into consideration the experience of other States like Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and also go deeply into the questions of how school retentions can be increased?

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome all the suggestions of hon. Members and want to tell them that on the basis of these schemes all the components have been included in Central Scheme and even Education Guarantee Scheme is evolved on the basis of this only. We are promoting this scheme in States so that the people encourage their communities and Gram Panchayat and they get funds immediately. We have told that District Committee would take up this task and the members of Gram Panchayat will administer it. As far as

the question of cooked meal is concerned, it is the prerogative of the State Government. Some State Governments definitely give ready food whereas some States give grains. My Bio-technology Department has prepared 'Reddy-to-eat-food' which does not get spoiled. It contains three hundred to four hundred calories of protein. We have prepared a nutritious food since we know that children take more interest in studies when they are given nutritious food. Thirdly, we are trying to make the tools of education interesting so that children take keen interest in studies.

[*English*]

Otherwise, if the method of pedagogy is not very interesting and if it is dull and drab method, then also boys and girls drop out of schools.

[*Translation*]

We are trying that side also. As far as the question of toilets raised by you is concerned, it is very important and we express our desire that Rural Development and Employment Schemes Department should participate in the process of construction of toilets and urinals in schools. I urge Members of Parliament also to contribute funds from the quota to the schools for this work. Efforts are being made to provide this facility in the schools whenever they exist....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has made primary education free. As has been said in the reply that there are many children who are not able to pursue their studies because of financial, domestic-economic constraints. On the other hand there are some children who perform better in studies at primary level but when they pursue their studies further they find no arrangement has been made for them for further studies. I want to ask hon. Minister and the Government as well whether the Government is ready to take the responsibility or not of education upto twelfth class for children who are good in studies at primary level? If the Government is not ready why it is so? Atleast upto twelfth class the Central Government should provide education on its own. We cannot call a child educated if he cannot study upto twelfth standard after studying upto primary level if one is not able to study further because of pennilessness or economic constraint, one becomes useless. Even the children who want to study cannot study. I want to know from hon. Minister whether there is any plan to provide free education upto Twelfth class. After completion of studies there is no guarantee of employment whereas one should get employment. Hon. Minister should kindly reply this.

[English.]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It does not arise from this question. Anyway, I will reply.

[Translation]

The constitutional obligation is to provide compulsory and free education from the age of six of fourteen years and Central Government fulfills this responsibility. There is no constitutional obligation after fourteen years but there is moral obligation and we try to fulfil moral obligation. This job is accomplished according to the resources provided by you. Mainly it is the duty of State Government to take initiative regarding education and State Government and Communities should work jointly. We are ready to fulfil the responsibility entrusted to Central Government. As far as second part is concerned, we have planned to emphasis upon professional education so that the children in future can learn some profession and become productive and helpful in economic prosperity of the nation. We are formulating a programme on Vocational Education which will be presented to you soon.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: My supplementary is related to next question.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister replied that full arrangements will be made for education of children upto six years. You have also said fifteen per cent women are literate who are above twenty five years of age. With this, I would like to add that I was also in the Government and it is my experience that Adult Education Programme also would be a failure like Family Welfare Programme. If you are honest in efforts then tell us how many boys in the age group of six to eleven years....(Interruptions). I have taken admission, if not, how many couldnot take admission. Please tell us.

MR. SPEAKER: It is in next question.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Therefore, I have just asked you and you have permitted me. Earlier, I have said that I will ask on this question only. How many boys and girls of the age group of six to eleven years are illiterate who have not taken admission anywhere. If hon. Minister succeeds in it, it will be a great service to the nation.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: This question is related to next question still I would tell you. There are 19 crores children in our country out of which fourteen or fifteen crores are in the schools. One crore children are below six years. We are worried about them as to how to make them literate soon. There are four crore drop

outs who have studied upto fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth....(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: It is question of age.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It is six years.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Not 6 it is up to 11 years.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: You may give notice, I will reply.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: My question is same, kindly consider it as a notice and give a written reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Then a letter will reach you.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: First of all I would like to congratulate hon. Minister that State Government should honestly implement this programme....(Interruptions) Let met speak. I would like to congratulate because if State Government implement this programme honestly then it will be meaningful for expansion and publicity in the field of education definitely. But simultaneously, i would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards DPT Programme whose purpose was to strengthen primary education. Under this programme there was a provision for constructing building and for additional teachers also. But in many places instead of recruiting additional teachers, teachers from department of education were sent on deputation to some States. I would like that this programme is run smoothly. Would you constitute a district level committee to ensure it and also ensure the participation of the Members of Parliament in it so that funds provided by Central Government can be utilised properly.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I would consider the suggestion given by hon. Member seriously. I will consider these at the time of constituting district Committees.

[English]

SHRI M. CHINNASAMY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for reducing the drop-outs in schools, particularly in elementary schools, the late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri M.G. Ramachandran had introduced a novel, historical, practical and radical scheme, known as Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme in Tamil Nadu. Due to the introduction of this scheme, school drop-outs have been reduced considerably.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that in order to strengthen the primary education whether the Central Government would come forward to introduce such a scheme at the expense of the Central Government without expecting the State Governments throughout the country.

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Entire funds for this scheme are provided by Central Government and it will depend upon State Governments how they implement it Central Government directly cannot prepare food and supply it. This will have to be done by State Governments. Many State Government do it, whereas others do not. I urge them that it will be better if they serve prepared and hot meal. But it depends upon them.

[*English*]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his statement has stated about the Alternative and Innovative Education Scheme. It is going to be launched in this financial year.

In the third paragraph, he says that the number of dropouts from the schools is mainly because of financial constraints and participation in household economic activities.

The House knows that the largest number of dropouts is from amongst the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. May I know from the hon. Minister what special attention has been paid or special provision has been made in this revised scheme for the benefit of children from the Backward Classes Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes whose number in the dropouts in the 42nd Round and the 52nd Round is the highest in the country? I would like to know what are the special features in the scheme for these weaker sections.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a separate question also.

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this scheme is mainly for the areas where Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are in abundance. Because under this scheme it was stated that a school should immediately be set up in the areas where there is no school within a kilometre distance and if there is demand for school. We have planned to run one lac and eighty thousand such schools. Out of these maximum schools, will be set up in Backward classes areas, Scheduled Caste and

Scheduled Tribes areas. Therefore, main aim of this scheme is to pay attention towards these colonies and areas.

Adult Education through Voluntary Organisations

*422. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

(a) the schemes formulated under the Literacy mission to spread literacy by the Voluntary Organisation among the adults;

(b) whether the area of operation, number of adults to be made literate and course content are also mentioned under the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the arrangement put in place to provide guidelines from time to time to implement the scheme; and

(d) the procedure adopted to ascertain the actual contribution made by these voluntary organisations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) A Scheme of 'Support to Non-Government Organisations in the field of Adult Education' has been formulated.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Voluntary Organisations are funded for eradication of illiteracy, running of post literacy and continuing education programmes in well defined areas for specific number of adults. The course content targets at achieving functional literacy.

The scheme is reviewed and revised from time to time.

(d) The progress of the projects is monitored through:

- (i) Quarterly Progress Reports;
- (ii) Annual Reports;
- (iii) External Evaluation.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Literacy Mission turns into Adult Education till it reaches village level. As per international agency attached to United

Nation Adult Education Programme being organised in India is not satisfied. There is a grave loot in case of publicity for Literacy Mission and Adult Education. Is hon. Minister taking any preventive steps so that atleast there is no loot in Adult Education Programme.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Best efforts are being made in this regard and I want to inform you that we have evolved a new scheme in this connection. We will evaluate it at four stages. First preliminary report which will be given by the organisation, then we will enquire at district and state level and finally our Central Committee will investigate. We will ask for quarterly and yearly reports also. Regional officers have also been appointed under this scheme who will visit those areas and would find out whether the schemes are being run properly or not.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Sir, Central Government receives a quarterly and yearly progress report. On the basis of this report how many officers in how many districts and other people associated with Adult Education are charged with this loot and that education is not being provided properly over there. Action has been initiated against how many such persons at district level. Whether hon. Minister has received any report in this regard? If so please tell us.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Hon. Members, information is received from some areas and that was got investigated. Information was received from Jahanabad and Araria districts of your Bihar. Complaint received regarding Jahanabad was investigated and was found to be false.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know that what happens to thousands of millions of rupees given to voluntary organisation for Adult Education. I did not see Adult Education Programme in any village. This money is provided to some such persons who run schools merely on paper or they take money with the connivance of an office-clerk. Has it been investigated? If not, then it is my firm opinion that this money is given for the pocket of a few persons. Therefore, allocation of funds to such organisation for Adult Education should be stopped. These funds should be allocated to other Departments of Education so that it helps in imparting education. I want to know how much amount has been allocated for Adult Education so far and how many adults have been made literate with the help of that amount?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rs. 111 crore in the year 1997-98, Rs. 88 crore in the year 1998-99, Rs. 110 crore in the year 1999-2000 and Rs. 120 crore in the year 2000-2001 were allotted.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: I want to know how many adults have been educated? Do you have any report in this connection?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do fully agree with Mishraji that this money is going in vain. Adult Education is not working properly. Therefore, some alternative scheme should be prepared.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Thousands of millions of rupees allotted for Adult Education is going in vain and is not being utilized properly. Therefore, it should be stopped. I did not receive appropriate reply. I had asked that how much amount has been spent and how many persons have been educated?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has already replied. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA: I would like to know whether the Government has any plan to decentralise primary education to the village level or to the point of operation. The traditional type of primary education now is no longer possible. I am talking about street children and children who have to be taught in their spare time. This level of primary education can be linked together with adult education. If it is done at the primary level, it will help those poor children. I understand that there is a very good scheme in Madhya Pradesh, which can be followed.

I would like to know whether there is any scheme for decentralising and bringing it down to the level and making it community oriented.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Though the question is entirely different but I would like to tell that Education Guarantee Scheme is decentralised Scheme and is decentralised to the levels of Gram Panchayat, district level, State level and Central level. Under this scheme institutions at the state, district and Gram Panchayat levels would be set up and it would be run by village institutions and Panchayati Raj Institutions. In this way this is a decentralised scheme.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are voluntary organisations and voluntary organisations. There are good NGOs and bad NGOs. The hon. Minister

will surely agree that the monitoring mechanism is weak. Therefore, will the hon. Minister consider linking the monitoring to the local bodies, namely, *Gram Panchayats* and other *Panchayat* related bodies. The MPs, MLAs, and local bodies are completely kept in dark in regard to the contributions made to these NGOs. Will the hon. Minister take specific steps in this direction?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We evaluate it by very specialised and very important Committees and institutions now.

[Translation]

The mistakes which have been committed in the past would be rectified under this scheme. Participation of peoples representatives would be considered only after district Committees are formed under this scheme.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We are demanding an assurance from you that the local body representatives are associated with it.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Let me complete my point first. We have set up State Literacy Mission. Under this mission may be representatives of States and State Governments. As we are decentralising, this scheme, it would depend on the State Governments as to what type of representative institution would be formed by them. We would request them that local people's representatives should also be associated with it—this is the feeling of the House....(Interruptions) When State Literacy Mission Authority has been set up and State Governments would constitute district committees then it is clear that this is their work. We can only provide them guidelines but we cannot compel them....(Interruptions) We will only request them to make an effort to do this....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Secondly we are evaluating the institutions like Centre of Developed Societies, Universities or Girl Institute of Public Administration. Through them we have chosen one institute from each State as for example we have chosen Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Do not take the name of Indian Institutes.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We are taking them.

[Translation]

So that they might assess as to what work is going on in a certain State and district and whether the reports sent by them are correct or not. The assessment cannot be genuine unless it is done by professional agency and it would be done by an autonomous agency outside the Government. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research is that Institute which is an autonomous body. It is the sense of House and we want to know whether the money provided for this purpose is utilised properly or not and whether correct report is being given or not. We should take care of that and run this scheme properly. Therefore, I would assure that we would get it investigated by an autonomous agency.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Samik Lahiri please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called your name please.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: Sir, this Question is very much related to the original Question. Sir, through you, I want to know very categorically from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to bring the 83rd Constitution (Amendment) Bill to make the elementary education compulsory. If so, by what time they are planning to bring it before the House?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I have already answered this Question.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: No categorical time has been mentioned.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister knows this very well. In 1992, when his Ministry was headed by Shri Anil Bordia, Literacy Missions and District Voluntary Organisations were created under the Chairmanship of the Collector and District Magistrate to avoid this type of problem, namely, misuse of funds by the private organisations. They have done very well. They

have conducted night schools. They brought revolution in Andhra Pradesh. I do not know about the other States. It was a revolutionary programme in Andhra Pradesh. When you are continuing that programme, then where is the difficulty in funding it?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: That programme is there. There is no difficulty. There is difficulty in certain States. You see there are certain States where the scheme has not worked very well.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked your supplementary. Let the Minister reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: As you have rightly pointed out, in many States, this scheme has worked very well. Year before last, we were awarded the Nujoma International Prize for increasing the literacy rate in this country. I can tell you: that even a State like Bihar has done more than the national average. So, let us have some facts....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: It is only on paper. Nothing has been done.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: No, you see there are many States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala which have done very good work in this regard. The States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have also done very well during the past decade.

So, I fully agree that the scheme in its totality is functioning quite all right in the State where the State Government has given due attention to it. Where the State Government has not given any attention, there has been default.

[Translation]

SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he and his Government is satisfied with the effects so far made in respect of 'Education For All'? If not satisfied whether drastic changes is required in this regard? All the members feel that.

[English]

It is all on papers. Nothing has been done on the ground. And I tell you from my own experience that.

[Translation]

Whatever is happening and reports which are coming, they are entirely different. Tata Research Institute gives some report while other Institutes give different reports. These reports are not at all satisfactory. It is really disgusting for the country that even after 53 years education has not been provided to all people. Percentage which is being cited as to how many people of this country have been educated during the last fifty years....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Let him reply. You must have some patience....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SAHIB SINGH: They reduce the age and increase the percentage and then submit the report. Whole House is very much concerned about this subject. After having discussion on this issue for an hour or two something definite should emerge out of it so that some change may be brought in the scheme to educate the people of the country.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I strongly refute that the reports are incorrect or nothing has been done in this regard....(Interruptions) I am not saying anything about myself....(Interruptions) You just listen to me.

SHRI SAHIB SINGH: I did not say that the reports are entirely incorrect....(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: As per the survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation, an independent body, the percentage of literacy according to 1991 census was 52 percent. In 1998 a survey was again conducted after six years and it was found that the literacy rate has gone upto 62 percent and today it is 64 percent....(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What type of survey did you conduct? You are taking the House for a ride....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is this the way to ask during the question Hour? Let him complete his answer.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. These is a procedure during the question hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Please take seats. This is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, you are a senior Member, how can you obstruct the Minister when he is giving the reply? Is this the procedure during the Question Hour? Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you to please take your seats. Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat. What is this? Yes, Mr. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can complete your reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am replying, Sir, but they are not allowing me to speak. I can complete within two minutes....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We got the figures verified by N.S.S.O. It is not a Government agency. It is an independent agency....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, this is not the way. Please take your seat. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How can you obstruct the hon. Minister when he is giving the reply? You are a senior Member. You know the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, the answer is not correct....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is unfortunate. Mr. Minister, you please complete the reply.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am giving the reply but you do not want to listen. I am telling the facts. And I will not accept anything wrong. I will tell you the truth only. You please listen to me....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, if this is your attitude, it is very difficult to conduct the House. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you please complete your reply.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, so far as this issue is concerned, I would humbly submit whether we are satisfied with all this. Had we been satisfied with all this, such a situation would not have arisen? Therefore, no one is satisfied neither I, nor the Government nor you but this does not mean that we should ignore the truth the figures and the reality.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you please address the Chair. Why are you addressing the Members? You can address the Chair.

[English]

Sir, I am addressing you very humbly.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: In 1998 we were awarded at the international level as literacy rate in India has increased. Literacy rate has increased in the ten States which were considered to be the most backward states. For that we were given international award. Therefore, how can I accept that no work was done. However, we can say that we did not perform to the extent we should have performed.

Central Industrial Security Force

*423. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total dues of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) from the Public Sector Undertakings as on date;

(b) whether the Central Industrial Security Force has taken up the matter of its dues with the Public Sector Undertakings;

(c) if so, the total amount recovered so far;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to recover the remaining dues;

(e) whether it is proposed to allow Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to advice private companies regarding the security aspect; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) As on 31.3.2000, the outstanding dues of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) were around Rs. 557 crores.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The details of amount recovered during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) In order to ensure expeditious recovery of CISF dues from PSUs, the following steps are taken:-

- (i) Monthly position of outstanding dues against each PSU is worked out and the matter is pursued with the concerned management and the Ministries and Departments concerned by the CISF to ensure that the dues are cleared in time.
- (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs has also taken up the matter with the concerned Ministries/ Departments separately, in respect of the major defaulting PSUs. These Ministries/Departments have been requested to clear these dues within a definite time schedule.
- (iii) Separately, an exercise has been undertaken in the Ministry to work out the modalities to recover outstanding dues from the PSUs.

(e) and (f) As per provisions of CISF Act amended vide Act No. 40 of 1999, CISF can provide technical consultancy services to industrial establishments in the private sector. Draft rules for this purpose are under consideration in the Ministry, CISF would start providing consultancy services to private sector industrial establishments as soon as the rules are finalised.

Statement

(Rs. In crores)

Financial Year	Amount Recovered
1997-98	485.93
1998-99	589.45
1999-2000	674.39
Total	1749.47

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as replied by the hon. Minister now, the outstanding dues from the public sector undertakings to the Central Industrial Security Force are nearly Rs. 557 crore. I want to know whether it is proposed to withdraw the security forces from those public sector undertakings and companies which have not paid their arrears to the C.I.S.F.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the hon. Member has suggested that the C.I.S.F. may be withdrawn from those whose dues are outstanding. May I point out to the hon. Member and this House that the Central Industrial Security Force is an Armed Force of the Union for the better protection and security of industrial undertakings owned by the Central Government.

Therefore, it would not be right. If it were a private agency providing security, it would have happened that if you are not paying my dues, I will withdraw my security. But in the case of undertakings owned by the Government of India, everyone would appreciate that we cannot take that extreme step because it would be jeopardising the property which belongs to the Government. We would not do it.

I would also like to point out that though the outstanding amount is enormous, out of 247 PSUs and other Government units where the CISF is deployed, 202 PSUs are regular in payment. There is no problem in respect of 202 PSUs. It is in respect of others that there are problems. There are 15 PSUs which have not at all paid their outstanding dues. I can say that the bulk of the outstanding dues belong to 9 PSUs belonging to four Ministries and we are taking up the matter with them very seriously.

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU: Sir, how is it proposed to utilise the security personnel as some of the public sector undertakings have already closed or are on the verge of closure?

The CISF Act has been already amended. The draft rules are under consideration. After the rules are finalised, the CISF is going to give security consultancy to the private sector. Along with the consultancy, is there any proposal to give security services also to the private sector companies?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The hon. Member has referred to the recent amendment made by Parliament to the Act whereunder even private sector undertaking can take the assistance of the CISF. Some private undertakings have approached the CISF, but I would like to inform the House that following the recent hijacking incident, the CISF is proposed to be inducted for the security of the airports also, and eleven airports have already been selected where the CISF personnel have been posted and there is a proposal that we do it gradually for other airports also.

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU: Sir, I was asking whether there is a proposal to provide security services also to the private sector along with security consultancy by the CISF.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already replied. Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, as per the statement which has been tabled, we believe that public sector undertakings have not only become sick but the Central Industrial Security Force is also becoming sick because of the fact that the outstanding dues are around Rs. 557 crore. The hon. Minister was referring to the fact that they did not intend to withdraw the security forces in case of non-payment by a particular industrial sector.

Sir, there are reports in the Press. On March 11 of this year, the Director-General of CISF was reported as saying that they are slowly withdrawing the security forces. My question is whether the Government is aware of the fact that there has been an increase in ISI threats to many of the important installations in this country. In such circumstances, will it be really advisable to have an idea, and that too from horse's mouth, the Director-General of the CISF, that they are going to withdraw the security forces? What is the reaction of the Government to it?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I have already said that CISF is doing its duty to protect the public sector undertakings and there is no question of withdrawing it

There may be some reduction insofar as the strength of the personnel is concerned. However, we would ensure that the property is protected properly, and wherever there are threats from any quarter, whether ISI or any other, the Government would not be found wanting in ensuring that the protection of public undertakings is done properly.

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, the answer of the hon. Minister is really terrifying. When the Government is going in for disinvestment in the public sector to provide money for other purposes, the outstanding arrears from the public sector is Rs. 557 crore. In the light of these outstanding arrears of Rs. 557 crore and in the light of the Government's policy of disinvesting, will the hon. Minister consider the issue of recasting the Industrial Security Force? The industrial units, where disinvestment is taking place, do not need a security force from the Central Government. More and more investment is taking place; even when the private sector is coming, in the Central Government is providing its Industrial Security Force. So, the situation is very grave.

Through you, Sir, I not only request but also urge the Government and ask the hon. Minister that in the light of the new policy of disinvestment, will the Government consider the issue of recasting the Industrial Security Force as such?

Coming to the second part of my question, the hon. Minister stated that the Industrial Security Force has started providing consultancy services. My question is this. In the light of the policy, can the Industrial Security Force be confined only to consultancy services?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the quantum of outstanding dues may be a reflection on the manner in which certain PSUs are functioning. But so far as the CISF is concerned, it is doing its work in an excellent manner. As I said earlier, the outstanding dues are confined to a few public sector undertakings that are either sick or which are not being conducted properly. I may mention that out of Rs. 557 crore which are outstanding, Rs. 305 crore are from nine public sector undertakings only. Two hundred and two public sector undertakings are discharging their duties very regularly. There is no problem in that regard. Therefore, the figures that I have given are certainly not a comment on the functioning of the CISF, though they are a comment on the functioning of some of our public sector undertakings.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, there are about 240 Central Public Sector Undertakings in our country—some of them are profit-making and some of them are loss-making. The Government of India is in the process of disinvesting and, naturally, the necessity of CISF is

gradually decreasing. Those units that are facing huge losses, naturally, cannot pay the bills or make any payment for the services provided by the CISF. That is why, the CISF people are facing uncertainty. When they hear the news that disinvestment is going to take place in some of the Central Public Sector Undertakings, they are feeling insecure, so far as the job security is concerned. I would like to know whether the Government of India is proposing to merge a section of the CISF with other security forces, like BSF. I would like to know whether the Government is considering any such proposal.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, even with the present policy of the Government, I may assure the House that the core sector, namely, power, atomic energy, space etc., would remain with the Government, and CISF would always be discharging its duty in that regard.

So far as the second question is concerned, as we had promised to this House, the Government has already had discussions with the officials in the CISF; and in consultation with the Department of Personnel, we shall see to it that these problems relating to promotion etc., are satisfactorily dealt with.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, terrorist activity in the country is on the increase and we have some very sensitive public sector undertakings. Does the Government realise that these sensitive public sector undertakings need special kind of protection and that plans and projects should be formulated for this purpose? If such plans are not put in place, if the Government is taken by surprise and if these undertakings are damaged, it would be very demoralising to the entire country. We would like to know from the Government whether it really has any plans and projects for this purpose. We ask this question to see that the Government is not caught unawares and that the country is not demoralised.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I appreciate the point made by the hon. Member. I have already said that so far as the core sector is concerned, we are very concerned. Even in respect of the other undertakings where dues may be outstanding, there is no proposal to withdraw the CISF. I replied to an hon. Member that simply because outstanding dues have been large, on that count alone, there is no question of withdrawing the CISF so far as core sector and sensitive public sector undertakings are concerned. We will certainly pay extra attention to it.

Integrated Child Development Services

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*425. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether most of the State Governments could not implement the Integrated Child Development Services projects sanctioned by the Union Government during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the projects sanctioned by the Union Government under the Scheme for various States and the number of projects out of them implemented by each State during the said period;

(c) the funds allocated by the Union Government to each State during the last three years for the purpose;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the scheme in regard to utilization of allocated funds by the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) A total number of 5587 ICDS Projects were sanctioned by the Central Government upto Eighth Five Year Plan. However, the State Governments could not operationalise all the sanctioned ICDS Projects as while approving enhancement of Honorarium of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers under ICDS Scheme by 25% and 30% respectively w.e.f. 16.5.1997, Ministry of Finance imposed freeze on operationalisation of ICDS Scheme beyond 4200 projects. The State/UT-wise list of sanctioned and operational projects is given in the attached statement.

(c) The detail of funds allocated by the Union Government to each State/UT during the last three years is enclosed in the statement attached.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The outcome of regular reviews was efficient utilisation of allocated funds.

Statement-I

Statement Indicating State/UTs-wise number of sanctioned and operational ICDS Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Total Sanctioned Projects	No. of Operational ICDS Projects
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	363	209
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51	45
3.	Assam	196	107
4.	Bihar	598	323
5.	Goa	11	11
6.	Gujarat	227	203
7.	Haryana	116	114
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72	72
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	121	113
10.	Karnataka	185	185
11.	Kerala	163	120
12.	Madhya Pradesh	488	355
13.	Maharashtra	325	271
14.	Manipur	34	32

1	2	3	4
15.	Meghalaya	30	30
16.	Meizoram	21	21
17.	Nagaland	52	41
18.	Orissa	326	281
19.	Punjab	142	110
20.	Rajasthan	257	191
21.	Sikkim	5	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	434	431
23.	Tripura	31	31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	935	560
25.	West Bengal	358	294
26.	A & N Islands	5	5
27.	Chandigarh	3	3
28.	Delhi	29	28
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1
30.	Daman & Diu	2	2
31.	Lakshdweep	1	1
32.	Pondichery	5	5
Total		5587	4200

Statement-II

Statement Indicating State/UT-wise fund released under ICDS during the last three years

Sl. No.	State/UT	1997-98 Released	1998-1999 Released	1999-2000 Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3135.53	3185.12	5402.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	406.52	660.57	817.00
3.	Assam	1634.35	1911.71	2211.00
4.	Bihar	1469.02	3691.13	4918.64
5.	Goa	188.76	326.48	284.13
6.	Gujarat	5312.40	4788.12	5370.21
7.	Haryana	2203.65	2633.07	2754.12

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	904.24	1045.40	1640.09
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	511.86	1431.72	1963.00
10.	Karnataka	5158.03	5709.83	5111.35
11.	Kerala	2380.62	3120.80	2641.82
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4840.29	5131.48	4368.00
13.	Maharashtra	6925.69	6792.45	6584.73
14.	Manipur	795.10	846.78	840.48
15.	Meghalaya	524.81	350.60	535.00
16.	Mizoram	413.11	542.12	535.66
17.	Nagaland	543.85	1321.37	1245.00
18.	Orissa	2158.13	6641.30	4042.97
19.	Punjab	1525.90	2382.58	2413.14
20.	Rajasthan	3373.72	3512.19	4197.55
21.	Sikkim	63.29	241.96	129.75
22.	Tamil Nadu	2513.24	7297.05	10704.77
23.	Tripura	447.67	463.68	646.06
24.	Uttar Pradesh	7401.73	7265.52	11349.00
25.	West Bengal	5151.28	6456.11	6088.00
26.	Delhi	565.98	1248.18	818.42
27.	Pondicherry	105.55	151.82	181.58
28.	Andaman & Nicobar	63.27	112.26	130.44
29.	Chandigarh	95.77	77.71	78.29
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	21.88	28.60	26.83
31.	Daman & Diu	26.79	28.17	42.00
32.	Lakshadweep	8.82	25.20	25.69
33.	Miscellaneous	14.64	0.00	0.00
34.	Exp. For Prof. Services	0.00	208.00	44.00
35.	Service Charge	0.00	12.00	0.00
36.	Advolorem Charges	0.00	19.98	4.77
Total		60885.49	79661.06	88146.36

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had fixed a target of 5587 projects under the Integrated Child Development Scheme which was curtailed to 4200 projects. A target of increasing 130 projects every year had been fixed under the Ninth Five Year Plan. Now three years of Ninth Plan have been elapsed and as per this plan the Government was supposed to introduce 390 projects during this plan period. I would like to know as to whether these projects have been started, the number of projects accorded approval so far and whether these projects are sufficient keeping in view the rural areas because so far, we could not achieve the targets fixed for the Eighth Plan. What is the plan of the Government for efficient implementation of these projects?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the beginning all these projects were accorded sanction but in 1997, the salaries of workers engaged in these projects were enhanced upto 25 to 30 per cent, thus due to financial constraints only 4200 projects were accorded approved. 390 more projects have been sanctioned this year and by implementing 130 projects every year, we propose to achieve this target within the period of three years. 130 projects have already been accorded approval during the current year.

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the figures given by the hon'ble Minister regarding allocation of funds reveals that in 1997-98 a sum of Rs. 6925.69 lakh, in 1998-99 a sum of 6792.45 lakh and in 1999-2000 a sum of 6584.73 lakh have been sanctioned for Maharashtra. It means that every year allocation has been reduced by Rs. 2 crore. I would like to know as to whether standard of living of people of Maharashtra has improved and they all are above poverty line or standard of education also registered improvement to the desired extent and there is no need of more funds. In the reply given by hon'ble Minister it has been stated that fund allocated for this purpose are utilised properly I would like to know from the Government as to why allocation for Maharashtra has been curtailed.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, actually allocation of funds for Maharashtra has not been curtailed.

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: But figures reveal that.

12.00 hrs.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: There is a specific system for allocation of funds under ICDC projects For example, during the current financial years initially 30 per cent of the sanctioned amount are granted and thereafter 50 per cent of funds are granted in the month of December. Funds are not allocated until the state

Government furnish the details regarding utilisation of previously allocated funds, Ministry allocates funds as it receives details from the State Governments. Funds are allocated as per the planning of ICDS projects. There is no question of curtailment. Funds are allocated as per the system and prescribed rules of the schemes as the Government receives the details from the State Government.

12.01 hrs.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Literacy Rate of SC's/ST's

*424. **SHRI MANJAY LAL:**
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASADA YADAV:

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

(a) whether the literacy rate of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is far below the national literacy rate;

(b) if so, the literacy rate of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and national literacy rate as on 1.1.1991 and 1.1.1999; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the literacy among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Literacy rate of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in the country, as per 1991 Census was 37.41 and 29.60 respectively, as compared to the general literacy rate of 52.21. More recent figures are not available.

(c) In the literacy campaigns the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are specially targeted. These campaigns reach out to areas of the country which are most backward, illiterate and poverty stricken. It was of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe concentration are covered on a priority basis and these groups are invariably accessed to a greater degree.

The three pronged strategy for increasing literacy in the country consists of:

- (i) Universalisation of Elementary Education;
- (ii) Non-Formal Education for School Drop-Outs in the age group of 9-14 years and;

- (iii) Literacy Campaigns for adult learners in the age group of 15-35 years & Continuing Education scheme of the National Literacy Mission.

The Specific steps being taken by the Government to improve literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes include:

Funding of Literacy projects by Central and State Governments in the ratio of 4:1 for Tribal districts as against 2:1 for other areas: opening of primary schools on priority basis: development of instructional material in tribal languages at the initial stages: establishment of hostels, residential schools, provision of scholarships and freeships: launching of District Primary Education Programme in backward districts with low female literacy rates. A scheme for free education for girls called the National Programme for Women's Education is being finalised.

Computer Education

- *426. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce computer education viz. "Vidyarthi" and "Shikshak" on the pilot project basis in all the schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether private organisations and State Governments are also proposed to be involved in the scheme;

(d) if so, whether attractive financial package would be extended to such schools to procure computers and accessories;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (f) The National Information Technology Action Plan (Part-I) had proposed the launch of three schemes namely 'Vidyarthi Computer Scheme' 'Shikshak Computer Scheme' and 'The School Computer Scheme' to enable students, teachers and schools desirous of buying computers to do so under attractive financial packages. These proposals

are being processed by the Ministry of Information Technology in consultation with this Department.

As supportive initiative and in view of changing requirement the scheme for Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) is being modified and the details regarding number of schools, requirement of funds etc. are being worked out. State Govts./UTs., autonomous bodies and private organisations recommended by State Govts. are proposed to be involved in the implementation of the Scheme.

[Translation]

Sector-wise Allocation of Funds for Education

- *427. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

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

(a) whether the Government allocate funds separately for higher education, primary education, secondary education and adult education in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of allocation being made out of the total Gross Domestic Product each of the said sectors during the last five years, year wise;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the need of these separately;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between the requirement and allocation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The percentage of total educational expenditure to GDP during the five years from 1993-97 is as follows:

Year	Percentage
1993	3.86
1994	3.76
1995	3.79
1996	3.89
1997	3.62

The percentage of Sector-wise allocations to GDP are not maintained.

The projected and approved outlays under 9th Plan for various sectors are:

Sector	(Rs. in crore)	
	Outlay	
	Projected	Approved
Total	78,708	24,908
Of which:		
Elementary Education	59,455	16,368
Adult Education	3,664	630
Secondary Education	3,169	2,603
Higher Education	5,538	2,500
Technical Education	6,208	2,374

(e) It is the constant endeavor of Government to raise allocations for education. Central Plan allocation on education for the Ninth Plan is Rs. 24,908 crore as against the expenditure of Rs. 8,522 crore in the Eighth Plan. This represents an increase by 192%. The current year's Plan allocation of Rs. 5,449.04 crore represents an increase over the last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 4,384.96 crore, which is 24% in one year. The Government propose to initiate a number of measures for mobilizing extra budgetary resources from the Community, Industry, etc. which include setting up of Bharat Shiksha Kosh, levying of Education cess on income of individuals and corporates and restructuring of Government expenditure in favour of education. The Government has also been impressing upon the State Governments to increase the outlays on education.

Swaminathan Committee Report

*428. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission on Population Control chaired by Shri M.S. Swaminathan had presented its report in 1994;

(b) if so, whether the Commission, besides handing over the population control work to a separate Commission had made other recommendations as well;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for not taking any action on this report during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The Expert Group on Population Policy headed by Dr. Swaminathan submitted the 'Draft National Population Policy' to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare during May 1994.

(b) Yes, Sir.

The Swaminathan Committee Report recommended the setting up of a Population and Social Development Commission (PSDC), which will function in a manner similar to other Commissions of Government with executive powers such as the Atomic Energy and Space Commissions. It will be headed by a full time Chairperson who will be an eminent social worker or a professional committed to the cause of population stabilisation and social development. The Chairperson will have the status of Union Cabinet Minister. There will be 4 whole time members who will have the status of Ministers of State. The Swaminathan Committee Report stated that the Commission will not duplicate the work of the Planning Commission. The Commission would play a complementary and supportive role by focussing continuous attention on population, social development and related issues both from the planning and implementation angles. The Population and Social Development Commission (PSDC) will service the Cabinet Committee on Population and Social Development, headed by the Prime Minister.

(c) Additionally, the Swaminathan Committee report made several other recommendations as well, such as setting up of following structural hierarchy;

(i) A Cabinet Committee on Population and Social Development.

(ii) A Population and Social Development Fund to be administered by the Population and Social Development Commission, with the following sources of revenue: (a) Government of India funds; (b) Bilateral donors; (c) Foundations, multilateral donors and UN agencies, including UNFPA, (d) Corporate and cooperative sectors (e) Voluntary contributions from within the country as well as from non-resident Indians and foreign nationals.

- (iii) Each State Cabinet will establish a Committee on Population and Social Development, chaired by the Chief Minister.
- (iv) A District Population and Social Development Committee will be constituted at district levels, by the zilla parishads.

(d) It is not correct to say that no action was taken for 5 years on the Swaminathan Committee Report. Repeated action to process and bring to completion the adoption of a national population policy was continuously in hand.

The Swaminathan Committee Report formed the basis of a series of consultations held with experts, public health professionals, demographers, State Governments and concerned Departments. Immediately after the Swaminathan Committee Report was submitted, two members of the 9 member Committee resigned, and joined the woman activist groups to protest against the "anti-women, and anti-poor" report, because the Swaminathan Committee Report did not denounce introduction of high-tech contraceptives, did not denounce the imposition of restrictions on the number of children as qualification criteria for contesting panchayati raj elections, and for debarring those having more than two children in promotions and employment in the organized sector, and besides, also advocated punishment for child marriages. It was noted that some other desirable aspects were either not included or otherwise inadequately emphasized in the Swaminathan Committee Report, such as the need to utilize the Indian Systems of Medicine as a complementary mechanism, and the importance of social marketing for achieving larger coverage and outreach of supplies and equipment.

The Planning Commission suggested a new approach to the National Population Policy. This called for a revision of the Swaminathan Committee Report. Items like identifying and provisioning for the gaps in health infrastructure, as well as meeting the unmet need for contraception were to be included in the revised draft. Other recommendations contained in the Swaminathan Committee Report were not seen as wholly feasible to implement, such as the role of the Cabinet Committee as monitoring the Family Welfare programme, while typically the role of the Cabinet Committee is to take decisions which the concerned Ministries will implement.

During the 50th Anniversary of India's independence, there was a Special Session of Parliament, and while the population policy was not discussed, however, several suggestions were made about social development, and these concerns were to be reflected.

Consultations were held during 1996-97, and again from 1998 onwards, with experts in the field of sociology, economics and population sciences. Several drafts were examined and re-examined. During March, 1999, a draft population policy was submitted to Cabinet, and Cabinet constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to look into the policy document in the first instance. The GoM held several meetings, including further consultations with experts, demographers and a few State Governments. The draft policy was once again revised and placed before Cabinet for consideration on 19th November, 1999. Cabinet deliberated upon the document at length and asked the Department of Family Welfare to incorporate the suggestions made.

A finalized population policy was considered and approved by the Government on 15.2.2000. The National Population Policy, 2000 was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 3rd March, 2000 and in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March 2000.

The National Population Policy 2000 is based upon consultation with diverse stakeholders. It does not reject or negate the Swaminathan Committee Report, but in fact builds upon and enhances the Swaminathan Committee recommendations.

Expenditure on Education-

*429. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of total expenditure being incurred on the elementary education has been constantly falling since the Fifth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the percentage of expenditure on education at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some measures for increasing the total expenditure on education particularly primary education in terms of percentage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. In fact the percentage of outlays on elementary education has increased from 35% in the Fifth Five Year Plan to 66% in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) to (d) Due to the priority accorded by Government to education during the last five decades, the percentage of budgeted expenditure on education and training to total revenue expenditure on all sections (Centre and States) has risen steadily from 7.92 in 1951 to 13.73 in 1997. It is the constant endeavor of Government to raise allocation for education. Central Plan allocation on education for the Ninth Plan is Rs. 24,908 crore as against the expenditure of Rs. 8522 crore in the Eighth Plan. This represents an increase by 192%. The currently year's Central Plan outlay of Rs. 5449.04 crore represents an increase of 24% over the last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 304.96 crore. This demonstrates the Central Government's commitment to the cause of education. The high priority given to elementary education is reflected in the increase in percentage of allocations from 42% in Eighth Plan to 66% in Ninth Plan.

[English]

Closure of Public Sector Fertilizer Plants

*430. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close down a number of public sector fertilizer plants during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not reviving the sick plants;

(d) whether the Ramagundam fertilizer plant is also earmarked for closure;

(e) if so, the extent to which such closures would affect the availability of fertilizer to farmers in Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the smooth supply of fertilizer by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Action with regard to fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is to be

taken keeping in view Government's declared policy towards public sector, which is restructure and revive potentially viable PSUs; close down PSUs which cannot be revived while fully protecting the interests of workers.

(c) Revival of sick fertilizer plants is dependent on unit-wise techno-economic viability. The rehabilitation of these units is beset with complexities on account of outdated technologies with serious mismatch in equipments, inherent design and equipment deficiencies and accumulated losses, which today stand at Rs. 4209.53 crore for Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and Rs. 5880.95 crore for Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI), thereby requiring huge investments without any assurance of commensurate results in terms of sustained and viable operations of these old units. Due to the complex problems that need to be tackled, the magnitude of investment required and the statutory requirement connected with Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, it has not been possible to arrive at a final decision.

(d) The production operations of Ramagundam plant of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. had to be suspended from 1.4.1999 due to very high cost of production and continuing operational losses. The rehabilitation of FCI including its Ramagundam unit depends on the decision of the competent authority in the Government and the final sanction of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

(e) and (f) The suspension of operations of the Ramagundam unit has not affected the consumption of urea in Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere in the country. No state in the country is dependent for urea availability from one source. To ensure adequate availability of urea, multiple supply linkages are given to the States from indigenous producers and in case of need, supply is further augmented through imports. The production of urea in the country has been supplemented by additional capacities, which have been created recently. The production of urea in the country has gone up from 142.83 LMT to 198.68 LMT during the period 1994-95 to 1999-2000. From the table below, giving details of urea supplied for the last three years, it can be observed that sufficient quantities of urea have been made available for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Season	ECA Allocation	Total Availability	Sales	Closing Stock
1.	Kharif'97	1079.67	1110.62	826.57	284.05
2.	Rabi'97-98	1043.38	1165.60	879.23	286.37
3.	Kharif'98	1053.56	1080.73	955.57	125.16
4.	Rabi'98-99	11530.00	1212.03	1058.59	153.44
5.	Kharif'99	1096.00	1148.64	1032.54	116.10
6.	Rabi'99-00	1135.55	896.09*	702.92*	193.17*

*Availability and sales from 1.10.99 to 31.1.2000

As regards decontrolled fertilizers, the demand of each state including Andhra Pradesh is met by market forces operating within the parameters of the Concession Scheme of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

[Translation]

Naxalite Problem

*431. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to deal with the Naxalite problem as a National Problem and not only a State level or Inter-State problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the funds, drugs, training and weapons etc. to the Naxalite groups are being provided by ISI;

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

(f) the number of persons/security personnel killed by the Naxalites in various States during each of the last three years till now, separately;

(g) whether various States have put pressure on Union Government to adopt Foreign technology in anti-naxalite operations;

(h) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(i) whether the Union Government have recently convened a meeting of Chief Ministers of various Naxalite affected States;

(j) if so, the details of the agenda discussed there at; and

(k) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects. In the circumstances, the concerned State Governments have to devise various measures and take concrete steps to curb left wing extremist activities in the States. However, keeping in view the over all dimensions, which left wing extremism has assumed in some States, it has become a matter of concern for the Central Government as well. We have, therefore, set up a high level Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States, as its members, to review and coordinate steps taken by these States to check the left extremist activities, monitor the plan of action in respect of each State and to make recommendations both on development and security aspects of the problem.

The Coordination Centre has been meeting periodically. Several important decisions such as providing financial support from the Centre for combating left wing extremist activities, construction/improvement of identified critical roads, preparation of plans for development of affected areas to tackle the problem in a holistic manner, sharing of intelligence inputs on constant basis, providing assistance of para-military forces on need basis etc., have also been taken and effectively followed-up.

(d) and (e) There are no confirmed reports to this effect.

(f) As per available information, the number of persons/security personnel killed by naxalites in various

States during each of the last three years till now is as under:-

State	1997	1998	1999	2000 (upto March)
Andhra Pradesh	234	205	151	40
Bihar	325	206	378	80
Madhya Pradesh	14	59	47	28
Maharashtra	9	13	15	2
Orissa	—	5	—	1

(g) and (h) For upgrading the striking capability of the State Police Forces, certain requests have been received, which include modern weapons, communication equipments, surveillance system and other equipment etc. These have been met to the extent possible. The Central Government is providing financial assistance to the affected States under scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces as well as by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure.

(i), (j) and (k) The Union Home Minister convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the States affected by left wing extremism on 4.4.2000. In the meeting, it was agreed that while the Centre would continue to extend all possible assistance to the States in intelligence sharing, Security Related Expenditure, training needs of police personnel etc., the States concerned must continue their efforts towards focussed inter-State coordination, ground level intelligence gathering, in depth analysis of problem areas, greater thrust on all areas of responsive administration including placement of very dedicated and sincere administrative hands in trouble prone areas, socio-economic measures to cater to the needs of the poorer segments and redressal of people's grievances. It was also agreed that police forces of affected States should undertake joint operations.

Attacks on Minorities in Kashmir

*432. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terrorists have been attacking some specific ethnic groups in Kashmir during the last two years;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed/injured therein;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to curb such attacks and protect the ethnic groups; and

(d) the number of terrorists arrested/killed and the types of arms and ammunition seized during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) In order to ensure ethnic cleansing, Pakistan sponsored terrorist organizations have resorted to attacks on minority communities in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, in the last two years. The total number of persons belonging to the minority communities, killed by the terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir, from 1st January 1998 to 31st March, 2000 is 311, of which 274 are Hindus and 37 are Sikhs. The number of persons belonging to the minority communities injured during the period is 151.

(c) Some of the specific steps taken to curb the terrorists' attack on the minorities include strengthening of the security, gird, establishment of security pickets, setting up of Village Defence Committees, dynamic deployment of forces, regular patrolling (including near minority inhabited areas), combing operations, laying of ambushes, sharpening of intelligence gathering mechanism of the State Police and pinpointed joint operations.

(d) From 1.1.98 to 31.3.2000

Number of terrorists killed 2326

Number of terrorists arrested under substantive law 939

The details of types of arms/ammunition seized during the period from 1.1.98 to 31.3.2000 is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Details of ARMS/Ammunition seized during the period from 1.1.98 to 31.3.2000

WEAPONS

1.	AK - 47/56/74 Rifle(s)	2998
2.	Pistols/Revolver(s)	1043
3.	UMG(s)	105
4.	Carbine(s)	12
5.	RPG(s)	256
6.	GPMG(s)	4
7.	LMG/SLR(s)	14
8.	303 Rifles(s)	26
9.	Sniper Fifle(s)	53
10.	Rocket Launcher(s)	187
11.	Rocket Booster(s)	848

MAGAZINES

1.	AK 47/56/74 Rifle	8695
2.	Pistol/Revolver	1451
3.	UMG	47
4.	LMG	2
5.	Carbine	8
6.	Telescope	12

AMMUNITION

1.	AK 47/56/74 Rifles (in Lacs)	3.76
2.	Pistol/Revolver	70492
3.	UMG	8613
4.	Sniper Rifle	19956
5.	303 Ammunition	399
6.	Belted Ammunition	95559
7.	Telescope Rifle	0

EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL

1.	Grenade(s)/Hand Grenade(s)	10956
2.	IED(s)	1147
3.	Explosive(s)	5942

4.	Elec. Deton(s)	1460
5.	Detonator(s)	10647
6.	AP Mine(s)	787
7.	AT Mine(s)	121
8.	R.D.X. in Kg.	1798
9.	Rocket(s)	792

COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

1.	Wireless Set(s)	1064
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ACCESSORIES

1.	Cordex in Mtrs.	2327
2.	Binocular(s)	105

National Literacy Mission

*433. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire amount allocated for National Literacy Mission was spent to achieve the target during the last, three years;

(b) if not, the actual amount spent every year during the said period and the reasons for which the allocated amount could not be spent; and

(c) the impact thereof on the mission?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Literacy Mission (NLM) aims to achieve a sustainable threshold level of 75 percent literacy by 2005. The details of budget allocation and expenditure during the last three years is as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budget Allocation	Actual Expenditure
1997-98	127.00	79.74
1998-99	93.97	72.23
1999-2000	110.00	87.07
Total	330.97	239.04

The main reasons for shortfall in expenditure are:-

- The community voluntarily assisted in cash and kind.
- Financial controls were tightened to ensure optimum utilisation of funds.
- Emphasis was laid on consolidation, improving of quality and monitoring rather than on expansion.
- The continuance of NLM and its schemes during 9th Five Year Plan with revised parameters, enhanced norms of expenditure and setting up of new institutions, was approved on 30th November, 99.

The savings have no adverse impact on the mission. The sustainable, threshold level of literacy, i.e., 75% is likely to be achieved by 2005 as per current projections.

[English]

Treatment of AIDs Patients

*434. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poor people and especially, people below poverty line have been affected with AIDS in large number in comparison to well-to-do people;

(b) whether the treatment for AIDS is quite costly;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the prices of medicines required for treatment of AIDS or to supply them free of cost or at reduced rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) HIV transmission is mainly due to the sexual behaviour of a person and is not based on socio-economic consideration. However, due to low level of literacy among people belonging to lower socio-economic strata, access to HIV/AIDS related information and understanding is limited amongst them. Besides, poverty leads to sexual exploitation leading to increased risk of acquiring HIV infection. Moreover, Health Care Services are not easily accessible as well as affordable to them.

Even though the opportunistic infections arising out of HIV, like Tuberculosis, Meningitis, Pneumonia etc. are curable. There is no recognized cure for HIV/AIDS. However, there are certain drugs called "Antiretroviral" drugs which can delay the progression of HIV infection to full blown AIDS. These drugs are not manufactured in India and are thus very costly. The antiretroviral drugs include a combination of 2 to 3 medicines, which are to be taken 3 to 4 times every day, life long. These drugs are also toxic, and the compliance is poor due to which there is risk of developing resistance.

It is the policy of the Government to provide free drugs for treatment of opportunistic infections associated with HIV/AIDS in all Government hospitals. To reduce the cost of antiretroviral drugs, Government provides custom duty exemption for import of these drugs as life saving drugs. Government is also encouraging the local pharmaceutical companies to manufacture these drugs in India. Government is not considering of supply of these drugs at reduced rates or free of cost under the National Programme.

Subsidy on Fertilizers

*435. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make subsidy saving on the fertilizers in the coming fiscal years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Since urea is the only fertilizer at present which is under price, distribution and movement control, subsidy under Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme covers only urea. Apart from subsidy on urea, Union Government also gives concession on decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers under a Scheme of Concession on sale of Decontrolled fertilizers.

Budget Estimates for 2000-2001 for subsidy on urea and concession on decontrolled fertilizers, when compared to actual expenditure for the last financial year, show a saving of Rs. 593.07 crores. Details of actual expenditure for last financial year and budget estimates for 2000-2001 for subsidy on urea and concession on decontrolled fertilizers are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of fertilizer	Actual expenditure on subsidy/ concession during 1999-2000	Budget estimates for subsidy/ concession for 2000-2001	Savings
Urea	8744.07	8558.00	186.07
Decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers	4500.00	4093.00	407.00
Total	13244.07	12651.00	593.07

The Government policy is to phase out subsidy/ concession in a phased manner after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and the need to make fertilizer available to the farmer at a reasonable price on the other.

Statement-I

Statement showing the Financial Allocation under the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme to the States/UTs

(Lakhs)

Assistance to Control Iodine Deficiency

*436. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Programme in the country;

(b) if so, the assistance given to States thereunder during each of the last three years, and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the funds earmarked for the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement I, II, are enclosed.

(c) and (d) During the 9th Five Year Plan, a total allocation of Rs. 1800 lakhs has been made for the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. Out of this allocation, a sum of Rs. 1050 lakhs has been earmarked for the States/UTs, Rs. 332 lakhs has been spent on this programme during the first three years of the 9th Plan Rs. 143 lakhs has been provided for this programme during the current financial year, which is the fourth year of the 9th Plan. It is premature to indicate Statewise allocation for 2001-2002, which is the last year of the 9th Plan.

S.No.	State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.80	3.00	3.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.60	3.80	5.10
3.	Assam	4.10	4.20	3.00
4.	Bihar	3.60	3.40	2.80
5.	Goa	2.40	2.50	2.70
6.	Gujarat	4.30	4.50	4.50
7.	Haryana	3.10	3.10	3.40
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.10	3.30	3.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.90	2.90	2.70
10.	Karnataka	4.10	4.30	5.80
11.	Kerala	3.90	3.90	3.40
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3.30	3.30	2.80
13.	Maharashtra	5.70	5.90	6.00
14.	Manipur	3.70	3.90	4.10
15.	Meghalaya	3.70	3.70	3.90
16.	Mizoram	3.50	3.70	3.90
17.	Nagaland	3.50	3.60	3.80

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
18.	Punjab	3.40	3.20	2.50	UT (with legislatures)				
19.	Rajasthan	4.00	4.00	4.00	26.	Delhi	2.80	2.80	2.80
20.	Sikkim	3.40	3.40	3.60	27.	Pondicherry	2.20	2.20	2.20
21.	Tripura	3.70	3.90	4.50			98.00	100.00	100.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	5.10	5.10	3.50	28.	Anjman & Nicobar Island	1.10	2.30	2.20
23.	West Bengal	3.90	3.60	3.50	29.	Chandigarh	1.45	3.30	3.30
24.	Orissa	4.10	4.30	4.90	30.	Dadra & Nagar Havelli	1.50	3.60	2.50
25.	Tamilnadu	4.10	4.30	4.00	31.	Daman & Diu	1.50	3.60	3.90
		93.00	95.00	95.00	32.	Lakshadweep	0.85	2.20	2.10
							104.00	114.00	114.00

Statement-II*Tentative Allocation of Funds to States/UTs (2000-2001) Current Year 2000-2001)*

S. No.	State/UT	Establishment (IDD Control Cell)	Publicity & Health Education (Rs. in Lakhs)	Survey Rs. 10000/- Per Distt.	IDD Montg Labs	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.00	1.00	0.40	0.50	4.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.00	0.50	0.40	1.20	5.10
3.	Assam	3.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	4.50
4.	Bihar	3.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	4.50
5.	Goa	2.50	0.30	0.20	0.40	3.40
6.	Gujarat	2.50	1.00	1.00	0.40	4.90
7.	Haryana	2.50	0.80	0.50	0.40	4.20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.50	0.80	0.40	0.50	4.20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.50	0.40	0.40	0.40	3.70
10.	Karnataka	3.00	1.00	0.40	1.40	5.80
11.	Kerala	2.50	1.00	0.40	0.50	4.40
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2.50	1.00	0.40	0.40	4.30
13.	Maharashtra	3.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	6.00
14.	Manipur	3.00	0.80	0.40	0.60	4.80
15.	Meghalaya	3.00	0.80	0.40	1.00	5.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Mizoram	3.00	0.80	0.20	1.00	5.00
17.	Nagaland	3.00	0.80	0.20	0.60	4.60
18.	Punjab	3.00	0.40	0.30	0.40	4.10
19.	Rajasthan	3.00	1.00	0.60	0.40	5.00
20.	Sikkim	3.00	0.70	0.20	0.60	4.50
21.	Tripura	3.00	0.80	0.20	0.80	4.80
22.	Uttar Pradesh	3.50	1.50	2.00	0.50	7.50
23.	West Bengal	2.50	1.00	0.50	0.50	4.50
24.	Orissa	3.00	0.70	0.60	0.60	4.90
25.	Tamilnadu	3.00	1.00	0.60	0.60	5.20
		71.50	20.10	12.70	15.70	120.00
UT (with) legislatures						
26.	Delhi	1.50	0.60	0.20	1.50	3.80
27.	Pondicherry	1.50	0.30	0.20	0.20	2.00
		74.50	21.00	13.10	17.40	126.00
UT (without legislatures)						
28.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	2.20	0.10	0.20	0.40	2.90
29.	Chandigarh	2.90	0.30	—	0.70	3.90
30.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	2.30	0.20	0.10	0.40	3.00
31.	Daman & Diu	3.20	0.10	0.10	0.80	3.00
32.	Lakshadweep	2.40	0.10	0.10	0.40	3.00
		13.00	0.80	0.50	2.70	17.00
		87.50	21.80	13.60	20.10	143.00

Autonomy to J&K

*437. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Give Jammu and Kashmir autonomy or independence, says Jammu and Kashmir Minister" appearing in the Indian Express, dated February 02, 2000;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir have recently accepted the report of its State Autonomy Committee. The Report basically speaks of going back to

the pre-1953 status. The Report is presently being examined by the Central Government.

Alzheimers Disease

*438. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National institute on Alzheimers disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Alzheimers patients in the country at present, State-wise;

(d) whether awareness programmes have been launched in regard to this disease; and

(e) if so, the agencies/organisations involved therein and the assistance given to them during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) There is no proposal under consideration of Government to set up a National Institute on Alzheimer's Disease.

No specific awareness programmes for Alzheimer's Disease have been launched and no State-wise data regarding number of Alzheimer's patients in the country is being maintained. This disease constitutes a serious public health problem in countries with very high life expectancy. At present, this disease is not perceived as a major public health concern in the country. However, treatment for Alzheimer's disease is provided in tertiary hospitals both in the Government and private sector.

[*Translation*]

Policy for Jhuggi Dwellers

*439. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Prime Ministers had met the Prime Minister including the Urban Development Minister on March 27, 2000 and have urged upon him to form a rehabilitation policy for the jhuggi dwellers of the metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Calcutta and Delhi;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The Prime Minister has entrusted the work to the Urban Development Minister. The matter has been discussed with all concerned, including jhuggi dwellers and the Railway officials. A joint survey by the Railway and the Slum & JJ Department of MCD has been ordered to assess the problems of jhuggies that fall into the safety zone of the Railways. Further action would be taken as soon as the survey of the safety zone has been carried out.

Government is already implementing a scheme for resettlement of jhuggi dwellers in Delhi. Recently, jhuggi dwellers have been moved peacefully and resettled from several areas including CGO Complex, Gautam Nagar, Sadiq Nagar, Andrews Ganj etc. These resettlements have been carried out in accordance with the pattern laid down by the Ministry of Urban Development and have produced satisfactory results both for the welfare of the jhuggi dwellers and for securing vacant possession of the land which are needed by different Departments for implementation of important developmental projects in accordance with the provisions of Delhi Master Plan.

In so far as other metropolitan cities are concerned, the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments.

[*English*]

Indian Science Congress

*440. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether science congress recently held at Pune has reviewed Science and Technology in the context of globalisation and perspective needs of the nation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) details of new National Policy on Science and Technology alongwith new action plan in this regard; and

(d) the major schemes formulated for promotion of science among children, youngsters and industry?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Indian Science Congress has been deliberating over a range of policy issues concerning the development of Science & Technology in its annual sessions and making appropriate recommendations. These recommendations form a valuable input to policy formulation which is a continuous and on going process. Some of the major recommendations relate to—

- (i) closer Academia-industry-research institution linkages
- (ii) collaborative ties with industry and institutions in the field of - agriculture, food, water management, energy and material conservation, low-cost housing, and, environment protection
- (iii) establishment of Awards for brilliant young scientists
- (iv) training of young science students in the national laboratories
- (v) support to basic research in bio-sciences.

(d) The major schemes formulated for promotion of science among children, youngsters and industry are—

(i) *National Children's Science Congress*

Emphasis is given on learning through cooperative science projects to children of age group of 10 to 17 years.

(ii) *Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana*

Offers fellowships in science, engineering and medicines to attract exceptionally bright and highly motivated students at 10+2 level and second year of B.Sc. for taking careers in research in these areas.

(iii) *Swarna Jayanti Fellowships*

Offers fellowship alongwith a project proposal for carrying out world class basic research by scientists of age group of 30 to 40 years, in science and engineering.

(iv) *Fast Track Proposals for Young Scientists*

For providing a quick decision and support on a project mode basis to young scientist of age group of 35 years.

(v) *Better opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST)*

Provides training abroad in advanced identified areas of science and engineering upto the age group of 35 years.

(vi) *Fund for Technology Development and Application*

For the purpose of Development and application of indigenous technology in a dynamic economic environment, the Government of India enabled the placing of the proceed of an existant cess on the import of technology into a fund to be administered by the Technology Development Board constituted for the purpose.

(vii) *Promoting R&D in Drugs and Pharmaceutical Sector*

The programme supports selectively collaborative projects between an industry and a publicly funded research institute/university for drug development for all type of medicinal system.

(viii) *Home Grown Technology Programme*

Promotes commercialisation of indigenous technologies in the country.

(ix) *Programme Aimed at Technological Self-Reliance (PATSER)*

Promoting industry's efforts in development and demonstration of indigenous technology, development of capital goods and absorption of imported technologies.

(x) *CSIR Programme on Youth for Leadership in Science*

A Scheme known as CISR Programme on Youth for Leadership in Science has been formulated.

National Fertilizers Limited

4579. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the works in National Fertilizers Limited, Bathinda are done through the private contractors;

(b) if so, whether the contractors have engaged the labourers on less rates in comparison to the Government rates;

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

(d) whether the management is overlooking this exploitation of the workers and no proper machinery has been put in place to redress the grievances of the workers;

(e) if so, the reasons;

(f) the steps being taken to redress the grievances of the workers;

(g) whether the Government had over-enquired into the matter; and

(h) if so, the findings thereof alongwith the action taken against the officials found guilty in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Only some of the jobs relating to maintenance, handling of urea etc., which are non-perennial and intermittent in nature, are carried out through contract labour. Details of jobs currently carried out through the contract labour with the number of worker engaged in activities/works sector-wise are given in the statement attached.

The contract labourers are paid wages based on the minimum wages as notified by the respective State Government. Besides wages, they are paid House Rent Allowance, canteen allowances, cycle allowances, liveries etc.

(d) to (h) There is no instance of exploitation of workers reported either to the National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) management or Government. The payment of wages to contract workers are made in the presence of authorised representative of NFL management. The deductions on account of Provident Fund (PF), Employees State Insurance (ESI) are made and remitted to respective authorities and Contractor submits documentary evidence of having deposited these contributions.

Appropriate machinery to resolve the grievances of workers exist under various labour laws including Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

The Lal Jhanda NFL Mazdoor Union of contract labour has given a representation to NFL management, Government and Regional Labour Commissioner for abolition of contract jobs and regularisation of their services in which they have generally alleged exploitation vis-a-vis regular employees of NFL. Their representation has been taken up by the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board for examination through a Committee, which will study the points made with regard to abolition of contract labour in various jobs at NFL, Bhatinda.

Statement

Details of jobs being done through contract labourers/ Bhatinda unit

S. No.	Nature of job	No. of workers
1	2	3
1.	ARC Mech. Maint	56
2.	-do-	50
3.	Internal handling of urea	198
4.	ARC Elect. Main	28
5.	-do-	27
6.	Canteen Service	45
7.	Material Handling of Stores	25
8.	Coal Spellage	73
9.	Clearing sweeping of Township	40
10.	ARC Painting of Plant equipment	10
11.	ARC Hot, Cold Spray Insulations	9
12.	Horticulture Work	18
13.	Annual Maint of Reservoir 1 & 2	6
14.	(A) Cleaning of drains in plant area	
15.	(B) Maintenance of Ash Pond	A+B=19
16.	Mtc. of Railway Tracks	17
17.	Cleaning of equipment in Ammonia & Urea Bagging.	19
18.	Replacement of Water proofing treatment.	4
19.	Disposal of Ash.	9
20.	Security Service in Township	17
	(a) ARC Grass cutting	4
	(b) Sundry Jobs in Central Lab	7

1	2	3
21.	Mtc. of Sewerage Pump.	12
22.	Water Proofing Works	6
23.	ARC Mtc. of AC & W/Coolers	17
24.	Fule Oil Unloading	13
Total.		679

Employment Generation Scheme

4580. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of success achieved by the Government under the Comprehensive Employment Generation Scheme through science & technology;

(b) the guidelines issued to the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the amount released by the Union Government during 1999-2000 under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (c) The Government is not implementing any scheme entitled "Comprehensive Employment Generation Scheme through Science & Technology". However, a scheme entitled "Mass Employment Generation through Science & Technology (MEGSAT)" was initiated during 1990-91 and continued till 1996-97. The MEGSAT scheme was wound-up in 1996-97.

[Translation]

Alteration in Government Quarters

4581. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct an additional kitchen and convert the old kitchen into a room in the four-storeyed Government Quarters in Sector-4 of Gole Market, Lodhi Complex and Pushp Vihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Feasibility of adding additional kitchen and conversion of existing kitchen into storage space in type 'C' quarters of Sector-IV, DIZ Area (Gole Market) is under examination. There is no such proposal under consideration for Lodhi Road Complex and Pushp Vihar.

(c) Presently no time frame can be given as it will be known only after feasibility aspect is over.

[English]

Scarcity of Water

4582. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the World Watch Institute's Annual Report wherein it has been stated that there is an acute scarcity of water in India;

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

(c) whether the water shortage may lead to decline in life expectancy; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the drinking water situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item captioned, "Water scarcity may cut life span in India" which appeared in The Hindustan Times, dated 15th January, 2000 and which refers to World Watch Institute's Annual Report "State of World-2000" has come to notice.

(b) Water supply being a State subject, the responsibility for planning, formulation, execution and operation & maintenance of the water supply schemes rests with the concerned State Governments. The Ministry of Urban Development, which is the nodal Ministry for urban water supply and the Ministry of Rural Development which is the nodal Ministry for rural water supply facilitates in formulation of policy guidelines and strategies for implementation of urban water supply and rural water supply, respectively, in the States and UTs. Based on the information furnished by the States and UT Departments in-charge of urban water supply and sanitation, about 90.00% of the urban population have access to safe drinking water supply facilities as on 31.3.97. The Working Group on Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector for 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2000)

constituted by the Planning commission recommended a target coverage of 100% population with safe drinking water facilities in the urban areas. Ministry of Urban Development is implementing a Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census. Funds are provided under AUWSP on 50:50 matching basis by the Centre and the State Governments.

The Ministry of Rural Development has stated that to supplement the efforts of the State Governments for providing drinking water supply in rural areas, Central assistance is being provided under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the State Governments to plan and implement individual water supply schemes under ARWSP in the pattern of State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Ministry of Rural Development has also informed that as per the information furnished by the State Governments, 97.84% of the rural habitations have been provided with access to drinking water facilities as on 1.4.99. The State Governments have been requested by the Ministry of Rural Development to prepare an Action Plan to provide access to drinking water facilities to the remaining not covered and partially covered rural habitations in the next five years.

(c) and (d) No such study has been conducted by this Ministry which would establish that water shortage may lead to decline in life expectancy.

Sewerage & Sanitation Facilities

4583. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are poor and inadequate sewerage and sanitation facilities in certain States of the country;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to have better planning and to enhance the sewerage and sanitation facilities in the cities during the Ninth Plan period; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Based on the information received from the State PHE Departments and Water Supply & Sewerage Boards, It has been assessed that about 49% of the urban population in the country have access to sewerage and sanitation facilities as on 31.3.1997. statement showing Statewise coverage of the urban population with these facilities is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Sewerage and sanitation being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/urban local bodies to plan, formulate, execute, operate and maintain sewerage and sanitation facilities from the State Plan resources. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Government in providing sanitation facilities, a Centrally sponsored Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (LOS) is under implementation by this Ministry. Funds in the form of Government of India subsidy and loan from HUDCO are provided in a synchronised manner to convert dry latrines into twin pit pour flush toilets and to construct such toilets where non exist. The Working Group on Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector for 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) constituted by the Planning Commission recommended a target coverage of 75% population with sanitation facilities in urban areas. As against a requirement of Rs. 51,284.20 crores for water supply & sanitation sector, the Planning Commission have made a tentative allocation of Rs. 18,624 crores for water supply and sanitation, out of which Rs. 864 crores are under Central Plan and Rs. 17780 crores under State Plan for the 9th Plan Period.

Statement

*Status of Urban Sanitation in India
(Status as on 31.3.97)*

Population In'000

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Estimated Population as on 31.3.1997	Population Provided with Sewerage and sanitation Facilities			%
			SEWER	L.C.S.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16937	2835	3103	5938	35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	226	0	194	194	86

1	2	3	4	5	5	6
3.	Assam	4239	14.89	258	272.89	6
4.	Bihar	11892	550	6364	6914	58
5.	Delhi	10300	4500	3000	7500	73
6.	Goa	504	51	19	70	14
7.	Gujarat	16810	10871	348	11219	67
8.	Haryana	3705	1850	373	2223	60
9.	Himachal Pradesh	546	126	110	236	43
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2030	182	13	195	10
11.	Karnataka	14172	7739	5036	12775	90
12.	Kerala	7680	287	5323	5610	73
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17800	965	435	1400	8
14.	Maharashtra	34309	17020	4983	22003	64
15.	Manipur	548	0	68	68	12
16.	Meghalaya	481	20	108	128	27
17.	Mizoram	445	0	356	356	80
18.	Nagaland	214	0	9.28	9.28	4
19.	Orissa	4407	417	0	417	9
20.	Punjab	4202	2052	750	2802	67
21.	Rajasthan	10864	650	6455	7105	65
22.	Sikkim	195	35	68	103	53
23.	Tamilnadu	26600	7120	2756	9876	37
24.	Tripura	428	0	200	200	47
25.	Uttar Pradesh	29837	5935	3957	9892	33
26.	West Bengal	18495	3332	5950	9282	50
Total States		237866	66551.98	50236.3	116788.2	49
Union Territories						
1.	A&N Islands	30	0	77	77	86
2.	Chandigarh	722	722	0	722	100
3.	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	40	0	38	38	95
4.	Daman & Diu	31.2	0	0	0	0
5.	Lakshadweep	37	0	14	14	38
6.	Pondicherry	526	200	200	400	76
Total UTs		1446.2	922	329	1251	87
Grand Total		239312.2	67473.89	50565.3	118039.2	49

Remarks

L.C.S.-Low Cost Sanitation

Supply of Fertilizers

4854. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-availability of Suphala Complex Fertilizer in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government have directed the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. to keep the regular supply of Suphala in Kerala;

(c) if so, whether the Government have fixed a single consumer rate throughout the country and due to this the manufacturing companies are selling the products only nearer to the factories; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the smooth and timely supply of fertilizers including Suphala fertilizer to the farmers and plantation growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (d) Urea is the only controlled fertiliser for which the Government of India makes allocation to each State as per demand and arranges supply from indigenous suppliers and imports in case there is gap in demand and indigenous availability. But the availability of decontrolled fertiliser is governed by the market forces of demand and supply operating within the parameters of the Concession Scheme of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC).

Suphala 15:15:15 was marketed by Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilisers Limited (RCF) in Kerala. But according to information made available, this has been discontinued by RCF since 1995-96 on account of lack of demand in Kerala. Being a decontrolled fertiliser, no allocation is made Statewise of Suphala 15:15:15. There are no distribution controls on marketing of suphala. Marketing is made by the respective producers/suppliers depending upon their perception and requirement throughout the country even though this is covered under the Concession Scheme of DAC under which Government fixes uniform retail price and concession of this fertiliser alongwith other phosphatic and potassic fertilisers.

National Brain Research Centre

4585. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up National Brain Research Centre in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up;

(d) the amount allocated by the Government for the purpose;

(e) the total cost proposed to be incurred on this project; and

(f) the extent to which this centre is likely to help in the treatment of the Epilepsy patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology under the Ministry of Science and Technology has set up a National Brain Research Centre (NBRC) as an autonomous body (under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860).

(b) to (f) The National Brain Research Centre would promote basic neuroscience research, networking, training of personnel and would have close collaboration with other research and academic institutions. Presently, it is functioning from the interim facility provided by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi. The Centre would come up near Manesar Village at Gurgaon in an area of about 40 acres. The Government has allocated Rs. 13.05 crores for three years i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002. The total expected cost to be incurred would be about Rs. 50 crores. The Centre would also do research related to diseases and disorders of the nervous system. Since epilepsy constitutes a major disorder of the nervous system in Indian population, basic research leading to new drug targets for treatment and management of patients is part of the scientific programme.

Funds to H.F.C.L.

4586. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more funds for Research Development Wing of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd., Durgapur for the development of research to educate farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. has been declared as a sick company by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Conversion of Residential Areas Into Industrial Areas

4587. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Rihayashi ilakon ka odyogikikaran itihās ko bhulane ke galti" appearing in the Dainik Jagran, dated March 15, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to convert some residential areas into industrial areas in Delhi;

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

(e) whether there is no provision in the master plan of Delhi to check such conversion of residential areas into industrial areas;

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

(g) the land required for relocating the polluting industries of Delhi outside Delhi and the land acquired for the purpose so far; and

(h) the time by which 52,000 polluting industries are likely to be relocated outside Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issues concerning environment are being addressed by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Development Authority and the Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time.

(c) and (d) The Government of Delhi has recommended to the Delhi Development Authority for in-situ regularisation of the following 15 areas of industrial concentration:

1. Shahzada Bagh Extn.
2. Nangli Sakrawati
3. Mundka (North of Rohtak Road towards Railways line)
4. Vishwas Nagar
5. Khyala
6. Tri Nagar
7. Shalimar Village
8. Haatsal
9. Karawal Nagar
10. Peera Garhi
11. Basan Darapur
12. Dabri
13. Libaspur
14. Haiderpur
15. 1, G.T. Kamal Road (Pkt.)

(e) Master Plan of Delhi 2001 permit only household industrial units in residential areas and relocation of the industries from the non-conforming areas.

(f) DDA has reported that non-conforming industries are being relocated in the planned industrial area at Bawana by Govt. of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD).

(g) GNCTD has reported that as per the Supreme Court order 1328 industries falling under H (a) & H (b) categories of MPD-2001 were required to be shifted outside Delhi or to close down their activities in Delhi. The land to such industries is to be allotted by the concerned States on receipt of application. Govt. of Delhi has, however, acquired and taken possession of approx. 1065 acres of land for relocation of industries which are operating in residential/non-conforming areas of Delhi in contravention of the provision of MPD 2001.

(h) As per GNCTD about 52 thousand industrial units operating in residential and non-conforming areas have applied for allotment of alternate industrial accommodation within Delhi under the 'Relocation Scheme'. Eligible units are to be allotted industrial plots in new industrial areas being developed by the Govt. of Delhi. GNCTD has requested the Supreme Court to allow further time of about 4 years for relocation of such industries.

Indo-French Cooperation

4588. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an agreement regarding creation of joint laboratories has been signed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to strengthen the Indo-French ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 8th meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in New Delhi on March 9-10, 2000. It was decided to develop joint programmes in the areas of Environment, Information Technology and Communication, Life Sciences and Pure Science.

(c) to (e) An MOU has been signed between Bureau de Recherches Geologiques et Minieres (BRGM) of France and National Geo-Physical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad for setting up an Indo-French Centre for Groundwater Research (IFCGR). Another MOU has

been signed between the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Institut de Recherche Pour Le Developpement, France for Cooperation in the field of Research and Education. A Joint Statement of Intent on the Establishment of an Indo-French Laser Research Laboratory has also been signed for setting up of an Indo-French Laser Research Laboratory in India. The setting up of these Laboratories is likely to strengthen the Indo-French Cooperation in Science and Technology.

[*Translation*]

Review of Navodaya Schools

4589. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any review of the performance of Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, whether these Vidyalayas have achieved the objectives for which they were set up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts proposed to be made by the Government for ensuring discipline, better examination results, improvement in the standard and also to make provision for facilities and maintenance of the buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The Government has decided to undertake a comprehensive review of the policies relating to various aspects of the functioning of the scheme by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Education and an intensive evaluation of the performance of Navodaya Vidyalayas by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

(b) and (c) The primary objectives of the Navodaya Vidyalayas are to provide good quality modern education, implementation of three language formula, including strong component of culture, inculcation of values, awareness of the environment, physical education to the talented children predominantly from the rural areas, irrespective

of their family's socio economic conditions, reservation of seats for students from SC/ST categories and Girls. All these objectives by and large are achieved.

(d) Academic performance of JNVs in CBSE examinations are among the best in organised school systems and much above CBSE average. Highest priority is being given to construction of JNV buildings. All basic facilities are being provided at the Vidyalayas where permanent buildings are sanctioned. Due precautions are being taken to check in discipline, if any in the Vidyalayas. To improve academic and administrative performance, a system of regular monthly reports from Principals has been introduced. Periodic instructions are given to Regional Offices for close and effective monitoring of the problems of Vidyalayas. Regular inspections of Vidyalayas are also conducted by Hqrs. and Regional Offices, where all the above issues are closely monitored.

[*English*]

Purchase of Medicines for CGHS

4590. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated and utilised in the Budget for purchase of medicines for CGHS Dispensaries/Units in Delhi/New Delhi during the last three years, System-wise;

(b) whether the budget of CGHS Unani Medicines could not be utilised during the said period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the circumstances under which the funds could not be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The information is given in the attached statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The expenditure on the purchase of Unani medicines has proportionately come down. The full budget provision could not be utilised as there has been a declining trend in attendance of beneficiaries in CGHS Unani Dispensaries/Units during these years.

Statement

Details of the amount allocated and utilised for purchase of medicines

Years	Total Allocated fund including I.S.M. (Rs.)	Allopathic		Ayurvedic		Unani		Homeo	
		Bifurcated Amount	Utilised Amount	Bifurcated Amount	Utilised Amount	Bifurcated Amount	Utilised Amount	Bifurcated Amount	Utilised Amount
1997-98	420000000/-	3850,00000/-	279194002	17500000	17000000	8600000	8000000	8600000	46,67796
1998-99	463000004/-	3850000000/-	32385893	17500000	19903536	8600000	3405557	8600000	4318004
1999-2000	52725000/-	44500000	485202512	17500000	17566420	8600000	3009228	8600000	4223862

[Translation]

Geophysics Study Centre

4591. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal regarding the establishment of a geo-physics study centre in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the cost of the project; and

(c) the time by which the approval is likely to be granted to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal for setting up a Geophysics Study Centre in Madhya Pradesh was received in July, 1997.

(b) The cost of the project has been reflected as Rs. 229 lakhs for capital equipment and construction of buildings and Rs. 58 lakhs per annum as recurring cost.

(c) The project proposal mainly focusses on setting up of five seismological observatories to monitor the earthquake activity in Madhya Pradesh so that the threshold of detection can be brought down to magnitude 3. Subsequent to the Latur Earthquake in September 1993, the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, with the assistance of the World Bank, undertook a project for upgradation of earthquake observational network in Peninsular India. Under this project, observatories have been set up/upgraded in Madhya Pradesh at Bhopal, Bilaspur, Jabalpur and Rewa with modern digital equipment. A multi-element telemetry system is in the process of being established around Khandwa. Also, state-of-art observatories have been set up in other parts of Peninsular India which help in recording the earthquake activity in Madhya Pradesh. With the operationalisation of this network, it was not considered essential to set up additional observatories in Madhya Pradesh, as proposed in the project proposal. The State Government was accordingly advised in September 1997.

[English]

Forensic Science Laboratories

4592. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Forensic Science Laboratories in NCR and in the Capital;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open more such Laboratories in NCR and NCTD;

(c) whether these Laboratories have adequate testing facilities;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI):(a) According to available information there are two forensic science laboratories (FSLs) in the area out of which one is functioning under the Central Bureau of Investigation and the other under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Both these laboratories are located in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) There is a proposal to expand the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), CBI to meet the testing requirements of White Collar crimes, such as Cyber Crime, DNA finger printing, etc. Another proposal for augmentation of the CFSL (CBI) to meet the requirements of anti-corruption cases, as required by the Central Vigilance Commission, is also being worked out.

The Government of NCT of Delhi is not considering any proposal to open any new forensic science laboratory.

(c) to (e) The CFSL (CBI) is presently equipped with testing facilities of crime exhibits. It has 9 divisions, namely, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Serology, Fingerprint, Documents, Photo & Scientific Aids, Lie-Detection and Ballistics. Efforts are being made to develop infrastructure to handle the frontier areas of forensic science such as physical clue examination required in dealing with Cyber Crime investigation, DNA testing facilities and Speaker's identification using Voice Spectrograph. Efforts are also being made to modernise the existing laboratory facilities for quicker and speedier analysis in the fields using Computer techniques/software in questioned documents examination, firearm and explosives examination, Fingerprints, Lie-Detection and areas relating to forensic engineering.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that its laboratory is under process of progressive development and facilities for examination of crime exhibits, such as, Forensic Documents, Forensic Biology/Serology, are available along with limited facilities for Forensic Chemistry, Forensic Ballistics and Forensic Physics. The Government of NCT of Delhi has sanctioned a new building for the laboratory in Rohini.

Team for Sydney Olympics, 2000

4593. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalised the team and its members to be participated in the Sydney Olympic, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the list of team and its members are likley to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government will finalize the teams for Sydney Olympic, 2000 after receipt of a formal proposal from Indian Olympic Association (IAO), an apex body for such Games. The IOA, as per guidelines, is supposed to send its proposal three months before the event.

Disposal of Garbage

4594. SHRI RASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to streamline the disposal of garbage in the unauthorised and authorised colonies of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have banned installation of private deep tubewells in the city indicating the number of such tubewells exist and out of them have failed and rebored;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to ensure that telephone connections are not provided in unauthorised dwelling/houses throughout the city including the houses which have not been completed and not given a completion certificate due to encroachments; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The garbage from the Dustin/dalao of NDMC and MCD is collected, transported and disposed of at designated sanitary landfill

sites, at Ghazipur, Okhla and Bhalswa. MCD has one Compost Plant each at Bhalswa (capacity 500 MT) and Okhla capacity 150 MT). NDMC has a Compost Plant functioning at Okhla (capacity 30 MT). MCD and NDMC have planned to construct some more compost/processing plants in view of increasing demand and to upgrade the capacity of the existing plants.

(c) and (d) The Central Ground Water Authority has notified Najafgarh and Mehrauli blocks for purposes of prohibiting the drilling and construction of tubewells without its approval. It does not maintain data with regard to existence of tubewells/tubewells failed and rebored.

(e) and (f) The MTNL/Department of Telecom Services have informed that, as per the existing policy, the subscriber only needs to furnish a certificate to the effect that he/she is staying at the given address and that the telephone connection is for his/her bonafide use.

Technical University

4595. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for opening of Technical Universities in the State on the lines of Maharashtra University of Health Sciences; and

(b) if so, the decision taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Farm Houses in Delhi

4596. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 2943 on March 14, 2000 regarding farm houses in Delhi and state:

(a) the provisions of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 under which MCD is taking action against the farm houses owners for the violation of building bye-laws norms;

(b) the details of 348 cases of violation of norms noticed by MCD indicating names of villages, Khasra numbers and type of violations;

(c) the details of dwelling units built within 400 metres of National Highway No. 8 noticed so far; and

(d) the provisions under which MCD is regularising the violation of the farm houses owners and the reasons for not taking action under section 81 Delhi land Reforms Act, 1954 for misusing the Agricultural land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from Government of NCT of Delhi, DDA and MCD.

Conference on Linguistic Heritage of India and Asia

4597. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether "International Conference on the Linguistic Heritage of India and Asia" has been organised in March this year in collaboration with UNESCO;

(b) if so, the number of delegates attended the conference;

(c) the outcome of the conference and the total expenditure incurred on the same;

(d) whether the outcome of the Conference commensurate with the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Conference was held at Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore from 6-10 March, 2000 in which 31 delegates, including 10 from overseas, participated. An expenditure of Rs. 2,00,348/- was incurred by the Institute. The Conference deliberated on several important issues concerning the development of Indian Languages vis-a-vis Asian languages as a whole and the preservation of linguistic heritage. A 'Mysore Document' containing the recommendations of the Conference was adopted at the conclusion of the Conference. The recommendations of the Conference are expected to be helpful in chalking out future strategies in the fields of language development and preservation of linguistic heritage.

Centres of CIPET

4598. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of centres of Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology in operation at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether these institutions are receiving aid from the World Bank;

(c) if so, the details of the aid received by them during the last three years;

(d) the number of such institutions likely to be opened during the Ninth Plan period; and

(e) the total amount likely to be received as aid from the World financing agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) There are 8 full-fledged Centres of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET). These are located at:-

Ahmedabad (Gujarat),
Amritsar (Punjab),
Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh),
Bhubaneswar (Orissa),
Chennai (Tamil Nadu),
Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh),
Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh),
Mysore (Karnataka),

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Centres at Guwahati (Assam), Haldia (West Bengal) and Patna (Bihar) are expected to be operational by end of the Ninth Plan and

(e) A Project Report on "Capacity Building of CIPET Centres for Development in Thrust Areas" involving assistance of US \$ 7.00 million has been submitted through the Ministry of Finance, to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development, Vienna, Austria. Response is awaited.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Engineering Colleges

4599. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar was demanded central assistance for the Modernisation of engineering colleges in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL):(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Spying Gang

4600. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Spy gang escapes after news leak" appearing in The Hindu dated February, 25, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether other members of the gang escaped owing to leakage of news of arrest of two spies by the media; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against the officers held responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH.VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) On February 21, 2000, following recovery of some documents containing information on Indian Army, Custom Officials apprehended two Pak nationals at Attari Railway Station in Punjab. They contacted Officers of GRP, State CID and other Central Intelligence agencies. The Pak nationals were interrogated by the State and Central Intelligence Agencies.

The allegation in the news item could not be substantiated.

[English]

Use of Asbestos Pipes

4601. SHRI RAJESH VERMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Life-giving liquid in pipes of poison" appearing in Pioneer dated February 5, 2000;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the statements attributed to Industrial Toxicology Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow have not been made by this institution.

(c) The information is being sought from the other Government Departments/Institutions dealing with the regulatory and enforcement issues connected with asbestos.

Expansion of FACT

4602. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for expansion of capacity of the plants of Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Kerala at present. However, for the year 2000-2001, a budgetary support of Rs. 40 crore has been provided for FACT by the Government to undertake essential capital expenditure on minor schemes for renovation/modernisation/renewals/replacements of its aging plants.

[Translation]

Medicines for TB Patients

4603. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the maximum number of T.B. patients died due to the costly T.B. medicines in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make available medicines to patients on cheaper rates; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):(a) to (c) Anti-TB drugs are provided free of cost to patients throughout the country. Under the World Bank assisted Revised National TB Control Programme, anti-TB drugs are provided in kind for (i) all patients in RNTCP districts and (ii) for sputum positive cases in all other districts. Under NTCP case assistance is provided for 100% requirement of anti-TB drugs for sputum negative cases in non-RNTCP districts by Government of India.

[English]

Indian Research Institutes

4604. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether US had decided to notify the removal of 51 Indian research institutes from the entity list of its federal register on December 16, 1999 but the same could not be materialised;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for getting the notification expedited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) On December 16, 1999 US decided to remove 52 Indian entities from the entity list notified in November 1998. The removal of 52 Indian entities from the entity list was notified on March 17, 2000.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Yoga in Schools

4605. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any centrally sponsored scheme for the promotion of Yoga in schools; and

(b) if so, the number of schools covered and the allocation made under the scheme during the last three years and its utilisation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for 'Promotion of Yoga in Schools'. Under the scheme assistance is provided through the Education/other concerned Departments in the States and UTs as well as through Yoga Institutions of All India Character for training of teachers and for promotion of research in various aspects of Yoga. However, no assistance is given directly to schools. A statement indicating the State-wise funds released and Institutions assisted under the scheme during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Statement indicating the State-wise funds released and Institutions assisted under the scheme for promotion of Yoga in Schools during the last three years

Name & Address of the Agencies	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
Tripura Education Department Govt. of Tripura, Agartala	—	1,01,200/-	—

1	2	3	4
Bihar			
Indian Institute of Yoga, Patna, Bihar	—	1,55,000/-	1,55,000/-
Patna Yoga Vidyalaya Patna, Bihar	—	1,07,500/-	—
Swami Sahanand Samajik Vikas Avam Sodh Sanshtan, Patna, Bihar	—	47,500/-	—
Maharashtra			
Yoga Institute Santacruz, Mumbai	—	1,10,500/-	1,42,500/-
Kaivalyadhama Smyam Samiti, Lonavala, Pune	30,00,000/-	30,00,000/-	38,00,000/-
Kaivalyadhama Smyam Samiti, Lonavala, Pune	2,00,000/-	2,00,000/-	2,03,500/-
Shree Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal, Amravati	—	—	2,50,000/-
Uttar Pradesh			
Yoga Shiksha Sansthan Orai, U.P.	—	—	2,49,000/-
Delhi			
Kaivalyadhama Smyam Samiti, Delhi Branch	3,00,000/-	—	—
Manipur			
Yoga Physique & Studies Imphal, Manipur.	—	1,51,000/-	—

Child Health Programmes

4806. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of outlay made for Reproductive and Child Health programme (RCH) during the Ninth Plan period, State-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance received from the international agencies during the first three years of the said plan; and

(c) the extent of international assistance utilised for implementation of RCH programme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) A statement-I showing the details of State-wise outlay made for the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme for the 9th Plan period is attached.

(b) and (c) Rs. 990.75 crores has been received for the RCH Programme from international agencies during the last three years as per details in statement-II. The assistance forms part of the overall outlay made to the States/Union Territories as shown in the statement enclosed.

Statement-I**Reproductive and Child Health Programme**

Estimated amount of assistance (Kind & Cash) during 9th Plan Period (1997-98 to 2001-2002)

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	219.81
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56.44
3.	Assam	116.44
4.	Bihar	449.12
5.	Goa	13.37
6.	Gujarat	152.08
7.	Haryana	131.17
8.	Himachal Pradesh	81.09
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	85.25
10.	Karnataka	190.10
11.	Kerala	117.03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	364.76
13.	Maharashtra	259.01
14.	Manipur	68.62
15.	Meghalaya	32.67
16.	Mizoram	49.90
17.	Nagaland	54.89
18.	Orissa	211.49
19.	Punjab	93.86
20.	Rajasthan	283.47
21.	Sikkim	23.76
22.	Tamil Nadu	182.97
23.	Tripura	45.45
24.	Uttar Pradesh	673.67
25.	West Bengal	228.12
26.	A & N Islands	9.51
27.	Chandigarh	5.20

1	2	3
28.	D & N Haveli	5.70
29.	Daman & Diu	9.51
30.	Delhi	25.99
31.	Lakshadweep	5.94
32.	Pondicherry	18.71
Total		4275.11

Figures provisional

Statement-II**Reproductive and Child Health Programme**

Details of External Assistance received during last three years

(Rs. in Crores)

Agency	External Assistance received during last 3 years**
World Bank	186.34
European Commission	173.45
DFID (UK)	298.85
KfW (Germany)	159.11
UNICEF	173.00

Figures are provisional

***Does not include extrabudgetary assistance received for Pulse Polio Immunization from donors/International agencies.*

Health Project in Haryana

4607. SHRI AJYA SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of health projects launched in Haryana with the assistance of World Bank, location-wise during the last three years and up to March 31, 2000;

(b) the actual amount spent on each project during the said period;

(c) the extent to which each of these projects have proved to be successful;

(d) whether the Union Government are considering to launch some more health projects with the World Bank assistance in the country particularly in Haryana during the Ninth Plan Period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T.

SHANMGUAM): (a) to (e) *World Bank Assisted IPP-VII and RCH Sub-projects in Haryana*

In Haryana, two projects were launched under the World Bank assistance. Details are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Period of Implementation	City/District	Expenditure Reported during 31.3.97 to 31st March, 2000 (In crore)
1.	Indian Population Project-VII	2.11.90 to 30.6.98**	Entire State	15.96
2.	Reproductive and Child Health Sub-project	October, 1997 to 31st March, 2003	Bhiwani District and Faridabad city	2.13

**Period Extended for completion of civil works upto 31st March, 1999 Period Extended for Procurement of Equipment and furniture of all such buildings upto 30th June, 1999.

The IPP-VII project has achieved its objectives of establishing training institutions for different levels of programme functionaries, community leaders and opinion makers from the State to the district level and enhanced service deliveries to IEC, NGO and social marketing efforts. The RCH sub-project is continuing to achieve its objectives to address the needs of women and men in Reproductive Age and Children, focus on safe motherhood, child survival and prevention of RTI/STI and establishment of effective referral services.

Reproductive and Child Health Programme

Reproductive and Child Health Programme with the joint funding by the World Bank, European Commission, UNFPA, UNICEF etc., is implemented in all the districts of the country including Haryana. The states are being assisted for strengthening the Primary Health Care System by providing Additional ANMs, PHNs/Staff Nurse, Lab. Technicians, Safe Motherhood Consultants and Anesthetists on contractual basis besides supply of vaccines, drugs and equipments and strengthening of IEC, MIS, NGOs participation and training activities etc. for implementation of the programme. The approved outlay for the RCH programme is Rs. 5112.53 crores during the 9th Plan period.

Besides above nation-wide activities, projects focussing on districts too have been taken up. Under the European Commission Health and Family Welfare Programme Ambala, Yamunanagar and Kamal districts of State of Haryana have been selected for demonstrating the need of and approval to reforming health and family

welfare programmes for improving access, coverage and quality of health services. The action plan for the same is being formulated. RC—sub-projects under World Bank funded RC—Projects are being implemented in Bhiwani and Faridabad districts of Haryana for improvement of infrastructure facilities and upgrading access and quality of RCH services.

It is further mentioned that this Department has negotiated a new project namely Immunization Strengthening Project with World Bank amounting to US\$ 142.6 million which would be implemented in all the districts of the country.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

So far NLEP is concerned, the World Bank supported Leprosy programme is being implemented in all the districts of Haryana. The project has been implemented in all the districts during last 3 years.

A statement about the actual amount spend on each project during the said period is enclosed.

The prevalence of Leprosy is reduced in Haryana from 0.70 in 1981 to 0.52 in March, 1999.

Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme

In the State of Haryana, in three districts—Faridabad, Gurgaon, Sonapat Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) is implemented with the World Bank assistance.

100% anti-TB drugs required for treatment of TB cases and binocular microscopes for quality diagnosis have been procured and supplied to the three districts by the Centre. For undertaking various activities in regard to implementation of RNTCP, grants-in-aid have been given to the above districts in 1999-2000 as under:-

Faridabad -	Rs. 30.98 lakhs
Gurgaon -	Rs. 20.50 lakhs
Sonepat -	Rs. 19.80 lakhs

Preparatory activities in all the three districts were started in the year 1999-2000 and service delivery has started in the year 2000-2001.

Efforts will be made to cover the total population of the d National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) by the end of the year 2005.

National AIDs Control Programme

National AIDS Control Programme is 100% a centrally sponsored scheme implemented in whole State of Haryana.

The actual amount spent on National AIDS Control Programme during last three years in Haryana as follows:-

1997-98 -	Rs. 75.00 lakhs
1998-99 -	Rs. 160.00 lakhs
1999-2000 -	Rs. 270.00 lakhs

National AIDS Control Programme Phase-II project has already been implemental all over the country, including Haryana w.e.f. 9th November, 1999.

Annexure-I

Release made to Distt. Labour Societies in Haryana during the last 3 years

(Rs. in lakh)

DLS located	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
Ambala	Nil	5.00	Nil
Bhiwani	Nil	Nil	Nil
Faridabad	Nil	5.00	Nil
Gurgaon	Nil	5.00	Nil

1	2	3	4
Jind	Nil	Nil	Nil
Hishar	Nil	Nil	Nil
Karnal	Nil	Nil	Nil
Kurukshetra	Nil	Nil	Nil
Namraul	Nil	Nil	Nil
Rohtak	Nil	Nil	2.00
Sirsa	Nil	Nil	3.00
Sonepat	Nil	Nil	7.00
Panipat	Nil	Nil	8.00
Yamunagar	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	15.00	20.00

[Translation]

NRDC

4608. SHRI ASHOK AGRAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), New Delhi was set up for the development of research work being conducted in Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Defence Research and Development Organisation;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to chalk out a time bound action plan to ensure strong institutional coordination amid Technology Development Board, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and National Research Development Corporation for making available technology to the entrepreneurs from one central body in real terms;

(d) whether the Government propose to appoint a Joint Chairman to establish coordination for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), New Delhi was established in 1953 under the then,

Department of Science and Technology, under section 26 of the companies Act 1913 (Present Section 25 of the Companies Act 1956) as a non-dividend paying company. Consequent to the formation of Ministry of Science and Technology in 1985, the NRDC is under the administrative control of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research since then. The objective of NRDC, among others, included development and exploitation, in public interest, of inventions (whether patentable or otherwise) and technical & engineering process-knowhow of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, different departments of central and state governments, commodity research committees and other statutory organisations.

(c) While the technology Development Board provided financial support for the development and commercialization of indigenous technologies for wider domestic applications, the National Research Development Corporation makes available technologies to the entrepreneurs. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the National Research Development Corporation are under the administrative control of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. As per the provisions contained in the Technology Development Board Act, Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) and Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is an ex-officio member of the Board. Thus, institutional coordination exists amid the Technology Development Board, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the National Research Development Corporation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Strengthening of Police

4609. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of Rs. 615 crore has been sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for strengthening the State police for combating naxalite activities in the affected areas of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The Integrated Action Plan amounting to Rs. 615 crore, encompassing the development as well as security aspects, received from the Government of Madhya

Pradesh has been recommended to the Planning Commission for earmarking separate funds for the purpose. The State Government has been advised to take vigorous follow up action.

Physical Education Colleges

4610. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open physical education colleges under the assistance programme of UGC during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details of the places where these colleges are likely to be opened, State-wise;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Central Government of UGC do not set up colleges of their own. Colleges are generally set up by Universities/State Governments/Private Trusts/Managements keeping in view the demand for higher education in a particular region and the availability of resources.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Security of Passengers

4611. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI AKHILESH YADAV:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PWG activists and other extremists blasted a number of railway stations and damaged tracks etc. during the last one year;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the property and lives of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per available information, State-wise figures of attacks on Railway Property during the years 1999 and 2000 (upto April 15) is as under:-

	1999	2000 (upto April 15)
Andhra Pradesh	14	1
Bihar	3	2
Tamil Nadu	—	1
	17	4

(c) Central Government have advised all States/U.T. Administrations to ensure better cooperation and coordination with the railway authorities and extend all possible assistance to them for timely detection and prevention of any kind of terrorist activities in trains or at railway stations. Intelligence inputs regarding the nefarious designs of the anti-national elements to disrupt the communication system, including the railway traffic, in the country are shared with the State Governments and other concerned agencies.

[Translation]

Sale and Purchase of Plots

4612. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the purchase of plots are going on in a big way through property dealers in connivance with DDA and MCD (Slum) Wing in New Kondli in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to get the matter thoroughly investigated;

(c) if so, the time by which the investigation is likely to be conducted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from DDA/MCD and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Traffic Problem

4613. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
DR. ASHOK PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that traffic snarls for hours together caused by the frequent rallies and demonstrations in Delhi create a lot of problems for the public;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ban rallies and demonstrations and shift the venue of such rallies and demonstrations to some specified far-off place;

(c) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government at present to shift the venue of public demonstrations and rallies from Jantar Mantar-Parliament Street area. There are recognised form of protests in any democratic society and cannot, therefore, be banned also. However, special efforts are made to regulate the traffic, when such demonstrations/rallies take place, to avoid inconvenience to the public.

Encroachment around Kalkaji Temple

4614. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kalkaji temple in Delhi is surrounded by the encroachers;

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

(c) whether the slum dwellers are being removed from the land encroached by them;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to rehabilitate them at any other place; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Kalkaji Temple, which is visited by lakhs of devotees every month has had to face serious problems of inadequate infrastructure facilities, unauthorised construction, large scale misuse of premises including greens etc. To avoid any serious problem of public safety and security, the conditions in the premises need to be improved.

(b) There are 5127 jhuggis of eligible and ineligible squatters including commercial encroachments in and around the Kalkaji Temple complex and its neighbourhood including green belt.

(c) to (e) Squatters are rehabilitated as per existing Govt. Policy.

Inclusion of Area of Sixth Schedule

4615. DR. (COL. RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to include Girpan area in Himachal Pradesh also in the Sixth Schedule of the constitution with a view to speedier development of the area and protecting its identity just like certain areas of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Welfare Schemes for Tribals

4616. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes implemented by the Union Government for the welfare of the tribals, backward and people living below poverty line during the last three years upto March 2000, State-wise;

(b) the achievements made by the Government thereunder;

(c) whether the Government propose to prepare a special package for the development of tribal dominated areas with the other social groups in each State;

(d) whether the letters from the public representatives have been received by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to raise the socio-economic condition of these downtrodden people?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (e) Information regarding the schemes implemented for the welfare and upliftment of Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the expenditure incurred in respect of those schemes during the last three years is given in the statements attached (I and II). The schemes are applicable to all States/UTs, as per prescribed norms and the beneficiaries include those living below the poverty-line in the respective categories.

Statement-I

Statement showing the names of various schemes and programmes for the welfare and development of Tribals implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs along with Expenditure

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal	329.61	380.00	400.00
2.	Grants under article 275(I) of the Constitution.	75.00	75.00	100.00
3.	Girls Hostels for STs.	3.77	7.69	3.93
4.	Boys Hostels for STs.	3.53	8.30	6.98
5.	Ashram Schools in TSP areas	4.67	9.39	5.32
6.	Grant to Voluntary Organizations.	7.00	11.24	15.00
7.	Research and Training	2.87	3.92	1.78

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Investment in TRIFED	23.00	6.00	0.25
9.	Price Support to TRIFED	1.00	4.00	2.97
10.	Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Coop. Crops.	8.23	6.87	9.05
11.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets.	2.20	3.71	1.84
12.	Vocational Training Centres.	3.45	4.71	3.75
13.	Village Grain Banks	1.80	3.00	1.00
14.	Development Primitive Tribal Groups.	—	4.94	6.63

Statement-II

Statement showing the names of schemes for the welfare and development of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Pre-Matric Scholarship	—	1.50	5.00
2.	Post-Matric Scholarship for OBC students for studies in India	—	4.64	5.50
3.	Hostels for OBC boys and girls	—	1.30	3.00
4.	Pre examination coaching for OBC Students	—	0.20	0.03
5.	Assistance for Voluntary Organisations for welfare of OBCs.	—	0.64	1.09

[Translation]

Atrocities on Dalits

4617. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been substantial increase in the cases of atrocities being committed on Dalits in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of such cases reported during the last three years, State-wise and

(d) the steps being taken to check this increasing trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. According to information contained in the National Crime Records Bureau's publication entitled "Crime in India 1998", 25,638 cases of crime against the Scheduled Caste were reported in 1998 against 27,944 cases in 1997 and 31,440 cases in 1996. Details in this regard are available in the Bureau's publications.

(d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focussed attention to the improvement of administration of Criminal Justice System and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other vulnerable sections of the society. Financial assistance is also provided to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.

[English]

HIV Positive Cases

4618. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "sore WB to monitor

AIDS plan" appearing in the Indian Express, dated March 5, 2000;

- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the reasons for poor performance of AIDS control programmes;

(e) whether World Bank has decided to depute a team of experts in India for monitoring and effective implementation of AIDS Control programme;

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

(g) the amount of WHO assistance for AIDS control provided to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government for ensuring proper blood testing facilities in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The content of the article is not based on facts.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Nil.

(h) The Government has set up HIV testing facility in the microbiology departments in all medical college hospitals. Testing facility are being extended to all district hospitals in a phased manner.

[*Translation*]

Underground Reservoirs Built by DDA

4619. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of underground reservoirs built by Delhi Development Authority during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of funds spent on this repair works on such reservoirs during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Delhi Development Authority had to spend an additional amount of about 40 lakh rupees recently for the construction of a reservoir;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found responsible for such additional expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Five Nos.

(b) Nil.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Delhi Development Authority has reported that a sum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs is likely to be incurred on the repairs/strengthening of two Nos. Underground Reservoir Tanks which were constructed at Trilokpuri in 1990 and had developed distress due to their remaining empty as Delhi Jal Board could not provide water. The IIT, Delhi who were consulted to identify the causes of distress, had also confirmed the same.

(e) Does not arise.

Reconstruction of Bhubaneswar

4620. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan/scheme under consideration for the reconstruction of Bhubaneswar alongwith other devastated places/areas in Orissa after the Super Cyclone in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) 1. The Government of India has sanctioned the following amounts to Orissa for the floods and Cyclone:

National Fund For Calamity Relief:	Rs. 828.15 Crores
Advance Plan Assistance:	Rs. 450 Crores
Calamity Relief Fund: (Central share)	Rs. 42.50 Crores

2. The total assistance sanctioned by Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) for Orissa (including Bhubaneswar) under housing is Rs. 1116.40

crores. Of this, Rs. 1112.50 crores is loan assistance and Rs. 3.90 crores is grant assistance. HUDCO has also sanctioned Rs. 5.00 lakhs (grant) for Avenue Plantation from Airport to AF Square in the city.

3. The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) in Orissa have completed works worth Rs. 116.00 lakhs.

4. The Building Material Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) in Orissa is conducting a rapid damage assessment study and has also spent Rs. 10 lakhs on machines.

5. The State Government Expenditure on repair and renovation works taken up in the capital city of Bhubaneswar amounts to Rs. 181.62 lakhs.

6. The World Bank has committed assistance of Rs. 1326.98 lakhs for repair/restoration of urban properties in the capital city of Bhubaneswar.

(c) The Question does not arise.

Shortage of Rabies Injections

4621. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dog population in Delhi is increasing beyond control and consequently the cases of dog bites are on the increase and the stock of anti-rabies injections runs short faster than it is replenished in the Government hospitals;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation;

(c) the number of dog bites reported in Delhi during each of the last three years and the number of persons dying due to this;

(d) whether any survey to ascertain the dog population has been conducted by the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to contain the dog population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Use of Devnagri in Gadgets

4622. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made arrangements for promoting use of Devnagri in the modern gadgets like computers because of official work is still being done in English Roman script;

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

(c) whether the Government intend to promote the use of Rajbhasha Hindi during the current year in place of use of English at the All India level; and

(d) if so, the action plan worked out for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued to all the Offices of Central Govt. to purchase bilingual (Hindi/English) Computers. National Informatics Centre has, in this directions, provided Jist Cards/Jist Terminals and other bilingual software to Ministries/Depts. In addition, training programmes for working in Hindi on computers, are being organised by National Informatics Centre and the Department of Official Language, Publicity regarding alternative Hindi Software is done by the Deptt. of Official Language through its publications multimedia films, seminars and computers exhibitions.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Targets have been fixed in the Annual programme 2000-2001 for this purpose and sent to all Ministries/Depts.

Rural Literacy Projects

4623. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the rural literacy projects functioning since 1991 in Madhya Pradesh have been discontinued by the Union Government under the new initiatives;

(b) if so, whether the travelling dues of the officers/staff under those projects are yet to be paid due to their non-absorption;

(c) if so, whether the State Government has submitted the proposal in this regard to the Union Government for approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Government had proposed payment of pending travelling dues amounting to Rs. 16,55,503/- out of the funds sanctioned under the scheme of Strengthening of Administrative Structures. It was clarified to the State Government that Strengthening of Administrative Structures was a separate scheme and liabilities of one scheme cannot be transferred to another scheme. However, clarifications in regard to pending dues were called for from the State Government in November, 1995 which are awaited.

[English]

Population Growth in Maharashtra

4624. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra has formulated attractive schemes to curb population growth with special focus on the girl child;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State which have been able to curb population growth to a great extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra has declared the State Population Policy on 8th March, 2000. Highlights of this Policy are given in the statement attached.

(c) Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have achieved success in controlling the growth of population.

Statement

Highlights of State Population Policy

- Acceptance of "Two Child Norm" as "Small Family".
- Performance in National Family Welfare Programme to be assessed in the Confidential Records of Divisional Commissioners, Collectors,

Chief Executive Officers, Municipal Commissioners, Chief Officers, BDOs, Teheldar, District Health Officer, Civil Surgeons, Deputy Director of Health Services, etc.

- Concept of "Small Family" norm to be made part of service condition for employment in Government and Semi-Government Services.
- House Building Advance, Vehicle Advance to be given on priority to those who limit their family to 2 children.
- Medical reimbursement to those who limit their family to 2 issues.
- Subsidies under State Government schemes admissible only to those who restrict their family to two issues.
- Strict implementation of existing acts such as Child Marriage Act, Parental Sex Determination Act, Birth and Death Registration Act etc.
- Organisation of Family Welfare Camps with the financial assistance from Co-operative Societies, Sugar factories and other industrial establishments.
- A Divisional Coordination Committee at the divisional level under the Chairmanship of the Divisional Commissioners.
- At the District level a District Population Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of the District Collector.

Blacklisted NGOs

4625. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board has blacklisted 3000 NGOs in the country so far;

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

(c) the number of NGOs against whom enquiries are still pending, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check that the funds allocated to NGOs are actually utilised for the purposes for which they were allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A total number of 3470 NGOs are presently blacklisted by Central Social Welfare Board.

(b) The State-wise detail of blacklisted NGOs is given in the attached statement-I. The following are the reasons for the blacklisting of NGOs:-

- (i) Non-refund of loans and non-submission of accounts under Dairy Scheme; and
- (ii) Misutilisation of funds or unsatisfactory implementation of other programmes.

(c) The State-wise number of NGOs against whom enquiries on specific complaints are still pending are given in the attached statement-II.

(d) Following are the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilisation of the funds allocated to NGOs:-

- (i) A comprehensive and stringent pre-funding appraisal is undertaken before sanction of funds to NGOs;
- (ii) Regular monitoring of activities is done by the Central Board and State Board Officials; and
- (iii) Monitoring by independent agencies like Schools of Social Work is also resorted to in some cases.

Statement-I

State-wise Number of Blacklisted NGOs

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Blacklisted NGOs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	288
2.	Assam	152
3.	Bihar	142
4.	Gujarat	106
5.	Haryana	146
6.	Himachal Pradesh	53
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	171
9.	Kerala	131
10.	Madhya Pradesh	53
11.	Maharashtra	126
12.	Manipur	196
13.	Meghalaya	323
14.	Nagaland	79
15.	Orissa	122
16.	Punjab	223
17.	Rajasthan	76
18.	Sikkim	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	306
20.	Tripura	69
21.	Uttar Pradesh	318
22.	West Bengal	99
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
24.	Delhi	17
25.	Goa	24
26.	Mizoram	106
27.	A&N Island	—
28.	Chandigarh	4
29.	D&N Haveli	—
30.	Lakshadweep	3
31.	Pondichery	134
Total		3470

Statement-II

State-wise number of NGOs against whom enquiry is pending

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of NGOs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Assam	1

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Haryana	1
6.	Madhya Pradesh	8
7.	Maharashtra	2
8.	Meghalaya	2
9.	Orissa	1
10.	Rajasthan	1
11.	Uttar Pradesh	9
12.	West Bengal	2
Total		32

[Translation]

Attacks on Minorities

4626. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Kolar mein Swam ko chaku lagane ke bad saat dalit jinda jalaye gaye" appearing in 'Jansatta' dated 13th March, 2000;

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

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the protection of Dalits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available with the Central Government, two incidents of violence and counter-violence between the members of Reddy community and Scheduled Castes had taken place in Kambalapalli village, Police Station Kencharlahalli, Kolar District, Karnataka on 11-3-2000. The incidents resulted in the stabbing and subsequent death of one Krishna Reddy and burning alive of seven members of the Scheduled Caste community.

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been advising the State

Governments, from time to time, to give more focussed attention to the improvement of administration of Criminal Justice System and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other vulnerable sections of the society. Financial assistance is also provided to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.

[English]

Super Computer

4627. SHRI TARUN GOGOI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether a super computer is being imported from the U.S.A. for the meteorological forecasting;

(b) if so, the date and the level at which the decision to import the same was taken alongwith the details of the amount being spent on it;

(c) the time by which it should have been received in the country alongwith its expected time of receipt now;

(d) the reasons for delay;

(e) whether the concerned firm would also make available the technology of the super computer;

(f) if so, the details in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision to procure a super computer system for the purpose of medium range weather forecasting was taken by the competent authority in the Ministry in June, 1996. The cost of the total system is US 1.835 Million Dollars and out of this, the cost of the Super Computer is US 1.51 Million Dollars.

(c) and (d) The import of the system is subject to issue of import certificate by the Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India and export licence by the US Department of Commerce to the supplier for which an application has already been made.

The actual date of shipment of the equipment and its anticipated arrival in the country can be indicated after receipt of the above clearances.

(e) The concerned firm would not make available the technology of the Super Computer to the country as it was not a part of the procurement package. The procurement is meant to be only one time purchase.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Kanya Shiksha Parisar

4628. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to open 'Kanya Shiksha Parisar' or Vidyalaya/Shiksha Kendras in Adivasi areas of the country where the literacy rate is below, 10%;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether any proposal has been received from Non-government organisations of Madhya Pradesh regarding setting up of 'Kanya Shiksha Parisar'; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government of India, through the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, provides 100% grant in aid for setting up of Educational complex in low literacy pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas. These educational complexes are exclusively for ST Girls in Tribal Areas where the literacy rate among ST women is below 10%.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, some proposals were received from the Non-Governmental Organisations of Madhya Pradesh and total 12 proposals have been sanctioned during the year 1999-2000. In Madhya Pradesh there are 30 educational complexes in operation through NGOs.

[English]

National Institute of Water Sports in Goa

4629. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK:
SHRI RAMAKANT ANGLE:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Institute of Water Sports in Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether land for the said institute has been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(f) the time by which this institute is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA):(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Seminar on Rural Development by IGNOU

4630. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two days national seminar on rural development organised by School of Continuing Education of Indra Gandhi National Open University;

(b) if so, the objectives of the seminar and the issues discussed therein; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations made in the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) According to the information furnished by the Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), a two days National Seminar on Rural Development was organised on March 22-23, 2000 at New Delhi.

(b) The main objectives of the seminar were as under;

- To discuss critical issues/challenges that confront rural development.
- To identify knowledge and new skills needed to enable learners/participants to respond to these challenges.

- To consider various approaches which can be adopted to develop human resources needed in rural development; and
- To promote cooperation among concerned institutions/organisations in the field of rural development

The broad themes which were addressed through 19 papers presented during the seminar include (i) strategies needed to promote rural development; (ii) democratic decentralisation and rural development; (iii) education and training in rural development; (iv) networking of rural development institutions; and (v) rural development in perspective.

(c) The recommendations of the seminar are yet to finalise by IGNOU.

Amendment in Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954

4631. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act to bring microbial contamination of packed milk at the consumer level;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the microbial standard set under BIS standard from plant level to consumer level;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to make the availability of milk in the market free from adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) An expert Sub-Committee of the Central Committee for Food Standards (A statutory Committee constituted under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954) considered the issue relating to laying down parameters for microbiological standards in pasteurized milk in its meeting held in November, 1999. The Committee was of the opinion that if the milk is pasteurized properly as per the methods of pasteurization, there will not be any pathogen in such milk even if it is not kept in refrigerated condition. The Sub-Committee recommended that milk sold, as pasteurized milk in the market shall give phosphate test as "negative" and these may be implemented by the implementing authorities. The report of the sub-committee

will be examined by the Central Committee for Food Standards in its meeting scheduled to be held on 27th and 28th of April, 2000. As far as general adulteration issues are concerned, State Governments are regularly testing samples of food drawn from market to ensure that it meets the requirements of the relevant provisions of the PFA Rules.

Diabetes

4632. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of diabetic patients in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether most of these diabetics belong to the poorer sections of society;

(c) whether diabetes is spreading at fast pace in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government have chalked out a comprehensive plan to prevent it;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness about the disease in the country;

(g) whether the price of insulin has been increasing regularly;

(h) if so, the price of insulin that prevailed in the market, in 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and at present;

(i) the extent of increase in the price of insulin during each of the last three years;

(j) the reasons for such increase in the prices of insulin; and

(k) the measures taken by the Government to make available insulin at reasonable and affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (k) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Youth Hostel in Wayanad

4633. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work of the youth hostel building in Wayanad has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the present status of the hostel; and

(d) the time by which the said hostel building is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The construction of Youth Hostel, Wayanad has not yet started because the Hon'ble High Court has given a stay order on the use of the land identified by the State Govt. for this purpose. The construction work will start after the stay order is vacated or alternate land is identified by the State Govt.

[Translation]

Allotment by DDA.

4634. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has made some allotments to some persons on the priority basis in the past;

(b) if so, the number of flats allotted during each of the last three years, area-wise and category-wise;

(c) the criteria prescribed for such allotments;

(d) the persons to whom these allotments were made; and

(e) the number of requests turned down during the said period in this regard alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DTTATREYA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 383 Nos. flats were allotted during the last three years. A statement-I showing the area-wise and category-wise details of flats is enclosed.

(c) An Empowered Committee comprising the Urban Development Minister and the Lt. Governor of Delhi consider the cases of out-of-turn allotment of DDA flats. 2.5% of flats of each scheme are earmarked for out-of-turn allotment. Out of this, 2% of allotments are made on compassionate grounds and the remaining 0.5% are allotted as a measure of reward. A statement-II indicating the criteria prescribed for such allotments is enclosed.

(d) A statement-III containing the names of persons to whom out-of-turn allotments under SFS, MIG, LIG, EHS and Janta were made, is enclosed.

(e) 205 Nos. of requests for out-of-turn allotment were turned down by the Empowered Committee.

Statement-I

Year	Category	No. of Flats Allotted	Area
1	2	3	4
1997-98	SFS Cat. II	08	Vasant Kunj, Sartia Vihar
	SFS Cat. III	04	Dwarka
	Janta	19	Rohini
	LIG	36	Narela, Rohini, Kondli Gharoli, Mayour Vihar, Nasirpur
	MIG	48	Dwarka, Jhilmil, Narela, Nasirpur, Kondli, Gharoli
	EHS (Type-A)	74	Rohini, Narela, Kondli Gharoli
	EHS (Type-B)	22	Narela
Total:		211	

1	2	3	4
1998-99	SFS Cat. II	24	Dwarka, Vasant Kunj, Rohini Shalimar Bagh, Peera Garhi.
	SFS Cat. III	23	Dwarka, Sheikh Sarai, Narela
	LIG	07	Loni Road, Dilshad Garden
	MIG	06	Dwarka, Loni Road
Total:		60	
1999-2000	SFS Cat. II	46	Vasant Kunj, Dwarka, Shalimar Bagh, Peera Garhi, Rohini, Sarita Vihar
	SFS Cat. III	12	Sarita Vihar, Sheikh Sarai, Vasant Kunj, Dwarka
	LIG	14	Dwarka, Mayur Vihar
	MIG	33	Dwarka, Nasirpur, Kondli Gharoli, Mayur Vihar
	EHS (Type-A)	07	Bindapur
Total:		112	

Statement-II*General Eligibility Conditions*

- (i) The applicant or his/her spouse should not own any residential house/flat within the municipal limits of Delhi. New Delhi and Delhi Cantonment.
- (ii) The applicant should ordinarily be more than 21 years of age;
- (iii) The applicant should have resided in the NCT of Delhi continuously for a period of five years. However, in respect of defence personnel who apply for allotment on out-of-turn basis, as a measure of compassion, reward or otherwise, the applicant or his/her spouse should have been in continuous residence in Delhi for five years or he/she should be a resident of Delhi before joining his/her vocation.
- (iv) The applicant should not have been allotted any residential house/flat on discretionary basis in the past.

CATEGORY OF PERSONS ENTITLED FOR DISCRETIONARY ALLOTMENT OF DDA FLATS:

(a) ELIGIBILITY ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS

- (i) Blind or physically handicapped persons or those looking after them when such a blind/physically

handicapped person is minor. The instructions of the Directorate of Estates for ad-hoc allotment of general pool accommodation defining degree of physical handicap may be followed.

- (ii) War Widows of soldiers of Delhi domicile who have fallen in indigent conditions.
- (iii) Dependents of persons who lose their lives as a result of terrorist activities.

(b) ELIGIBILITY AS A MEASURE OF REWARD

- (i) Outstanding sports persons who have won medals to the Asiad and Olympic or who have been awarded Arjuna/Dronacharya award.
- (ii) Artists, litterateur and musicians who are recipient of Padma Award/Sahitya Award of President's Award for eminence in their particular field of art/literature.
- (iii) Scientists who get Padma or International award for excellence in their respective fields.
- (iv) Defence personnel (or their spouses) who are recipient of gallantry awards such as Paramvir Chakra/Mahavir Chakra, Vir Chakra, Ashok Chakra, Shaurya Chakra and Kirti Chakra.

(c) OTHER DESERVING CASES

Any other persons who has rendered distinguished service to the nation.

Statement-III

S.F.S.

S. No.	Name of the allottee
1	2

W.E.F.	1.4.97 to 31.3.98
1.	Smt. Seema Singh
2.	Maj. Gen. R.R. Oberoi
3.	Sh. A.B. Subbaiah
4.	Smt. Krishna
5.	Sh. Ashok Kumar
6.	Smt. Tina Whiq
7.	Smt. Padma Negi
8.	Smt. Suman Dahiya
9.	Sh. Trinnangker Sinha
10.	Ku. Meena
11.	Sh. J.P. Sharma
12.	Sh. Inderjit Sachdeva
W.E.F.	1.4.98 to 31.3.99
1.	Ms. Sugita Katyal
2.	Ms. Neelam Sikri
3.	Ms. Meena Saini
4.	Sh. Santosh Kr. Rungta
5.	Sh. Suresh Gupta
6.	Lt. Col. Rameeshwar Lal
7.	Sh. Sunder Shyam
8.	Smt. Menakshi & Sh. Ashkay Maunraha
9.	Ms. Madhu Thakur
10.	Sh. Namit Khera
11.	Dr. Kamal Karma
12.	Sh. Ravinder Jain

1

2

13.	Col. S.S. Pathania
14.	Sh. Ram Chander Das
15.	Sh. Madhu R. Dandvate
16.	Sh. Ram Avdesh Singh
17.	Sh. Chimmman Bhai Mehta
18.	Sh. Raj Mohan Gandhi
19.	Sh. Y. Ziauddin Tucz
20.	Sh. Sandeep Bhayala
21.	Sh. Ayub Khan
22.	Sh. S.L. Khullar
23.	Sh. Manoj Prabhar
24.	Sh. Mohinder Pal Singh
25.	Ms. Rachal Thomas
26.	Col. K.S. Rao
27.	Sh. Randhir Singh
28.	Maj. Rajinder Singh
29.	Smt. Richa Bhatnagar
30.	Sh. Om Bir Singh
31.	Smt. Prabha Devi
32.	Col. O.P. Deswal
33.	Sh. Murad A. Khan
34.	Sh. Amit Khanna
35.	Sh. Harinder Singh
36.	Sh. Sudeesh Kumar
37.	Sh. J.S. Ahluwalia
38.	Lt. Col. R.S. Sodhi
39.	Sh. Subhaash Verma
40.	Smt. Anita Dutt
41.	Sh. Ashok Dewan
42.	Sh. Deepak Verma
43.	Sh. Krishan Mohan
44.	Smt. Praveen Kumar

1	2
45.	Sh. Bal Kishan
46.	Justice S.R. Pandian
47.	Sh. Satchidanand
W.E.F.	1.4.99 to 31.3.2000
1.	Sh. Krihan Kumar Anand
2.	Sh. Jagjeet Singh
3.	Smt. Shalu Bhatia
4.	Sh. Vikas
5.	Smt. Prakash Sharma
6.	Sh. Dinesh Arora
7.	Sh. Alimuddin
8.	Smt. Veena Andley
9.	Sh. Satwan Sharma
10.	Smt. Kaishlaya Devi
11.	Sh. Des Raj
12.	Smt. Santosh Yadav
13.	Ms. Savita Dalal
14.	Smt. Malvika Sarka
15.	Sh. Amarjit
16.	Sh. Raju Prasad
17.	Sh. Gulshan
18.	Sh. Rama Kant
19.	Sh. Raju
20.	Sh. Balraj
21.	Sh. Trilok Chand
22.	Sh. Ashok Kumar
23.	Sh. Sanjay Gupta
24.	Sh. Ilyas
25.	Sh. Vipin Kumar Malhotra
26.	Sh. R.P. Singh
27.	Sh. U.S. Sajwan
28.	Sh. Parkash Singh Yadav

1	2
29.	Sh. Maheshar Pd.
30.	Smt. Shanti Devi
31.	Sh. Naresh Kumar Arora
32.	Sh. Suresh Gupta
33.	Sh. Jasbir Singh Rahi
34.	Sh. Sachin Kumar
35.	Ms. Guneet Arora
36.	Smt. Lalita Gill
37.	Sh. Sanjivan Kushwaha
38.	Miss Shilpi Singh
39.	Sh. Subhash Chand Rupela
40.	Sh. Jagmohan
41.	Smt. Chameli Devi
42.	Smt. Archana Mangal
43.	Smt. Sudesh Singh
44.	Smt. Bina
45.	Smt. Tania Kapoor
46.	Sh. Kumar Mukesh
47.	Sh. Abdul Aziz
48.	Maj. Gen. V.K. Bhaskar
49.	Smt. Kajal Batra
50.	Smt. Vinita Verma
51.	Lt. Gen. (Retd.) S.K. Sinha
52.	Smt. Saroj Devi
53.	Sh. Harke Ram
54.	Sh. Kuldeep
55.	Sh. Jaswant Singh
56.	Ms. Meera Priyadarshini
57.	Sh. M.S. Negi.
58.	Smt. Sneh Lata Nagpal.
M.I.G.	
1.	Parkash Chandra

1	2	1	2
2.	Than Singh Chabra	34.	Shiv Kumar Merhkhan
3.	Ram Avtar Sharma	35.	Modh. Shabbar
4.	R.I. Khan	36.	Kedar Nath
5.	Narain Prasad Saran	37.	Surabhi Datt
6.	Bhule Singh	38.	Subash Chand
7.	Satyavender Dagar	39.	Munish Kumar
8.	Atul Maga	40.	Rakesh Giri
9.	Miss Anu Radha Singh	41.	Usha Rani
10.	Modh Akil	42.	Ved Nath
11.	Kashi Ram	43.	Shieh Pal
12.	Shyler Andrews	44.	Kanhiya Lal
13.	M.K. Handoo	45.	Mukhtiar Ahmed
14.	Bimla Yadav	46.	Janeshwar Jha
15.	Vishal Dua	47.	Khem Chand Sharma
16.	Munna Lal Mishra	48.	Vijay Kr. Goswami
17.	Virender Pal	49.	Choka Raj
18.	Shama Sharma	50.	Sohraib Khan
19.	Chander Kaur	51.	Vikram Singh
20.	J.P. Pandey	52.	Harminder Pal Singh
21.	Asha Juneja	53.	Ram Pal
22.	Savita Chandra	54.	Rajesh Kumar
23.	Chotely Lal	55.	Ajay Kr. Gupta
24.	Krishan Chand	56.	Rochit Khanna
25.	Bishan Lal	57.	Mukesh Kr. Mittal
26.	Sumit Goel	58.	R.S. Kapoor
27.	Mela Ram	59.	Mohinder Singh
28.	Mamta	60.	Sapan Kumar
29.	Darshna	61.	Bhal Chand
30.	Sheeta Mathur	62.	Hoti Lal Pipal
31.	Sultan Singh Negi	63.	Soma Devi
32.	Ku. Shashi	64.	Raju Shankar
33.	Naseem Ahmed	65.	Bishan Singh

1	2
66.	Sandeep Soni
67.	Ravi Kumar
68.	Kamlesh C. Gupta
69.	Suhil Kumar
70.	Rajender Prasad
71.	Bhupinder Singh
L.I.G.	
1.	Miss Tripta Rani
2.	Subhash Chand
3.	Jaswant Singh Gill
4.	Deepak Malik
5.	Sandeep Kumar
6.	R.K. Malhotra
7.	Smt. Sadhna Talwar
8.	Charanjit Singh
9.	Sat Pal Chadha
10.	Ram Gopal
11.	Miss Sunita Kumari
12.	Param Jit Singh
13.	Triloki Nath
14.	Gurcharan Singh
15.	Upender Singh Bisht
16.	Inder Prakash Mehta
17.	Smt. Saraswati Devi
18.	Sanjay Kumar
19.	Wilson Messey
20.	Kanwar Jit Singh
21.	Bharat Bhushan
22.	Karan Singh
23.	Hanemukh Rai Vyas
24.	Gopal Singh Rawat
25.	K. Kukku

1	2
26.	Miss Rekha
27.	Charan Singh
28.	Kumar Sonika
29.	Harish Chander
30.	Madan Lal
31.	Satya Devi
32.	Devika Devi
33.	Mohan Lal Soni
34.	Shashi Bala
35.	Mies Tasmina
36.	Vashist Prasad
37.	Ushan Rani Sharma
38.	Suresh Kumar
39.	K. Pushpa Raj
40.	Krishan Kumar Bhardwaj
41.	Ashok
42.	Gulshan Kumar
43.	Man Mohan Suri
44.	Amar Singh
45.	Ramesh Chand
46.	M.S. Mahenda
47.	Satish Kumar
48.	Hem Lata
49.	Prakash Chand
50.	Mohinder Pal
51.	Ashok Kumar
52.	Satwant Vdl
53.	Jasota
54.	Shah Alam
E.H.S.	
1.	P.S. Mohan Nair
2.	Usha Chwala

1	2
3.	K.L. Bhatia
4.	Joyti Kanna
5.	Pankaj Sharma
6.	Dharam Dev Bhishan
7.	Jai Kumar
8.	Amal M. Duchetta
9.	Gopal Datt Pandey
10.	Mahesh Kumar
11.	Surinder Singh
12.	Rajesh Kr. Tewari
13.	Basant Toor
14.	Neelam Rani
15.	Praveen Kr. Jain
16.	J.K. Agarwal
17.	Deep Chand
18.	Gulat Chand
19.	Smt. Sunita
20.	Bhluender
21.	Rameshwar Verma
22.	Ramesh Kumar
23.	Heera Lal
24.	Ram Lal Singh
25.	Nirbhay Dass
26.	Keshav Yadav
27.	Anil Kapoor
28.	Bishan Singh
29.	Sunil Kumar Jain
30.	Ashok Kumar
31.	Abha Ketar
32.	Ku. Mariya
33.	Ram Chander
34.	Raghuber Singh

1	2
35.	Yameen Khan
36.	Shashi Bala
37.	Trilok Raj Chopra
38.	Umed Singh Maan
39.	Kripal Singh
40.	Prakash Chand
41.	Miss Sharmila Palini
42.	Yash Pal Minocha
43.	Bhim Senalin Bali
44.	Sanjiv Mishra
45.	Prahlad Kumar
46.	Gonda Singh
47.	Dharam Singh
48.	Wasinuddin
49.	Rachna Kaul
50.	Sanjay Bhan
51.	Rohtash Singh Raghav
52.	Om. Datt. Tyagi
53.	Rajender Dass
54.	Suresh Lal Goswami
55.	Yakoob Khan
56.	Mangel Ram
57.	Shivdhani
58.	S. Arunachalam
59.	Krishan Dev Singh
60.	Manohar Lal
61.	D.K. Sharma
62.	Pawan Kumar
63.	Zafar Islam
64.	Kanhiya Lal
65.	Rawdhar Sharma
66.	David Erich Chaubey

1	2
67.	M.D. Sharma
68.	Ganga Ram
69.	Fathey Singh
70.	Mahesh Chand
71.	Km. Sunita Rani
72.	D.R. Sharma
73.	Bhagat Singh
74.	Rupender
75.	Ek. Ram
76.	Umesh
77.	Hira Lal
78.	Kailash Chand
79.	Sanjeev Mamchad
80.	Preeti Singh
81.	Bulu Chakraverty
82.	Satya Vir Singh
83.	Miss Kanta Devi
84.	Deepak Kumar
85.	Ram Sagar
86.	Ashish Gaur
87.	Abdul Khalif
88.	Kadam Singh
89.	Bijay Raj
90.	A.K. Bhatnagar
91.	Smt. Swaran Lata
92.	Nutan Malhotra
93.	Tej Prakash
94.	Kavita Goel
95.	Brij Mohan Chopra
96.	Harveen Kumar
97.	Sanjay Dasour
98.	Puran Chand

1	2
99.	Lachi Ram
100.	Anil Kr. Sharma
101.	Rattan Kumar Singh
102.	Jitender
103.	Veena Swahney
104.	Kailash Singh
105.	Krishan Gopal
106.	Anjani Kr. Mishra
107.	Mata Din
108.	Brij Mohan Bhan
109.	Syed Hussain
110.	Saroj Yadav
111.	A.K. Mukerjee
112.	Miss Nazra Khatoon
113.	Ram Singh
114.	G.C. Atal
115.	Virender
JANTA	
1.	Aisha Khatoon
2.	Phoola Rani Thapar
3.	Usha Devi
4.	A.S. Angad
5.	Tara Chand
6.	M.D. Aniz
7.	Madhu Vadhera
8.	Mahabir. Singh
9.	Neeta Acharya
10.	Marget
11.	Prem Lata
12.	Pradeep Kr. Patni
13.	Renu Tondon
14.	David

1 2

15. Babir Singh
 16. Laxmi Devi
 17. Mam Chand
 18. Braham Dev Misra
 19. Raju
 20. Babu Lal
 21. Brijesh Kumar
 22. U.A. Wakfiled
 23. Anuradha Kapoor
 24. Raja Ram
 25. Bimla Rani
 26. Babu Lal Kaushik
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[English]

**All India Institute of Hygiene and
 Medical Science, Calcutta**

4635. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received an representation from the project officer and other employees of the All India Institute of Hygiene and Medical Science, Calcutta recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) There is no institution called the All India Institute of Hygiene and Medical Science, Calcutta under the Government of India. However, representations have been received from project staff of the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta regarding regularization of their services. The same are being considered in view of the extent policy/rules on the subject.

[Translation]

Ragging in Colleges

4736. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
 DR. ASHOK PATEL:

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

(a) whether the university Grants Commission has issued directions to the State Governments and Universities to take stern action against ragging in educational institutions and declare it as a cognizable offence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said directions are likely to be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the UGC, the Commission has circulated the report of the UGC Committee to all Universities for curbing the menace of ragging in educational institutions. The Committee has, inter-alia, recommended that the Central/State Governments may enact legislation prohibiting ragging in educational institutions; treating ragging as a cognizable offence and prescribing suitable punishment keeping in view the gravity of the offences committed. The relevant recommendations have been made effective from 29.1.2000.

[English]

**Indian System of Medicines and
 Homoeopathy under CGHS**

4637. DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the introduction of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy under the CGHS;

(b) the reasons for the induction of doctors of I.S.M.&H system under the administrative control of ISM&H System like their counterparts;

(c) whether due to non-induction of ISM&H doctors under CGHS, the Government have not taken adequate steps for the expansion and development of ISM&H in Delhi and outside Delhi like modern system of medicine under CGHS;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) As per policy of the Government to introduce all systems of medicines including ISM & Homoeopathy under CGHS, the doctors of ISM & Homoeopathy are inducted like their counterparts under CGHS for the benefit of the CGHS beneficiaries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question do not arise.

(e) The SIU Team of the Ministry of Finance has to conduct a study of the functioning of ISM&H dispensaries/units. No expansion of the ISM&H system of medicine under CGHS can be made till the recommendations of the SIU Team are received and implemented by the Government.

Hospitals/Medical Centres in States

4638. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to non-availability of proper health care facilities in various States particularly in Bihar, the people rush to Delhi to get themselves treated in various Central Government Hospitals;

(b) whether some State Governments have failed to provide even minimum required health care services to their citizens;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government propose to set up Central Hospitals in the States in case the State Government fails to provide the minimum health care to their citizen;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) "Health" is State subject under the Constitution of India. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to provide Health Care facilities to the people in their concerned state keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

The Central Government Hospitals in Delhi provide Health Care facilities to the people irrespective of caste, creed, religion and location they belong to. The people of neighbouring States and Bihar do avail themselves of the medical treatment in these Central Government Hospitals.

Technical Colleges for Girls

4639. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Technical Colleges for Higher Education exclusively for girls in the country;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to set up such institutions at the level of Deemed Universities exclusively for the girls in Rajasthan and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) There are seven Technical Colleges exclusively for girls in the country—one each in the States of Rajasthan, Delhi and Tamilnadu and four in the State of Maharashtra. The All India Council for Technical Education declaring any Institution imparting technical education as a Deemed University as and when a proposal is received to that effect.

Industry Status to Real Estate

4640. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting of Housing Ministers of all the States to accord Industry status to real estate has been convened;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) The last conference of State Housing Ministers held in New Delhi on June 8-9, 1998 did not make such a recommendation. However, the demand for according industry status to housing has been raised at

various fora. The Government has since accorded industry status to construction sector in turn of IDBI Act vide Notification No. 19 (2)/99-IFI dated 2.3.2000.

Amendment In Acts

4641. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finally decided to amend the Property Registration Act, transfer of Property Act and the Indian Stamps Act;

(b) if so, the details of amendments likely to be made in the said Acts;

(c) whether the amendments in the proposed acts would have any impact on the prices of land and properties;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the extent to which the proposed acts may help in curbing illegal transactions prevailing in the properties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA):(a) and (b) The Conference of Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers of States and Union Territories convened by the Union Finance Minister on the 14th September, 1998 at New Delhi has inter-alia arrived at the following conclusions:-

- (i) On the Registration Act, 1908, there was unanimity that Section 30 (2) should be repealed.
- (ii) The validity of Power of Attorney for a limited period of time was found acceptable and there was a consensus that photographs and fingerprints of the executants should be made compulsory on registration on documents. There was a consensus for compulsory registration of general Power of Attorney which may be in the nature of a contract to sell immovable property and for consequential amendments in the Registration Act, Indian Stamp Act and Transfer of Property Act.
- (iii) There was consensus for enabling provisions for computerisation of registration of records.

(c) to (e) The question does not arise as the Govt. is examining the question of giving effect to the aforesaid recommendations by bringing in a suitable Parliamentary legislation in the light of the above conclusions.

[Translation]

Free Fertilizers to Farmers

4642. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide fertilizer and urea to the small farmers of any charge to provide relief to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to supply urea to small farmers free of cost. Urea is the only fertiliser under price, distribution and movement control of the Government and all other fertilisers are decontrolled. The Government has been providing subsidy on urea under the Retention Price Scheme and for decontrolled fertilisers under the Concession Scheme of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of urea is Rs. 4600/- pr metric tonne while indicative MRP of decontrolled fertilisers are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of decontrolled fertilisers

(Rs. per MT)

Fertiliser

Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	8900
Muriate of Potash (MOP)	4255
Single Super Phosphate (SSP)	*

Complexes

10:26:26	7880
12:32:16	7980
14:28:14	7820
14:35:14	8100
15:15:15	8620

16:20:0	6740
17:17:17	7680
19:19:19	7840
20:20:0	6880
23:23:0	7540
28:28:0	8520

Act, 1995 states that the appropriate Governments and the local authorities shall ensure that every child with disability has access to free education in an appropriate environment till he attains the age of 18 years.

Statement-I

*Number of Schools-State wise (IEDC)
(Information given by States/UTs)*

*Price fixed by the State Governments.

[English]

Integrated Education for Disabled Children

4643. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Schools covered under the Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) scheme in the country, State-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and released to various States for implementation of the said Schemes during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of utilisation of amount by the States;

(d) whether there is any proposal to give free Education to disabled children up to the age of 18 years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The number of schools covered at present under the Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) Scheme, Statewise details is given in the attached statement-I.

(b) The information regarding amounts sanctioned to various States for implementation of IEDC Scheme during the last three years is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) The State Governments after utilizing the amounts sanctioned to them, furnish expenditure statement which contains details of utilisation on the basis of which further grants are released after duly adjusting the unspent balances.

(d) and (e) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation)

No.	Name of the State	No. of Schools
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
3.	Assam	578
4.	Bihar	97
5.	Gujarat	1330
6.	Haryana	748
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1800
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	**
9.	Karnataka	1782
10.	Kerala	6748
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2075
12.	Manipur	269
13.	Maharashtra	39
14.	Mizoram	417
15.	Nagaland	316
16.	Orissa	139
17.	Punjab	24
18.	Rajasthan	55
19.	Tamil Nadu	63
20.	Tripura	35
21.	Uttar Pradesh	32
22.	West Bengal	73
23.	A & N Islands	120
24.	Chandigarh	**
25.	Delhi	118
26.	Daman & Diu	78
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2
28.	Pondichery	2
Total		16989

**Information not available

Statement-II***Assistance to States/UTs (Including NGOs) for Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC)***

No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount Released (Rs. Lakhs) (PLAN)		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.21	122.52	29.57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.00	—	—
3.	Assam	13.00	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	—
5.	Gujarat	106.23	41.60	323.44
6.	Haryana	25.17	10.65	86.38
7.	Himachal Pradesh	51.04	—	96.63
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
9.	Karnataka	145.42	57.48	116.74
10.	Kerala	240.14	218.10	236.27
11.	Madhya Pradesh	120.78	127.34	55.19
12.	Manipur	25.85	26.56	45.17
13.	Maharashtra	14.53	50.07	—
14.	Mizoram	6.94	11.46	15.50
15.	Nagaland	7.15	5.75	5.75
16.	Orissa	74.45	45.80	109.73
17.	Punjab	—	—	—
18.	Rajasthan	30.09	71.68	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	16.45	34.91	62.18
20.	Tripura	3.42	—	23.31
21.	Uttar Pradesh	8.44	5.97	24.82
22.	West Bengal	10.95	6.68	12.00
23.	A & N Islands	14.82	14.25	16.62
24.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
25.	Delhi	38.24	28.67	29.42
26.	Daman & Diu	0.31	0.31	0.26
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	0.38	—
28.	Pondichery	—	—	1.04
	Total	998.63	880.18	1290.02

[*Translation*]

National Level Conference on Health Policy

4644. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any national level Conference has been held recently on the Health Policy;

(b) if so, the suggestions made therein;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any policy on the basis thereof;

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

(e) the time by which it is likely to be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) The Draft National Health Policy was discussed at the Sixth Conference of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare held from 8-10th April, 1999 at New Delhi. The Council suggested that a more indepth examination of the strategies for establishing surveillance systems, utilisation of information technology, integration with the Indian System of Medicine, issues related to ethics, quality of care etc. Accordingly, the Draft National Health Policy is being appropriately redrafted in order to incorporate all the suggestions.

[*English*]

National Nutrition Mission

4645. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:
SHRI CHANDERKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "National nutrition Mission on anvil" appearing in the 'Hindu', dated 7 March, 2000;

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

(c) whether it is possible for the State Governments alone to address the issue of malnutrition and food security due to its gigantic proportions;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard with particular reference to ensuring contribution of voluntary sector, international agencies and community participation in particular; and

(e) the number of persons dying every year due to malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed National Nutrition Mission aims at addressing the problem of malnutrition through (i) Vigorous awareness campaign on malnutrition, (ii) Direct interventions in districts with high malnutrition and (iii) Nutrition monitoring, mapping and surveillance.

(c) Both the Centre and the State Governments particularly the sectors of Family Welfare, Women and Child Development, Agriculture and Horticulture, Food and Civil Supplies, Rural Development and Information & Broadcasting will have to play an important role.

(d) The proposal envisages active involvement of the voluntary sector, international organisations and community participation.

(e) Malnutrition is not the direct cause of death but indirectly results in lower immunity which can cause fatal illness. Hence, it is difficult to estimate the number of people who die due to nutrition problems.

Sea Wealth

4646. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALI: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are vast resources of minerals, oil and Natural Gas in the sea;

(b) if so, the status of India in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to explore these resources?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Mineral, oil and Natural Gas has been identified on the sea bed and sub soil of the submarine areas, off shore of India.

(b) and (c) The major steps by the Government presently relate to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Sector. In this sector, Government has taken the steps by the way of surveys drilling, exploration and exploitation of oil and gas in the areas within Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Survey are also periodically undertaken to identify mineral deposits. Till date, various deposits including heavy mineral sands, high grade lime deposits and phosphatised sediments and macro manganese nodules have been identified off the coastal areas.

Dues of Hotels to NDMC

4647. DR. C. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of hotels in Delhi which owe the licence fee and other dues to the NDMC;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to collect these dues from these hotels immediately;

(c) whether any notice has been issued to these hotels; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The following hotels to whom premises have been leased by NDMC owe licence fee to it:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. C.J International | 2. Prominent Hotels |
| 3. Sunair | 4. Taj Mahal |

(b) As far as recovery of license fee is concerned, the action has been taken from time to time by NDMC as per terms and conditions of license deed such as disconnection of electricity, cancellation of license and initiating the PP Act proceedings under the Public Premises Act 1971.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 1. C.J. International Hotel Limited:- Matter is subjudice in the Delhi High Court.

2. Prominent Hotels Private Limited:- Licensee has got a stay against dispossession from the Delhi High Court. However, to make an entry in the premises action for eviction and recovery of damages has been initiated before the Court of Estate Officer, NDMC.

3. Hotel Sunair:- Matter is subjudice in the Delhi High Court.

4. Taj Mahal Hotel:- Licensee is paying the dues as per present demands based on Gross Turn Over.

Regional Identities in School Books

4648. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Regional identities strong in history books' appearing in 'The Hindu' dated January 11, 2000;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Policy on Education envisages a National System of Education based on a National Curricular Framework containing a common core cutting across different subject areas. Based on the framework guidelines and the revised textbooks of the NCERT, the State Governments are expected to adopt or adapt, the same for revision of schools curricula, syllabi and textbooks in their respective school systems in a phased manner.

An overwhelming majority of the schools in the country are under the control of State Governments and they enjoy full autonomy in all school education matters, including prescription of syllabi and textbooks within their respective jurisdiction. In the textbooks prescribed by the State Government/Boards, they decide the proportions of regions/local events to be included.

Training to Terrorists

4649. SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of international agencies involved in training and assisting the terrorists for indulging into the disruptive activities in the country; and

(b) the number of militants arrested and taken into custody during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Pak ISI is largely involved in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorists, including providing training, with a view to fomenting trouble in various parts of the country.

(b) Central Government does not maintain this information.

Slum Wing

4650. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions have been made to make the slum wing independent and a statutory body to enable it to communicate with the housing corporations and the world Bank; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Malnutrition

4651. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the World Bank report that malnutrition in India would cost the country about 1000 crore rupees in terms of loss of productivity, illness and deaths and would upset the efforts to reduce child mortality;

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

(c) the name of the agency and the year in which the survey was conducted to ascertain malnutrition and its adverse effects; and

(d) the extent to which the malnutrition is prevalent in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the report of World Bank, malnutrition would cost the country US \$ 10 billion

(Rs. 1000 crores) in terms of loss of productivity, illness, and death, and set back efforts to reduce child mortality.

(b) Government have adopted the National Nutrition Policy, 1993 and National Plan of Action on Nutrition, 1995 (implemented by Ministry of Human Resource Development) to tackle the problem of under nutrition in the country. Various measures adopted by Government to improve the Nutrition status of population are as follows:

- Availability of essential food items at subsidised cost through Public Distribution System.
- Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.
- Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and for bringing about the desired changes in the feeding practices, including promotion of breast-feeding.
- Supplementary feeding programmes such as:
 - (i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme;
 - (ii) Special Nutrition Programme (SNP);
 - (iii) Balvadi Nutrition Programme (BNP).
 - (iv) Wheat Based Supplementary Nutrition Programme; and
 - (v) Mid-Day Meal Programme.
- Prevention of specific nutrient deficiency disorders through programmes such as National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency and Nutritional Anaemia due to Iron Deficiency as a part of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme.

(c) and (d) National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) of ICMR conducts diet and nutrition surveys regularly in the country. The Bureau is also carrying out repeat surveys in rural areas of 10 states of the country. The prevalence of malnutrition as per latest survey figures (1996-97 repeat survey) in the State of Tamil Nadu is as below:

Malnutrition of 1-5 years children according to weight for age:

Mild	49.20%
Moderate	33.50%
Severe	2.90%

ISI Activities

4652. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether youth are attracted to ISI anti-national activities due to large scale un-employment and economic disparities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Government is aware of the sinister designs of Pak ISI to destabilise India by sponsoring terrorism and subversive activities in different parts of the country including its efforts to target and train misguided youth for engineering violence.

(b) The Government are implementing numerous programmes for creation of employment opportunities and for equitable development to reduce economic disparities.

[Translation]

**Out of Turn Allotment of
Government Quarters**

4653. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government quarters have been allotted out of turn;

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

(c) the criteria fixed for out of turn allotment by the government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the discretionary/out of turn allotments made during the last three years is as under:

Year	Allotments
1998	167
1999	111
2000 (upto 20.4.2000)	30

(c) The criteria/guidelines for making discretionary/out of turn allotments is laid down in the Dte. of Estates O.M. dated 17.11.97. A copy of this O.M. is enclosed to this reply as statement-I.

Statement

No. 12013/2/97-Pol.II (pt. II)

Government of India
Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment
Directorate of Estates

New Delhi, dated the 17th November, 1997

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Guidelines for discretionary allotment of General Pool Residential Accommodation in Delhi.

Under the provisions of the SR 317-B-25, the Govt. for reasons to the recorded in writing may relax all or any of the provisions of the Allotment Rules in case of any officer or residence or class of officers or type of residences. Under these provisions, allotments have been made in the past in relaxation of rules depending upon the merits of each case with the approval of the competent authority. However, in view of the increasingly large number of out-of-turn allotments, a Writ Petition (Civil) No. 585/94 (S.S. tiwari Vs Union of India) was filed by way of Public Interest Litigation in Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its final order dated 23.12.96, directed the Govt. that discretionary/out-of-turn allotments be regulated and transparency maintained by framing appropriate rules in this regard which may also be duly notified. The Supreme Court also directed that the ceiling of discretionary allotments shall be 5% of the total number of vacancies occurring in each type of houses in a year.

2. Accordingly, the matter has been considered by the Govt. and it has been decided to lay down detailed guidelines which will regulate the discretionary allotments of Govt. accommodation in future. Discretionary allotments to serving Govt. officials shall be permitted only on medical security and functional grounds. Such allotments on medical security and functional grounds which are not covered under general policy instructions (Annexure-III), shall be made through two Committees of officers duly constituted for the purpose, which shall consider each request within laid down policy guidelines. The composition of two Committees shall be as under:

(A) Allotment of Type-IV (Spl.) and above type of accommodation (including hostels)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------|
| (i) Secretary, Urban Development | — | Chairman |
| (ii) Secretary, Personnel
(where the proposal involve Addl. Secretaries & equivalent or above) | — | Member |

OR

Establishment Officer**(where proposals involve Deputy Secretaries/Directors, Joint Secretaries and equivalent or Tenure Pool Officers)**

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| (iii) Joint/Addl. Secretary
(In-charge of Estate matters) | - | Member |
| (iv) Two Medical Experts
(for medical cases only) | - | Member |
| (v) One Secretary/Addl. Secretary level officer co-opted from other ministries* | - | Member |
| (vi) Director of Estates | - | Member Secretary |
- (B) Allotment of Type-IV and below type of accommodation**
- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| (i) Joint Secretary (dealing with the subject) | - | Chairman |
| (ii) Joint Secretary (Staff Welfare)
(Ministry of Personnel & Training) | - | Member |
| (iii) Two Medical Experts
(for medical cases only) | - | Members |
| (iv) Director of Estates | - | Member |
| (v) One Joint Secretary level officer
co-opted from other ministries* | - | Member |
| (vi) Addl. Director of Estates/
Director of Estates-II | - | Member Secretary |

* Note: One officer of appropriate rank, such as Secretary/Addl. Secretary/Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India from Ministries other than Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment of personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions shall be specifically invited. While extending such invitation, it will be ensured that the representative of those Ministries/Departments whose proposals are on the agenda of the meetings are not invited. Such a member shall be co-opted from various ministries by following a principles of rotation.

3. Procedure/guidelines to be followed:

- (i) The Committee shall meet at least once in three months to consider all applications received through proper channel. The requests in the case of Dy. Secretaries and above should be specifically recommended by the Secretary of the Deptt. concerned and by the Joint Secretary (Administration)/Head of the Deptt. in all other cases.
- (ii) The Committee shall be consider discretionary allotments in the next below type of the entitlement of the officials concerned.

- (iii) The Committees, while recommending allotment to the competent authority (i.e. Minister in-charge) shall make a speaking recommendation in each case giving specific reasons for discretionary allotment. Where the Minister differs from the recommendations of the Committee, he will also record the reasons therefor in writing.
- (iv) The detailed guidelines for priority allotment of Govt. accommodation on medical grounds within the overall ceiling of 5% of all types of discretionary allotments in each type in a year are in Annexure-I.

- (v) The discretionary allotment of security grounds may be made within the overall ceiling of 5% on fulfilment of terms and conditions given in Annexure-II.
- (vi) The priority allotment on functional grounds, as specified in Annexure-III, shall be made by the Directorate of Estates within the quota prescribed for each category of dignitaries and the overall ceiling of 5% without referring them to the committees constituted in para 2 above as no discretion in such cases is involved.
- (vii) The Committees may also consider and recommend for allotment of residential accommodation to any other case of serving govt. officials, not falling under any of the categories mentioned above, on extreme compassionate grounds. Such allotments shall, however, be restricted to a total of not more than 5 houses in each type (Type-I to V only) in a year, within the overall ceiling of 5% of each such type in a year.

4. Allotment to private individuals/non-governmental organizations.

The allotments made to private persons such as eminent artists, persons of outstanding merit engaged in works of national standing or national award winners in the field of science, sports or social services and non-governmental organizations/institutions will be valid only upto the end of the current allotment period. The non-governmental organisations will not be eligible for allotment of govt. residential accommodation nor will any proposal for extension in the present allotment period be considered, except in national interest or to meet international obligations with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation. Similarly, discretionary allotment to private individuals/non-government persons, including freedom fighters, shall be allowed only with the approval of the CCA, if it is considered necessary in national interest or for meeting international obligations. The widows of freedom fighters will be allowed to retain Govt. accommodation only for a period of six months after the demise of the allottees.

5. All the aforesaid types of discretionary allotments shall be made by the govt. within the overall ceiling of 5% of vacancies occurring in each type of houses in a calendar year and under no circumstances, such allotments shall exceed such ceiling.

6. The Dte. of Estates shall circulate the list of all such allottees to the various Govt. Deptts. on a quarterly

basis and an yearly statements of such allotments would be laid on the Table of each House of Parliament in the light of the Supreme Court's directions.

7. These orders supersede all previous orders issued by the Govt. regarding out-of-turn/ad-hoc/discretionary allotments on medical functional and security grounds and for allotment to non-government persons such as freedom fighters, eminent artists, social workers etc., and non-governmental organisations/institutions.

8. These orders shall come into force with immediate effect.

(R.D. Sahay)
Dy. Director of Estates (Policy)

To

1. All Ministries/Departments.
2. All Sections and officers in Dte. of Estates.
3. All Regional offices in the Dte. of Estates.
4. Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariats.

Copy to:-

1. PS to MOS (VAE).
2. PPS to Secretary (UD).
3. PS to Addl. Secretary (UD).
4. PS to JS (UD)/DE/DE-II.

(Mahendra Singh)
Asstt. Director of Estates (Pol. II)

Annexure-I

Medical Grounds

The allotment on medical grounds including ground floor/central area shall be made in the case of the Govt. Servants and their spouses, dependent children and dependent parents, suffering from any of the following diseases:

- (a) Tuberculosis: Pulmonary tuberculosis (serious cases only);
- (b) Cancer Cases: Malignant neoplasm;
- (c) Heart ailments: of an exceptionally serious nature and in need of urgent treatment.
- (d) Disabled persons:
 - (i) Blind-those who suffer from either of the following conditions:

- (1) Total absence of sight:
- (2) Visual Acuity not exceeding 6/90 or 20/200 (snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses:
- (3) Impression of the field of vision subtending an angle of 20 degrees or worse.
 - (ii) Deaf: Those having hearing loss of more than 90 decibels in the better ear (profound impairment) or total loss of hearing in both ears.
 - (iii) Orthopaedically handicapped: To the extent of 40% and above disability.
 - (iv) Mentally handicapped/spastic dependents.

Note:

- (1) The list of diseases, on the basis of which discretionary allotment may be considered as above, is not an exhaustive one. The committees may consider any other life threatening diseases or other serious disabilities causing permanent impairment for this purpose.
- (2) In cases where disability of dependent parents is the sole ground for asking for discretionary allotment the Committees should consider the facts and circumstances along with merits of each case carefully, before making their recommendations.

Annexure II

Security Grounds:

Discretionary allotment on Security grounds may be made subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The general pool accommodation shall be allotted to only those persons who are in the Z+ (Z Plus) or higher security category:
- (ii) There must be a clear nexus with the public interest to justify the allotment of general pool accommodation to such persons. Ministry of Home Affairs would examine in each case that allotment of Government accommodation to a person in the Z+ or higher security category is in public interest and the security threat to the person has emanated from the duties performed in public office held by him in the past. Ministry of Home Affairs should also opine whether it is absolutely necessary to provide the person concerned a house in Delhi.

- (iii) On receipt of a request from the persons concerned for allotment of Government accommodation on security grounds, Ministry of Home Affairs will carry out an exercise to ascertain whether a person in the Z+ security category owns a house in Delhi in his or spouse's name and whether security arrangements can be provided in that house itself:
- (iv) Further action to provide a Govt. accommodation to the protectees in Delhi shall be taken by the Dte. of Estates, based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The allotment shall be for a period of one year and can be extended for a further period of one year at a time, subject to CCA being satisfied about the need for extension, based on the threat perception to be reviewed by Ministry of Home Affairs at least once in every year.
- (v) Not higher than Type-VI accommodation shall be allotted to such protectees and it could be even lower depending upon the category of the protectee and the threat perception in individual cases:
- (vi) The applicant shall confirm his willingness/capacity to pay the market rent/special licence fee in advance and continuous default in payment of prescribed rent for the three months for more would render him liable for eviction.
- (vii) Market rate of licence fee shall be charged for the Government accommodation so allotted to a protectee. In case the protectee has a house in Delhi, he must surrender the same to the Government for the period of his occupation of Govt. accommodation. In such cases special licence fee shall be charged for the period of occupation of Government accommodation instead of market rent.

Annexure-III

Functional Grounds:

The personal Staff working with the Ministers and with other dignitaries as specified below shall be allotted accommodation one type below their entitlement on the basis of the emoluments prescribed on the crucial date in the relevant allotment year. However, PS to Prime Minister/Minister shall be eligible for allotment of Govt. accommodation as per their entitlement on the crucial date subject to availability. The allotment of accommodation to the personal staff of the various dignitaries shall be

made within the overall ceiling of 5% of vacancies in respect of each type of houses occurring in a year. The personal staff working with the following authorities shall be eligible for priority allotments:-

(1) Key personnel in Prime Minister's Office based on the recommendations made at a level not below the Jt. Secretary in-charge of Administration in the Prime Minister's Office.

(2) Personal Staff attached to Ministers:-

- (i) Cabinet Ministers/Ministers of State:- Three members of the personal staff (other than Gr 'D') and one Jamadar/Peon. In addition, one Group 'D' may be given change of accommodation as recommended by the Minister.
- (ii) Dy. Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries:- Two members of personal staff (other than gr 'D') and one Jamadar/Peon. In addition, one Group 'D' may be given change of accommodation as recommended by the Minister.

Such allotments would be subject further to the following conditions:-

- (a) Such priority allotments have not already been made to the personal staff on the recommendations of the Minister Deputy Minister of Parliamentary Secretary.
- (b) No fresh sanction for such allotment would be made with the change in the portfolio of the Minister, etc; if those members of the staff who have been allotted general pool quarters on the above basis on his recommendation, continue to be with the Minister.
- (c) In case of a new Minister, if none of the members of his personal staff have been allotted accommodation on his recommendation, irrespective of whether some members of the personal staff are in occupation of general pool accommodation, priority allotments may be made on his recommendation restricting the numbers as prescribed above.
- (d) If the portfolio of the Minister is changed or if the Minister demits office and is thereafter appointed as Minister in the same Ministry or in another Ministry in case those members of his personal staff who have been allotted general pool accommodation earlier continue to be in his personal staff and the quota indicated above has been exhausted, on further priority allotment or change of allotment is to be made.

- (3) Key personnel in Cabinet sectt.:- Key officials of Cabinet Sectt. (Main) with responsibility relating to meeting of the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees/Committee of Secretaries as recommended by the Joint Secretary in-charge of Administration in the Cabinet Sectt.
- (4) Leaders of Opposition in the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha: Three members of personal staff (other than Gr.'D') and one unit Jamadar/Peon.
- (5) Chairman/Dy. Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Speaker/Dy. Speaker, Lok Sabha/Chief Justice of India/Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission:- Three members of personal Staff (other than Gr. 'D') and one unit for Jamadar/Peon.
- (6) Judges of Supreme Court/Members of Planning Commission: Two units for personal staff (other than Gr. 'D') and one unit for Jamadar/Peon.
- (7) Chief Election Commissioner/Election Commissioners/Secretaries to govt. of India:- Two units for personal staff (other than Gr. 'D') and one unit for Jamadar/Peon.
- (8) A maximum of two persons from personal staff of each of the former Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Prime Ministers may be provided with discretionary residential allotments from the General Pool in Delhi, provided the dignitaries are residing in Delhi.

Note:- The allotment of accommodation may be made in a central area, subject to availability. However, no personal staff shall be entitled to more than one change, which would form part of 'in-turn-change' allotment after due enlistment on the change waiting list.

Appointment of Dealers

4654. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines prepared by the Government for appointment of dealers to provide cost effective fertilizers on time;
- (b) whether these guidelines have been ignored during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the number of dealers against whom action was taken on this account during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the dealers whose dealership had been terminated obtained it again after changing their names; and

(e) if so, the efforts made by the Government to check this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMEHS BAIS): (a) to (e) There are no guidelines issued by the Government for appointment of dealers which is done by the respective fertiliser manufacturing/trading company looking to its commercial requirement and marketing needs in different States of the country. The licence for distributorship is given by the respective State Government. However, Government had circulated a manual in November, 1998 laying down, *inter alia*, procedures for appointment of dealers in Public Sector Undertakings/Multi-State Cooperative Societies to bring uniformity in their selection.

The dealerships are terminated either by the respective Company looking to their performance or by the respective State Government in case of violations of the conditions of licence or provisions under Essential Commodities Act. The Government of India has no role in it.

[English]

University Medical College, Bangalore

4655. SHRI KOKUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science, Bangalore, has requested the Union Government to accord permission to start University Medical College in Bangalore from 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Bangladeshi Infiltration

4656. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sakhta Kanunon ke karan Pak nahin ja pate Bangladesh" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated March 10, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to prevent the rising cases of prostitution and other crimes commuted by these infiltrators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the long and porous border with Bangladesh and also on account of various push and pull factors, many Bangladeshis have managed to sneak into various parts of the country. Due to ethnic and Linguistic similarities, they are able to mingle easily with the local population.

As per available reports, some Bangladeshi immigrants cross over to Pakistan in search of better livelihood. About 3846 Bangladeshi infiltrators have been apprehended along the Indo-Pak border since 1997 (till march 2000).

(c) Instructions have been issued to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to deal firmly with those found violating the law of the land.

[English]

Hospitals for the Treatment of Kidney

4657. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI TARUN GOGOI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI DILIP KUMAR MANUSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide incentives for opening up of more hospitals for the treatment of kidney with latest technology;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Facilities for treatment of kidney related diseases are available in Central Government Hospitals except that of the kidney transplantation.

Population Control

4658. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan allocation for Department of Family Welfare has been considerably enhanced for 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce some new schemes for population control in view of the recently announced National Population Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The outlay for Department of Family Welfare has been enhanced from Rs. 3120.00 Crore in revised estimates 1999-2000 to Rs. 3520.00 Crore for 2000-2001 so as to provide additional funds for Family Welfare Programme aimed at achieving the objectives of National Population Policy.

Technology for Exploring Ocean Wealth

4659. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new technology has been developed for exploring the ocean bed to extract commercially important metals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the technology is likely to be fully implemented to explore oceanic wealth; and

(d) the details of places where such technology is proposed to be used?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Under a joint technology demonstration, programme for development of Deep Sea Mining System with Institute for Konstruktion (IKS), University of siegen, Germany, the Department of Ocean Development through its autonomous institution namely National Institute of Ocean Technology, has designed a crawler mounted mining system with special rubber tracks, umbilical cable with an outer steel armour which carries the weight of the vehicle during launch and retrieval and transmits power and signals to the system during operation, a number of transducers for monitoring the speed, direction, stability, pump performance etc., special under water cameras to observe the mining area, etc. The design of the crawler also involves complex integration of mechanical, electrical and instrumentation technologies and is a break through providing a firm basis for the development of a Deep sea Mining system. While the system in its final form will be capable of operating up to 6,000 m water depth, in the initial stages the system has been successfully demonstrated at a depth of 410 m off Tuticorin in the east coast during March, 2000.

(c) It is likely to take about 5 years from now on to establish its technical capabilities to explore the Oceanic Wealth particularly the Polymetallic Nodules from 6000m depth.

(d) The technology for Ocean Bed Mining presently demonstrated could be used with slight modifications for mining phosphorite deposits and placer minerals, dredging of sand bars in estuaries and other locations where floating dredgeries cannot work, to desilt the storage areas of hydro-electric projects to increase their economic life and to survey the sea bed and locate specific living and non-living resources.

Bal Bhawans

4660. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bal Bhawans functioning in each State/Union Territory;

(b) the main functions of these Bal Bhawans;

(c) the Central assistance provided to each State for the purpose during each of the last three years; and

(d) the extent to which these are helpful to the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The number of Bal Bhawans, affiliated with National Bal Bhavan, functioning in States/Union Territories is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) Main functions of these Bal Bhawans is to enhance creativity amongst children especially from the weaker sections of the society.

(c) The Ministry does not have any scheme for providing central assistance to the States for Bal Bhawans. The National Bal Bhavan occasionally releases grants to the Bal Bhawans in the States/Union Territories affiliated with it. During the year 1997-98 and the year 1999-2000 no grants were released for this purpose. Details of the grants released during the year 1998-99 are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) The non-formal approach of the Bal Bhawans helps the children to understand a variety of subjects in a free environment which is necessary for their overall growth.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Bal Bhawans
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Assam	1

1	2	3
3.	West Bengal	2
4.	Gujarat	5
5.	Goa	1
6.	Haryana	10
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
8.	Kerala	7
9.	Karnataka	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3
11.	Maharashtra	5
12.	Manipur	1
13.	Orissa	3
14.	Punjab	2
15.	Tamil Nadu	4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	7
17.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	1
18.	Chandigarh	1
19.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
20.	Daman	1
21.	Diu	1
22.	Pondicherry	1

Statement-II

Grant Released During the Year 1998-99

S. No.	Name of the Bal Bhawan	Purpose	Amount (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Bal Bhavan, Gwalior (MP)	Children Library	70,000
2.	Kusumbahen Adani Bal Bhavan, Akshaygarh (Gujarat)	Construction of activity centre and Purchase of equipment & Library Books	5,00,000
3.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan Alappuzha (Kerala)	Mini-Auditorium	5,00,000

1	2	3	4
4.	Bal Bhavan, Diu	Construction of multi-purpose hall for activities	4,00,000
5.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Hyderabad (A.P.)	Renovation of aquarium and purchase of computers	2,50,000
6.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Pondicherry	Computers	2,50,000
7.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Mumbai	Science hobby centre	1,30,000
8.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, Allahabad (U.P.)	Computers	2,50,000
9.	Jawahar Bal Bhavan Cubbon Park, Bangalore (Karnataka)	Library equipments & Books	5,00,000
10.	Bal Bhavan Panaji, Goa	Computer Section	2,50,000
11.	Bal Bhavan, Bhiwani (Haryana)	Setting up of Music and Craft Centre	1,00,000
12.	Shri Girdharbhai Sangrahalaya and Children's Museum Amreli (Gujarat)	Hall for Music and Dance Classes	2,50,000

National Human Rights Commission

4661. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Human Rights Commission of India has submitted report to the Union Government on the brutalities on human beings at the hands of Police Authorities etc;

(b) if so, whether the Government have directed the Departments to pay damages to the victims in a sizable number; and

(c) the number of cases in which the officials have been punished as per directions/recommendations of the N.H.R.C. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The National Human Rights Commission has been highlighting the instances of brutalities committed on human beings at the hands of Police authorities as and when the same came to its notice.

(b) and (c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as listed in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. As per the laid down procedure of the National Human Rights Commission, recommendations of the Commission are directly addressed to the concerned State Governments. In the last three years i.e. from 1.1.97 to 31.12.99, the NHRC has recommended prosecution/disciplinary action against errant officials in 105 cases. These recommendations are generally accepted by the concerned authorities and are implemented after following due processes as prescribed in the concerned Acts and Rules.

Loss to Educational Institutions

4662. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2368 dated December 14, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the estimated loss caused to educational institutions due to cyclone and the progress made in the renovation of school and college buildings; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is still awaited, *inter-alia* from the State Government of Orissa.

Cyclone Warning Centres

4663. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cyclone warning centres in the country are still using outdated cyclone detection radars;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to replace them with the advanced and modern weather radars for the better and more accurate forewarning;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have set up cyclone warning centres at Nagapattinam and Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) A network of 10 High Power S-Band Cyclone Detection Radars (CDRs) covers the entire coastline of the country. These radars which have a range of 400 Km, have been installed at Calcutta, Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Machilipatnam, Chennai, Karaikal along the east coast and Cochin, Goa, Mumbai and Bhuj over the west coast. All the 10 CDRs are in good working condition and have been providing useful information for tracking tropical cyclones as they approach the Indian coastline.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has plans to replace existing cyclone detection radars by Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs) in a phased manner. In the first phase, CDRs at Chennai and Calcutta will be replaced by DWRs, for which order has been placed. Further, under a World Bank aided "Andhra Pradesh Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Cyclone Recovery Project", steps have been initiated to procure three more Doppler Weather Radars.

A Doppler Weather Radar has been developed by ISRO, for installation at Sriharikota.

The Doppler Weather Radars will provide additional information on the structure of the wind field of tropical cyclones which will improve the intensity estimation and prediction of storm surges.

(d) India Meteorological Department has six Cyclone Warning Centres (CWCs) in operation along the east and west coasts of the country overing the coastal areas of all maritime States. These centres are located at Calcutta, Bhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam, Chennai, Mumbai and Ahmedabad. These centres provide a proven and reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users. The present set up of Cyclone Warning Centres is found adequate and no necessity is felt for establishing new centres at Nagapattinam and Rameswaram in Tamilnadu, which are already covered by IMD's Area Cyclone Warning Centre at Chennai.

SC/ST Posts In Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas

4664. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

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

(a) the number of posts of teachers in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas and the number out of them belong to SC/ST as on 1.1.96 and their percentage as compared to the total posts;

(b) the number of teachers appointed from 1.1.97 onwards and the number out of them belong to SC/ST and their percentage as compared to the total appointments made;

(c) the composition of the Committee/Board which select teachers for such posts; and

(d) the reasons for not providing adequate number of teachers belonging to SC/ST in these Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (d) The information is being collected.

Hockey Matches

4665. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hockey matches played by Indian team in the country and abroad during 1999;

(b) the number of matches won and lost by the Indian team during the said period; and

(c) the schedule of the Indian team to play Hockey matches in the country and abroad during 2000?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF), during the year 1999 Indian hockey team played 55 matches in the country and abroad. Out of these, it won 20 and lost 26 matches. The remaining 9 matches ended in a draw.

(c) The schedule of the Indian team to play Hockey matches in the country and abroad is indicated below:

1. 4-Nation Tournament in Spain and test series with Canada and Belgium from January 4-15, 2000.
2. 10th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, Kuala Lumpur from February 16-26, 2000.
3. 4 Nation Tournament, Sydney from April 6-9, 2000.
4. 4 Nation Tournament, Perth from April 12-16, 2000.
5. Sydney Olympics 2000 from September 15-30, 2000.

Catalytic Convertors

4666. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have funded any project for the Catalytic Convertors for use in motor vehicles for reducing air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the catalytic convertor are available in the market since 1998;

(d) if so, the reasons for the import by the auto companies;

(e) whether the Government propose to take steps to ban the import of such convertors;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Science and Technology (DST), has funded a multi-institutional project for development of an indigenous catalytic convertor, in the year 1994. Advanced Research Centre International (ARCI), an autonomous body under DST, is also working on development of catalytic convertors, particularly for use in diesel vehicles.

(c) Indigenous convertors are not yet available in the market. Catalytic Convertors used in motor vehicles are mostly being imported.

(d) Long term durability and performance of the indigenous convertors need to be established/demonstrated before they can be made commercially available. These tests are currently in progress. The indigenous convertors are therefore not commercially available yet.

(e) No, Sir. Not at present.

(f) Not applicable.

(g) Steps for banning import may be considered by the Government after satisfactory completion of the durability trials and successful initiation of commercial production.

National Service Scheme

4667. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Service Scheme is implemented in States under the centrally sponsored scheme with the financial assistance being shared between Central and State in the ratio of 7:5;

(b) whether it is difficult to accommodate a full time coordinator under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide 100% assistance to meet the expenses of NSS;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Presently, Universities with strength of more than 10,000 volunteers have a full time Programme Coordinator and Universities with strength less than 10,000 volunteers have a Part-Time Programme Coordinator.

(d) to (g) National Service Scheme (NSS) is a Centrally sponsored scheme where the expenditure is shared between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 7:5 except in the case of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territories without Legislature, where the entire expenditure is met by the Central Government. There is no proposal with the Government at present to provide 100% assistance to meet the expenses of NSS.

Closure of Small Scale Units in Pharma Sector

4668. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small scale units in pharma sector are having hard times due to stiff competition from multinational companies and most of them have either closed or sinking in terms of profit and are likely to close;

(b) if so, whether the Government have reviewed and work out the package for the survival and growth the such units;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of representations received in this regard and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon;

(e) the details of fresh policy initiatives taken/under consideration in this regard during the current year;

(f) whether ESI Corporation and Defence Organisation also do not permit small scale Pharma units to participate in tenders unless the unit has annual sale of Rs. 20 crores instead of quality control criteria; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) The meet the objective of making available pharmaceutical products of good quality at reasonable prices, economic policies are aimed at removal of counter productive measures and to encourage competition. The small scale units in the pharmaceutical sector are exempted from price control of scheduled formulations with regard to non-ceiling prices fixed by the Government under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

(f) and (g) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals does not deal with purchase of medicines. Purchase organizations may formulate their own guidelines for the purpose.

[Translation]

Conversions in Jammu and Kashmir

4669. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jammu Mein Do Hinduon Ko Musalman Banane Ki Koshish" appearing in the "Dainik Jagran" dated March 28, 2000;

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

(c) whether the Government have extended any relief to the victims;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to take some stringent measures to curb increasing terrorism and forced conversion in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(f) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGR RAO): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Committee on Rights on the Child**

4670. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHVRAO SCINDIA:

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

(a) whether India is the signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(b) if so, the rights of the child accepted/recognised under the convention;

(c) the schemes and programmes launched to secure the rights of child;

(d) whether the Committee on Rights of the Child concluded its three week winter session in January, 2000;

(e) if so, the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India acceded to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 11th December, 1992.

The rights under the Convention in brief are as follows:

1. Right of the child to preserve his identity, nationality, name, family relations.
2. A child shall not be separated from his parents.
3. Right to express views.
4. Right to freedom of expression, subject to certain restrictions.
5. Right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
6. Rights of the child to freedom of association and to freedom of peaceful assembly.
7. No child shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference.
8. Right of the child to have access to information and material from a diversity of national and international sources.

9. Right to be protected from physical and mental violence and exploitation.
10. Right of the disabled child to special care and attention.
11. Right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health.
12. Right of the child to benefit from social security.
13. Right of every child to a standard of living for his physical, mental and moral development.
14. Right of child to education.
15. Right of child to rest and leisure.
16. Right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing in hazardous work.
17. Protection of children from illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
18. Protection of the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual, abuse, and from abduction, sale or trafficking.
19. Protection of the child from all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare.
20. No child should be subjected to torture or deprived of his liberty.

(c) The different Ministries and Departments of the Government of India are implementing various Schemes for the benefit of the children in the country e.g. Integrated Child Development Services by the Department of Women & Child Development, District Primary Education Programme by the Department of Education, Reproductive Child Health Programme by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Integrated Programme for Street Children by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, etc.

(d) The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child discussed the India Country Report at its 23rd session in Geneva on 11-12 January, 2000.

(e) The major concluding observations of the UN Committee on the CRC are as under:

1. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the transparent process followed in the formulation of the Report, the detailed information provided and the broad range of constitutional and legislative procedures existing

in India. It also showed appreciation of the active participation of NGOs and grass-root organisations in public affairs and the efforts of the States regarding education and literacy.

2. The Committee noted the constraints faced on account population growth and extreme poverty.
3. The Committee has asked for the provision of adequate resources, strengthening of the capacity and effectiveness of organisations for the protection of human rights, women rights, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.
4. The Committee has asked for collection of disaggregated data of all persons under the age of 18 years especially of the most vulnerable groups.
5. Greater dissemination of CRC amongst the general public and especially children has also been requested by the Committee.

(f) Most of the observations made by the UN Committee on CRC as referred in part (e) above were already expressed in the Government response submitted in December, 1999. Government is committed to further strengthening the implementation of the CRC.

Research projects in Maharashtra

4671. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the present status and performance of projects for the development and promotion of R&D and adoption of indigenous system of medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of physical and financial targets set and achieved, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated to Maharashtra for such projects during the last three years, project-wise;

(d) the details of proposals from Maharashtra lying pending with the Union Government; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to accord clearance to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Vocational Institutions in Manipur

4672. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vocational institutions functioning at present in Manipur;

(b) the number out of them sanctioned by the Government during 1999-2000 in the State;

(c) the funds allocated to the State for providing vocational education to the students during the last three years and till date; and

(d) the amount actually released by the Government for this purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Under the Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, financial assistance is provided to the State Govt. for implementing Vocational Education Programme in Higher Secondary Schools and also to NGOs for conducting innovative programme on Vocational Education. At present the programme is being implemented in 19 schools by the State Government of Manipur. Four voluntary organisations have been granted financial assistance for running the programme.

(b) During the year 1999-2000, the following voluntary organisations were sanctioned grants:

- (i) Integrated Rural Development Society, Iilong, Imphal, Manipur, (Grants released: Rs. 77,000/-)
- (ii) Central Council for Vocational Education, New Lambulane, C/o Lington Store, New Cheekon, Imphal, Manipur. (Grants released: Rs. 71,000/-)

(c) and (d) Funds allocated to the State Government during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Funds sanctioned	Funds released
1	2	3
State Sector		
1997-98	22.21	22.21
1998-99	Nil	Nil
1999-2000	8.00	8.00 (sanction revalidated)
2000-2001	Nil	

1	2	3
NGO Sector		
1997-98	1.50	1.50
1998-99	2.37	2.37
1999-2000	1.48	1.48
2000-2001	Nil	Nil

Cities Selected Under MCS

4673. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities selected under mega city scheme along with their population, as per the 1991 census;

(b) the contribution of Hyderabad, Bangalore and Madras cities as compared to Baroda, Ahmedabad in Central Revenues from 1993 to 1998; and

(c) the reasons, for not considering Ahmedabad by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDRAU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The basic criterion for selection of a city for inclusion under the Mega City Scheme is that the city should have a population of more than 4 million as per 1991 census.

The names of cities selected under mega city scheme along with their population as per 1991 census are as under:-

Name of the City	Population (1991 Census)
Mumbai	12.57 million
Calcutta	10.92 million
Chennai	5.36 million
Hyderabad	4.28 million
Bangalore	4.09 million

Since the population of Ahmedabad city was less than 4 million as per 1991 census, it was not included under the scheme.

Urdu University at Hyderabad

4674. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and All India Urdu Education Committee for setting up Urdu University at Hyderabad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The Maulana Azad National Urdu University, a Central University, set up by an Act of Parliament, viz., 'The Maulana Azad National Urdu University Act, 1996', is already functioning at Hyderabad with effect from 9.1.1998.

Setting up of New Fertilizer Projects

4675. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from various State Governments to set up new Fertilizer Projects in the States particularly in Maharashtra, during the last three years;

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

(c) the number of projects cleared/rejected/pending during the said period;

(d) the time by which the clearance to the pending proposals is likely to be given; and

(e) the details of such projects in which private sector or foreign capital investment has been proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) No proposals have been received from any State Government for setting up new fertilizer projects in the country, since as per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July 1991, no licence is normally required for setting up new fertilizer projects. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking

such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. In view of the near self-sufficiency achieved in production of urea and also the assessment of the demand supply scenario till the year 2003-04, Government have also decided not to encourage new capacities for production

of urea in the country till the year 2003-04 over and above the following public/cooperative sector projects for which an 'in principle approval' has already been accorded by the Government in April, 1999:-

Sl. No	Name of the Project	Annual Urea Capacity in lakh M.T.	Estimated capital cost (Rs. crore)
1.	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)'s Third stream ammonia urea expansion project at Hazira in Gujarat.	7.68	1318
2.	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)'s New ammonia-urea plant at the existing site of FCI at Gorakhpur in UP	7.68	1536
3.	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)'s grassroots ammonia-urea plant at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh	7.68	1736
4.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF)'s ammonia-urea expansion at Thal in Maharashtra	7.68	1332

[*Translation*]

Construction of Stadia and Training Programme

4676. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced any scheme to construct small stadia and training programmes at district, sub-division and block levels in order to promote sports and games in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Under this Department's Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, financial assistance for creation of sports infrastructure is provided in the ratio of 75:25 for Special Category States, Hilly/Tribal Areas and 50:50 basis for the other areas, subject to certain ceilings. For construction of small size

outdoor and indoor stadium, maximum Central assistance of Rs. 15.00 to Rs. 22.50 lakh and Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 30.00 lakh respectively is provided, as per the ratio indicated above. Coaches are also provided by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for imparting training programmes through their schemes like Training Centres, Special Area Games, Army Boys Company and through the National Coaching Scheme, under which coaches are given to State for deployment at various levels.

[*English*]

Absence of Lift Operators

4677. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lifts in Government offices are working without the lift operators and it takes time to reach help in case of any mishap; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Lifts in Govt. offices are generally working with Lift Operators and therefore timely help is available in case of any mishap. Besides, emergency alarm is provided in the lifts and Intercom

facility is also available in liftcar for connecting to the machine room/control room, if the necessity so arises.

[Translation]

Promotion of Urdu Language

4678. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for the promotion and development of Urdu language;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government implements several schemes for the promotion and development of Urdu language. The National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) has been established as an autonomous body exclusively for this purpose. The Council implements several schemes, such as Computerised Urdu Calligraphy and Multilingual Desk Top Publishing (DTP), Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for engaging part-time Urdu teachers and Financial assistance for publications, bulk purchase and distribution of Urdu books. Besides, the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore undertakes Urdu research and training programmes. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Appointment of Urdu Teachers in Schools is also being implemented through the State Governments.

(c) Does not arise.

Revision of Text Books

4679. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Saffron Generation" appearing in The Hindustan Times dated December 19, 1999;

(b) whether NCERT has been instructed to revise text books on some subjects prescribed for 10th and 12th classes of C.B.S.E.;

(c) if so, the details of the books proposed to be revised/already revised during the last two years and the reasons for the same in each case; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Following the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had brought out the "National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education-A Framework". The National Policy on Education was updated in 1992, and the programme of Action, 1992 required the NCERT to modify its curriculum framework. As a part of the 9th Plan the NCERT had been given the task of revising the curriculum of school education. Following these policy directives and as a part of an ongoing process, the NCERT has recently prepared a "Discussion Document" on the "National Curriculum Framework for School Education" and released it in January, 2000 for public debate. The document is being discussed and debated at national and state levels. One text book (Saras-Bharati Bhag-3) and two supplementaries reader (Sankshipt Buddacharit) and (Naya Jeevan Part 3) were introduced in Class VIII in lieu of the old ones in session 1999-2000. Besides, "Poorva Bhag I" and kathakalash Bhag 1 have replaced 'Mansi Bhag 1 and (Sanchyika Bhag 1) respectively for class IX.

[Translation]

Science Club

4680. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded grant from the Central Government for the science-club to import training to incharges and resourceful persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Performance of Kendriya Vidyalayas**

4681. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the academic performance of Kendriya Vidyalaya network in the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to promote, develop, strengthen and expand the network of Kendriya Vidyalaya; and

(d) the action plan in this regard for 2000-2001 and the next five years for each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan monitors the performance of Kendriya Vidyalayas every year and the region-wise performance for last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Improvement of results is a continuous process. The Sangathan has planned to improve the performance through various measures like intensive monitoring of academic activities, recruitment and appointment of teachers on contractual basis, systematic in-service training of teachers and Principals and encouraging curricular activities etc.

Statement*Region-wise Result Analysis for Class Xth*

Region	Pass%		
	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4
Ahmedabad	86.89	81.71	83.41
Bangalore	89.48	88.37	88.53
Bhopal	77.95	78.11	75.85
Bhubaneswar	75.25	78.70	78.83
Calcutta	77.09	77.34	76.25

1	2	3	4
Chandigarh	74.97	74.50	79.60
Chennai	90.23	90.00	88.40
Delhi	78.48	78.15	81.88
Dehradun	83.29	72.62	75.15
Guwahati	78.34	72.82	69.07
Gwalior	78.36	65.40	71.56
Hyderabad	77.24	82.60	81.00
Jabalpur	71.27	72.91	76.88
Jaipur	76.46	73.84	77.99
Jammu	76.78	68.83	68.54
Lucknow	78.29	73.62	75.48
Mumbai	88.07	83.60	89.30
Patna	68.74	66.40	70.00
Silchar	74.31	75.04	61.77
KVS (HQ)	94.74	90.24	93.02

Region-wise result Analysis for Class XIth

Region	Pass%		
	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4
Ahmedabad	90.13	84.02	86.77
Bangalore	91.88	87.24	93.46
Bhopal	86.38	85.02	81.81
Bhubaneswar	79.58	77.20	85.81
Calcutta	78.38	83.45	83.45
Chandigarh	81.60	83.89	84.16
Chennai	93.00	86.10	90.60
Delhi	80.35	78.19	76.39
Dehradun	82.33	81.34	84.88
Guwahati	78.44	70.02	78.48
Gwalior	83.26	79.58	79.35
Hyderabad	86.09	79.20	89.18

1	2	3	4
Jabalpur	84.76	81.12	80.13
Jaipur	85.53	78.79	83.42
Jammu	81.35	72.44	78.07
Lucknow	85.94	81.01	77.19
Mumbai	85.52	85.80	91.50
Patna	73.34	67.57	76.34
Silichar	72.68	65.44	72.14
KVS (HQ)	79.41	97.44	90.00

TB Cases in the World

4682. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:
SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian delegation has attended the WHO conference on TB eradication at Amsterdam;

(b) if so, whether according to the WHO report, India is having a largest percentage of TB cases in the World than the other Asian countries;

(c) if so, the factual position in this regard, State-wise;

(d) the number of cases detected during the last three years and the current year;

(e) the financial assistance given to States for the eradication of TB during the last three years and the current year and the details of funds remained unutilised, State-wise;

(f) the details of diagnostic facilities available in the Government Hospitals in this regard;

(g) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to set up sanatoriums for the eradication of this disease;

(h) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(i) whether a conference was organised by the WHO in Geneva in March 2000;

(j) if so, the representatives from India attended the conference;

(k) whether WHO has sent any recommendations/report for controlling the consumption of tobacco by law;

(l) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Statement-I indicating the new TB cases detected and put on treatment during the last three years (1996-97 to 1998-99) under the programme is enclosed. The position in regard to the case detection for the current year from April, 1999 to December, 1999 is given in enclosed statement-II.

(e) 100% requirements of Anti-TB drugs for RNTCP areas and for sputum positive cases for non-RNTCP areas are procured and supplied to the States by the Centre. Binocular Microscopes are also supplied to the Project districts by the Centre. However, for purchase of anti-TB drugs for sputum negative cases of non-RNTCP areas, cash assistance is given to the States. For undertaking various activities for implementation of RNTCP, grants-in-aid are given to the District TB Societies of the Project districts and the State TB Societies. Statement-III indicating the financial assistance given to the States during the last three years under the TB Programme is enclosed.

(f) The TB Programme is implemented through a network of 447 District TB Centres and 330 TB Chest Clinics. At the centres free of cost diagnostic facilities are provided to the TB patients. For quality diagnosis, more than 3,000 Microscopy Centres have been established in the country in RNTCP districts.

(g) Does not arise.

(i) and (j) The second meeting of the Working Group of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was held in Geneva from 27th-29th March, 2000. This meeting was attended by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Deputy Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, on behalf of Government of India.

(k) and (l) World Health Organisation has initiated steps for development of a global Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The initiative for Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is based on the fact of tobacco being a public health problem in every country. Some elements of this problem, like smuggling, which transcend national boundaries, makes it difficult for the countries to tackle this problem in isolation. The first

meeting of the Working Group constituted for this purpose was held on 25th to 29th October 1999 in Geneva. The Working Group discussed and provided suggestions related to objectives and protocols for FCTC and also administrative arrangements for this purpose. The second meeting of the Working Group was held during 27th-29th March, 2000 and based on the recommendations of the Working Group, an intergovernmental negotiating body will negotiate the draft Framework Convention and possible related protocols. The Framework is expected to be finalised in the year 2003.

(m) A draft Cabinet Note to bring out comprehensive legislation to discourage use of tobacco is under preparation.

Statement-I

National Tuberculosis Control Programme

Statewise case Detection

Sl No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	1996-97			1997-98			1998-99		
		Target	Cases Detected	Percentage	Target	Cases Detected	Percentage	Target	Cases Detected	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	78,820	65,660	83.5	98,495	74,137	75.27	96,488	78,467	81.32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,500	2,880	192.0	1,374	3,801	276.64	1,374	5,748	418.34
3.	Assam	23,500	20,106	85.6	33,952	18,625	54.86	33,952	19,847	58.46
4.	Bihar	153,000	12,710	8.3	127,805	11,133	8.71	127,805	27,770	21.73
5.	Goa	2,000	2,974	148.7	1,844	2,610	141.54	1,844	2,748	149.02
6.	Gujarat	133,900	116,158	86.7	62,369	104,835	167.77	62,369	125,534	201.28
7.	Haryana	29,000	35,287	121.6	25,530	37,668	147.54	25,530	33,348	130.76
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9,000	12,084	134.3	7,893	5,347	67.74	7,893	5,768	73.08
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,240	11,014	176.5	11,734	26,993	230.04	11,734	18,258	155.80
10.	Karnataka	68,370	71,776	105.0	67,582	78,883	116.72	67,582	68,149	100.84
11.	Kerala	33,800	36,829	109.0	42,314	19,711	46.58	42,314	13,808	32.63
12.	Madhya Pradesh	87,220	90,858	104.2	101,487	77,045	75.92	101,987	78,390	76.86
13.	Maharashtra	140,000	190,630	136.2	118,639	202,299	170.52	118,639	195,246	164.57
14.	Manipur	2,700	6,645	246.1	2,908	3,469	119.29	2,908	2,820	96.97
15.	Meghalaya	2,560	4,618	180.4	2,809	3,080	109.65	2,809	2,788	99.25
16.	Mizoram	1,000	1,223	122.3	1,098	1,332	121.31	1,098	1,390	126.59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17.	Nagaland	1,250	1,350	108.0	1,934	1,626	84.07	1,934	2,380	123.06
18.	Orissa	36,880	40,850	110.8	47,014	24,912	52.99	47,014	21,850	46.48
19.	Punjab	41,900	48,260	115.2	30,652	42,121	137.42	30,652	39,520	128.93
20.	Rajasthan	45,000	69,344	154.1	68,475	46,071	67.28	68,475	57,072	76.05
21.	Sikkim	1,000	2,800	280.0	645	1,861	288.53	645	2,104	326.20
22.	Tamil Nadu	99,000	104,823	105.9	81,128	114,065	140.80	81,128	116,195	143.22
23.	Tripura	2,880	2,528	87.8	4,366	2,601	59.57	4,366	3,340	76.50
24.	Uttar Pradesh	247,000	279,789	113.3	215,478	289,431	134.32	215,478	262,739	121.93
25.	West Bengal	69,000	74,352	107.8	102,267	65,018	63.56	102,267	62,426	61.03
26.	Pondicherry	3,200	3,401	106.3	446	711	159.42	1,281	3,863	301.56
27.	A & N Islands	500	635	127.0	1,023	1,819	177.81	446	720	161.43
28.	Chandigarh	1,000	1,711	171.1	220	506	230.00	1,023	1,801	176.05
29.	D & N Haveli	250	300	120.0	161	0	0.00	220	266	120.91
30.	Delhi	42,000	42,951	102.3	13,500	43,313	320.84	13,500	13,000	96.30
31.	Lakshadweep	100	180	180.0	82	145	176.83	82	100	121.95
32.	Daman & Diu	150	244	162.7	1,281	417	32.55	181	150	93.17
Total NTCP		1,363,500	1,354,950	99.4	1,276,525	1,305,385	102.26	1,275,018	1,262,643	99.03

Statement-II**National Tuberculosis Control Programme****Allocation Expenditure 1997-98, 1998-1999 & 1999-2000**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
		Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Externally Aided	General
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	198.00	550.00	445.24	190.14	292.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.25	10.00	18.32	0.00	2.54
3.	Assam	34.75	342.00	108.64	36.16	77.97
4.	Bihar	152.50	728.00	709.14	660.82	393.91
5.	Goa	9.25	4.00	20.11	0.00	3.17
6.	Gujarat	211.50	348.00	663.48	1148.95	54.93
7.	Haryana	28.75	62.00	70.51	0.00	79.13
8.	Himachal Pradesh	54.25	43.00	138.84	126.24	7.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.50	29.00	33.91	0.00	37.30
10.	Karnataka	92.25	351.00	475.19	562.32	139.03
11.	Kerala	149.25	265.00	480.08	869.04	16.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	121.00	588.00	329.95	115.33	302.84
13.	Maharashtra	410.00	619.00	659.37	549.86	302.98
14.	Manipur	10.50	20.00	34.45	31.17	0.49
15.	Meghalaya	9.75	20.00	8.79	0.00	8.60
16.	Mizoram	8.75	8.00	12.97	0.00	3.48
17.	Nagaland	9.00	13.00	12.34	0.00	2.77
18.	Orissa	46.25	273.00	172.20	202.61	122.77
19.	Punjab	35.50	76.00	85.25	0.00	95.98
20.	Rajasthan	208.00	386.00	298.74	215.70	181.70
21.	Sikkim	9.25	1.00	187.82	0.00	1.90
22.	Tamilnadu	127.00	452.00	348.86	478.78	181.70
23.	Tripura	9.75	30.00	12.96	0.00	13.36
24.	Uttar Pradesh	222.00	1189.00	808.75	300.49	597.08
25.	West Bengal	258.00	586.00	508.19	2012.39	70.79
26.	Delhi	171.00	108.00	136.63	0.00	0.00
27.	Pondicherry	8.00	100.00	12.85	0.00	2.78
28.	Andman & Nicobar	18.00	24.00	11.01	0.00	1.25
29.	Chandigarh	20.00	52.00	12.96	0.00	3.47
30.	D & N Haveli	16.00	11.00	0.59	0.00	0.67
31.	Daman & Diu	18.00	8.00	0.43	0.00	0.49
32.	Lakshadweep	15.00	5.00	0.21	0.00	0.25

Statement-III

State-wise target under 20 Point Programme for 1999-2000 and Achievement first nine months (April-December)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Sputum Examination			Detection of new sputum positive cases		
		Proportionate Target for nine months	Achievement		Proportionate target for nine months	Achievement	
			Number	%		Number	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	279818	211013	75.41	27983	18489	66.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3930	4949	125.93	390	269	68.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	97043	4037	4.16	9705	238	2.45
4.	Bihar	367958	12447	3.38	36795	1255	3.41
5.	Goa	5265	9730	184.81	525	278	52.95
6.	Gujarat	178320	195399	109.58	17835	27178	152.39
7.	Haryana	73298	48624	66.34	7328	2201	30.04
8.	Himachal Pradesh	22268	0	0.00	2228	0	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	33038	24861	75.25	3300	525	15.91
10.	Karnataka	192885	143692	74.50	19290	13173	68.29
11.	Kerala	119933	0	0.00	11993	0	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	293798	37904	12.90	29378	1466	4.99
13.	Maharashtra	337950	503869	149.10	33795	45004	133.17
14.	Manipur	8303	6568	79.11	833	832	99.94
15.	Meghalaya	8025	2881	35.90	803	369	45.98
16.	Mizoram	3143	3005	95.62	315	229	72.70
17.	Nagaland	5550	1258	22.67	555	390	70.27
18.	Orissa	133260	39318	29.50	13328	4037	30.29
19.	Punjab	87285	130653	149.89	8730	7070	80.99
20.	Rajasthan	197400	57853	29.31	19740	19585	99.21
21.	Sikkim	1845	6109	331.11	188	354	188.80
22.	Tamil Nadu	229710	353203	153.76	22973	18727	81.52
23.	Tripura	12473	9365	75.09	1245	481	37.03
24.	Uttar Pradesh	623865	549137	88.02	62385	42008	67.34
25.	West Bengal	292395	33551	11.47	29243	3042	10.40
26.	A & N Islands	1275	2831	222.04	128	88	69.02
27.	Chandigarh	2933	1254	42.76	293	39	13.33
28.	D & N Haveli	630	0	0.00	60	0	0.00
29.	Daman & Diu	465	620	133.33	45	41	91.11
30.	Delhi	45683	45988	100.67	4568	18211	398.71
31.	Lakshdweep	233	143	61.51	23	0.	0.0
32.	Pondicherry	3660	18859	515.27	368	991	269.66
Total		3663630	2459121	67.12	366360	226550	61.84

Slum Rehabilitation in Bangalore

4683. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 250 crore has been earmarked for the slum rehabilitation programme signed by HUDCO in Bangalore city;

(b) if so, the time by which the amount is likely to be released by HUDCO to the Government of Karnataka;

(c) whether HUDCO proposes to allocate fund for the slum rehabilitation of Mysore and other cities in Karnataka during 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) An amount of Rs. 250 crore has been earmarked for Comprehensive Slum Development Programme by the Bangalore Maharashtra Palika (BMP). However, this does not form part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between HUDCO and Government of Karnataka on 29.12.1999.

(b) The agency BMP is expected to draw 50% of the Rs. 100 crore needed for the first stage of slum development by December, 2000.

(c) and (d) HUDCO has not received any specific scheme proposals from the Government of Karnataka for allocation of funds for slum rehabilitation of Mysore and other cities in the State.

CISF in Undertakings

4684. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Industrial Security Force has been inducted into undertakings;

(b) if so, the number of undertakings where this force has been deployed;

(c) the number of cases of thefts reported by these undertakings during the last three years; and

(d) the value of property involved in those cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and

(b) Yes, Sir. CISF stands inducted in 247 Public Sector/ Other Government establishments.

(c)

Year	No. of cases
1997	1948
1998	3149
1999	5976
Total	11073

(d) The total value of property involved is Rs. 6.57 crores (approx).

Development of Cities with Foreign Aid

4685. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH CHAUDHARY:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Union Government from the various State Governments including Bihar for the development of cities during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals cleared/rejected/pending and allocation made to various States for the purpose during the said period. State-wise, Scheme-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to develop some towns/cities in the country with foreign aid/World Bank assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the World Bank or any international finance institutions have agreed to make financial assistance for any of the schemes for the development of cities/towns in the country particularly in Bihar and Karnataka;

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

(g) whether any monitoring system exists to monitor the development of the schemes;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Regularisation of Illegal Constructions in Delhi

4686. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of illegal constructions regularised in Delhi till date;

(b) whether it includes regularization of illegal constructions for commercial activities also;

(c) if so, whether commercial activities can be performed in the residential areas;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the monetary gain of Municipal Corporation of Delhi from regularization of illegal constructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Extension of CGHS Facilities in Bihar

4687. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from Bihar for the extension of CGHS facilities in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A few representations have been received for extending CGHS facilities to the Central Govt. employees and pensioners belonging to Departments other than that of AGCR Office in Ranchi, which have been examined by the Govt.

Although a proposal for extension of CGHS facilities at CR colony, Patna, has been included in the 9th Five Year Plan period, yet due to financial constraints and non-implementation of SIU Report, it may not be feasible to open any new CGHS dispensary for the present.

Education for All

4688. SHRI MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made specially for weaker section, minorities and handicapped persons under the programme 'Education for all' and campaign launched by the Government;

(b) the details of achievements made so far under this campaign alongwith the names of districts selected for this campaign in Bihar;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any comprehensive scheme to provide vocational training alongwith the primary education; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government is in the process of finalisation of the "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" (People's movement for Education for All). The proposed Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is for universalising Elementary Education in the mission mode with a holistic and convergent approach. The educational development of children belonging to SC/ST, weaker section, minorities and handicapped would be a special focus in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Artificial Corneas

4689. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DODOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists have developed the artificial corneas for restoring the sight of blind people as reported in the leading newspapers of the country;

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

(c) the number of persons likely to be benefited due to this achievement; and

(d) the time by which the artificial corneas are likely to be made available in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) Research on development of corneal equivalents is still being carried out in laboratories. It is expected to take some more time before clinical trials are undertaken. Current practice to get corneas from donor eyes is likely to continue to treat corneal blindness during the foreseeable future.

[*Translation*]

Shramik Vidyapeeth

4690. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any Shramik Vidyapeeths; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and under whom control these Vidyapeeths are functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. List of Shramik Vidyapeeths now known as Jan Shikshan Sansthan established so far, state-wise is given in the attached statement.

Shramik Vidyapeeths are set up under the aegis of Voluntary Organisations/Universities/State Governments. Shramik Vidyapeeth at Delhi was established as a sub-unit of Directorate of Adult Education, a subordinate office of this Ministry. The affairs of a Shramik Vidyapeeth are managed by the Board of Management of the individual Vidyapeeth.

Statement

List of Shramik Vidyapeeths Established in Various States

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Guntur
2. Hyderabad
3. Ranga Reddy
4. Kakinada
5. Vijayawada
6. Visakhapatnam
7. Ongole

8. Tirupati

ASSAM

1. Silchar

BIHAR

1. Jamshedpur
2. Gaya
3. Patna
4. Darbhanga

DELHI

1. Delhi
2. Jahangirpuri

GUJARAT

1. Ahmedabad
2. Surat
3. Vadodara
4. Bharuch

HARYANA

1. Faridabad
2. Sirsa
3. Sonapat

KERALA

1. Trivandrum
2. Calicut
3. Trissur

MADHYA PRADESH

1. Indore
2. Gwalior
3. Ratlam
4. Ujjain
5. Satna
6. Bhopal
7. Raipur
8. Guna

MAHARASHTRA

1. Worli (Mumbai)
2. Dharavi (Mumbai)
3. Aurangabad
4. Kolhapur
5. Nagpur
6. Nashik
7. Pune
8. Sindhudurg

ORISSA

1. Rourkela
2. Cuttack
3. Bhubaneswar

RAJASTHAN

1. Ajmer
2. Jaipur
3. Jodhpur
4. Kota

JAMMU & KASHMIR

1. Jammu

KARNATAKA

1. Bangalore
2. Mysore
3. Karwar
4. Tumkur
5. Raichur
6. Shimoga

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Lucknow
2. Kanpur
3. Ghaziabad
4. Faizabad
5. Allahabad (Urban)
6. Allahabad (Rural)
7. Unnao
8. Narainpur

9. Varanasi
10. Basti
11. Ambedkarnagar
12. Sultanpur
13. Pratapgarh
14. Jaunpur

WEST BENGAL

1. Calcutta
2. Narendrapur
3. Haldia

UNION TERRITORY

1. Chandigarh
- Tamil Nadu
1. Chennai
 2. Coimbatore
 3. Madurai
 4. Tiruchirapalli
 5. Vellore

[English]

Cops with Doubtful Integrity

4691. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner of Police, Delhi has ordered compilation of list of officers and cops suspected to be of doubtful integrity having links with criminals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other measures taken up by the police chief to clean the image of cops in Delhi;

(d) whether Delhi cops extort money from the people under duress and threat and detain people on false grounds; and

(e) if so, the number of cops arrested on this count in Delhi during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police have initiated action to update the list of police officials of doubtful integrity maintained by their Vigilance unit.

(c) The measures taken to improve the public image of Delhi Police are mainly as follows:

(a) Strengthening of the Vigilance branch at Police Headquarters;

(b) setting up of a Public Grievances Cell in each police District;

(c) deterrent action against officials found involved in malpractices/misbehaviour;

(d) emphasis laid on strict observance of human rights;

(e) frequent briefing given to police officials by senior officers including the Commissioner of Police;

(f) earmarking of telephone No. 3319922 for the benefit of the public to enable them to seek emergent help in cases of harassment by police officials;

(g) earmarking of Post Box No. 171 to enable the public to inform the Commissioner of Police about any criminal or corrupt activity of a police official;

(h) advertising of the FAX numbers of District Deputy Commissioners of Police to provide direct communication between the public and the Deputy Commissioner of Police concerned.

(d) There have been some instances where such complaints were made against individual police officials.

(e) The requisite information is given as under:

Year	No. of police officials arrested
1997	11
1998	13
1999	8
2000 (upto 15.4.2000)	10

Hospitals for AIDs Patients

4692. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIDS epidemic has gone out of control in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up hospitals exclusively for AIDS patients;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The AIDS patients are treated at par with other patients in all Government hospitals without any discrimination.

Losses to Fertilizer Makers

4693. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fertilizer makers may incur losses due to dumping" appearing in the "Business Standard" dated April 1, 2000; and

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DAP has been decontrolled since 24.8.1992 and its imports have been decanalized with effect from 17.9.1992. However the Government determines the Maximum Retail Prices (MRP) and the rates of Concession for indigenous and imported DAP under the Concession Scheme of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The indigenous producers of DAP are at a disadvantage as the raw materials/intermediates required for its production are not available in the country. To compensate for this disadvantage, rate of concession for indigenous DAP is pegged at a higher level than that of imported DAP. For 1999-2000, the Government had fixed concession of Rs. 4600 per metric tonne (provisional) for indigenous DAP and Rs. 3200 per metric tonne for imported DAP. At these rates of concession, indigenous production has been 38.58 lakh metric tonnes which is higher than the target of 37.25 lakh metric tonnes for 1999-2000. Imports in the same period have been nearly 33 lakh metric tonnes. Thus the domestic production has not suffered despite the high level of imports.

In the market place both indigenous and imported DAP are sold at a competitive price. The Government role is to put in place the policy which spurs both the indigenous production and imports. The selling price to farmers is a function of demand and supply.

The Government has not received any representation regarding dumping of DAP by foreign suppliers in the country nor has the industry been of the view that there has been dumping of DAP.

Schemes for poverty Alleviation

4694. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ;
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare fresh scheme for poverty alleviation and increasing of employment opportunities;

(b) if so, whether a meeting of State Ministers for Urban Employment and Secretaries was called during January, 2000.

(c) if so, the topics discussed there in; and

(d) the decisions taken thereat?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does note arise sir.

National Family Health Survey

4695. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the time by which the National Family Health Survey being conducted and scheduled to be completed by the agency engaged for conducting this survey;

(b) whether Calcutta and other metropolitans are likely to receive special focus in this survey; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The National Family Health Survey

(second round) has been conducted in all the 26 States except in the state of Tripura in the country during 1998-99. International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai is the nodal agency for this survey. The survey in Tripura could not be conducted due to disturbed situation. The preliminary reports for 16 States have been brought out. The Preliminary estimates of important indicators at all India level will be available by end of May, 2000 and the final report is expected to be published by the end of this year. The final State level reports are under preparation and expected to be published by the end of the year 2001.

(b) and (c) Special focus is placed on four metropolitan cities, namely, Mumbai, Calcutta, Delhi and Chennai with higher sample size. Separate estimates will be available for these cities in the final State level reports in respect of demographic, social and health parameters. In respect of Mumbai, estimates of these parameters for slum areas will also be prepared.

Study Conducted by ICMR

4696. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Indian Council of medical Research which conducted a number of studies from 1983 to 1994 revealing various ailments among the survivors of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy was wound up in 1994; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research initiated research programmes to document the short-term and long-term health effects of gas exposure which occurred at the time of the Gas Leak Disaster in December, 1984 in Bhopal. These projects had specific objectives and were time-bound, and were wound up accordingly, the last of them in March, 1994.

Asian Games, 2006

4697. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has staked claim to organise the "Asian Games, 2006" in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other countries which have staked their claim to host the games?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) With the approval of Government of India, Indian Olympic Association, the apex body for holding Asian Games, is bidding for the 2006 Asian / Games being held at Delhi.

(c) Malaysia, Hongkong and Qatar have also staked their claim to host the Asian Games, 2006

Raw Material to Plastic Manufactures in Assam

4698. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small scale plastic manufactures in Assam are facing difficulties due to non- availability of the raw material;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) No representation has been received from small scale plastic manufacturers in Assam regarding the difficulties, if any being faced by them due to non-availability of raw material.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Theft of Idols

4699. DR. M.P . JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of theft of idols from the temples in the country are increasing .

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any efforts or propose to make any efforts to stop such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Available information regarding theft of idols during the last years is enclosed, as statement.

(c) to (e) "Public Order" and "Police' being State Subjects, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, insofar as the theft of idols from the centrally protected monuments/museums under its control is concerned, the Archaeological Survey of India, in concert with the law enforcing agencies has taken measures to check the theft of idols by intensifying checking at custom exit points as well as by strict enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. In addition to this, armed guards have been deployed at the selected centrally protected monuments/museums.

Statement

Statement showing State wise No. of cases/incidence of thefts of idols for the years 1997, 1998,1999.

No.	State/UT	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23	44	58
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
4.	Assam	2	0	2
5.	Bihar	1	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
7.	Daman&Diu	0	0	0
8.	Dadra Nagar & Haveli	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	0	0	4
10.	Goa	11	16	17
11.	Gujarat	0	1	0
12.	Haryana	0	0	2
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2	13	9
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	2	1
15.	Karnataka	1	1	3
16.	Kerala	4	1	7
17.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1	8	59
19.	Meghalaya	1	0	0
20.	Maharashtra	4	2	5
21.	Manipur	0	0	0
22.	Mizoram	0	0	1

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Nagaland	0	0	0
24.	Orissa	6	2	9
25.	Punjab	0	0	1
26.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
27.	Rajasthan	21	23	28
28.	Sikkim	1	0	0
29.	Tamil Nadu	16	17	24
30.	Tripura	0	0	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	17	64	51
32.	West Bengal	27	21	41
Total		141	215	322

Extremists Hidden in Mosque

4700. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some extremists had hidden in a mosque on March, 26, 2000 at Kupwara in Jammu and Kashmir;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to vacate the mosque;

(d) the number of personnel/civilian killed/injured in this incident;

(e) whether compensation has been given to the effected families in this incident;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) As per the available information, on March 25 evening, a group of 3 militants entered a Mosque at Chak Dodhipora, which is at about 5 Kms from Handwara, Kupwara. Security forces cordoned off the area with a view to vacate the Mosque. In exchange of fire between

the militants and the Security Forces, all the three militants and one Security Force personnel were killed and one Army officer got injured.

(e) and (f) Relief assistance is provided by the State Government to the families of those killed in terrorist action in accordance with the norms fixed by them.

(g) The Security Forces are vigilant and are taking all possible measures to curb terrorism which includes, inter alia, flushing out militants, close vigil on border, establishment of more naka parties in depth areas to check infiltration/exfiltration, more pickets, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operations.

[English]

Heart Specialists

4701. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue warning against general physicians and other doctors who describe themselves as 'heart specialists' without having the required specialisation in cardiology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the heart patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recovery of the Arms and Arsenal

4702. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of arms and arsenal recovered after the arms drop in Purulia district of West Bengal, is missing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the results of the probe made about the missing arsenal; and

(d) the reasons for failure of the Government to identify and apprehended the Indian collaborators in the matter of Purulia arms dropping?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation, who have been entrusted with the investigation of the Purulia arms drop case, have intimated that most of the arms and ammunition, air dropped, have been recovered. Details of missing arms and ammunition are given in the attached statement.

(c) As per CBI, it appears that most of the missing arms have fallen into the hands of criminals. Efforts to recover the arms etc. are continuing in close concert with Police Forces of various States.

(d) CBI have intimated that their investigation disclosed involvement of six Indians, who were chargesheeted in the case. Only one of them was arrested and put to trial but he was acquitted while six foreigners were convicted. The remaining five Indians are absconding and they have been declared Proclaimed Offenders by the Court. The CBI has announced a cash reward of Rs. one lakh per person to anyone giving information leading to their arrest. Sincere attempts are being made to arrest these persons and bring them to justice.

Statement

Details of Missing Arms and Ammunition

Sl. No.	Particulars	Arms missing
1.	AK 47 Rifle	50
2.	7.62mm (ammunition) for AK 47 rifle	3761
3.	9mm Pistol	14
4.	9mm Ammunition	2115
5.	Booster for Rocket Launcher	31
6.	7.62X54 ammunition for the Sniper Rifles	376
7.	Hand Grenade	35
8.	Anti Tank Grenade	22

Genetic Engineering and Tissue Culture

4703. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to improve scientific research in the field of Genetic Engineering and Tissue culture;

(b) the details of animal and plant species to be developed through Genetic Engineering and Tissue culture;

(c) the details of ongoing projects in this field and the funds allocated for these projects during the last three years; and

(d) the details of new projects being launched/likely to be launched alongwith the foreign funded projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (c) The Department of Biotechnology has given major thrust to the application of Genetic Engineering and Tissue Culture techniques in the areas of crop improvement for enhancing productivity, nutritional quality and pest and disease resistance. Similarly, tissue culture techniques have been extensively researched in case of forest trees, horticulture and plantation crops, medicinal and aromatic plants and mulberry. To improve scientific research and expertise, several R&D projects, multi-institutional network projects and training programmes have been implemented.

In the area of crop biotechnology, 15 R&D projects, 2 multi-institutional projects for development of transgenic plants in major crops i.e. cotton, rice, wheat, pigeonpea, chickpea, mungbean, rapeseed and mustard, totamto, cabbage and banana have been taken up. Besides several research leads, transgenic plants of mustard, mungbean, rice, cotton and tomato for hybrid seed production and disease resistance have already been developed. Centres of plant molecular biology in various universities and institutions have been established. A national containment/quarantine facility for imported transgenic planting material has been approved. Recently an autonomous institute—National Centre for Plant Genome Research has been set up in New Delhi.

In the area of tissue culture, 8 projects have been implemented in Medicinal and Aromatic plants and 41 projects in the area of forest trees/horticulture and plantation crops/spices during the last 3 years for protocol development, regeneration through tissue culture of elite the planting material. In addition, two micropopagation parks in Pune and New Delhi for large scale production of tissue culture plants, three hardening units and one satellite centre for North-East have been established.

About Rs. 29.00 crores have been allocated for the above activities during the last three years.

In case of animals, genetic engineering research was initiated on mice, rabbits, goats, carp and zebra fish for development of transgenic animal models to express proteins of therapeutic importance, anthrax vaccine development, ovine growth hormone production and control of stray dog population. Besides several research leads already available, two transgenic animal model

facilities have been established. About Rs. 5.37 crores have been allocated during the last 3 years.

Details have been given in the Annual Report 1999-2000.

(d) Under the Indo-Swiss co-operation in biotechnology 13 projects are being launched during the year 2000-2001 in the areas of improvement of wheat through genetic engineering and marker assisted breeding as well as development and application of biofertilisers and biopesticides for increasing productivity of wheat and pulses. The projects are being funded on cost sharing basis between the Government of India and the Government of Switzerland.

Criminal Incidents

4704. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the criminal incidents like chain snatching, molestation and rape etc. have been occurring very frequently in the Jawahar Lal Nehru University Campus and nearby area;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last one year;

(c) the number of persons arrested/punished in this regard during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop such criminal activities in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) In all, three cases of crime were reported from Jawahar Lal Nehru University Campus during the year 1999. These included one case each of rape, molestation and snatching. Three persons were arrested in connection with two of these cases and both these cases are pending trial in the Court.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to stop such criminal activities in the Capital include inter-alia, intensification of beat patrolling; posting of armed pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence network; close watch on and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals and terrorists; verification of antecedents of domestic servants; increased surveillance on history sheeters; coordination meeting with officers of neighbouring States; meetings with members of Residents Welfare Associations; formation of anti-terrorist cell in each police district; and deployment of police personnel in plain

clothes in running buses, market places, business places and other crime-prone places.

[Translation]

Use of Sub-Standard Paint

4705. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers of C.P.W.D. review the whitewash work done in Government accommodation at different places in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether paint used was found sub-standard at many places during this year;

(c) if so, the action taken against the contractors responsible for the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not conducting the review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir, use of sub-standard paint was not found at any place.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Science Education

4706. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2251 on December 14, 1999 and state:

(a) the funds allocated under the scheme to remaining States particularly to Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years till date;

(b) the amount actually utilised for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the number of schools covered and the progress achieved in these States in this regard during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) A statement indicating funds allocated and unspent balance with all States/UTs during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 is enclosed.

(c) During the period 1997-98 to 1999-2000, the States, UTs have been provided financial assistance under different components as under:

Component	No. of Schools
— Science kits	3814
— Setting up of science laboratories	2507
— Upgradation of science laboratories	1411
— Library books	945

Statement

Assistance to States/UTs Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Improvement of Science Education in Schools

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of states and UTs	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Funds allocated	Unspent balance	Funds allocated	Unspent balance	Funds allocated	Unspent balance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	480.00	Not due
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	9.08	9.08	7.76	Not due
6.	Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	24.78	—	152.64	8.00	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Kerala	175.22	—	—	—	349.00	Not due
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	129.76	Not due
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	—	—	—	—	1350.00	Not due
19.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—

(b) Number of reserved posts vacant as on 31.03.2000

Category	SC	ST	OBC
Group 'A'	—	—	—
Group 'B'	1	—	2
Group 'C'	3	—	2
Group 'D'	—	2	—

Grants for Promotion of Sanskrit

4708. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Sanskrit language;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of research institutes being given grants for promotion of Sanskrit and the amount released for the purpose during the last three years, Year-wise and institution-wise;

(d) whether Amademy of Sanskrit Research, Melkote, Kamataka has requested for grants for the activities aimed at technology Development for Sanskrit and computer aided teaching package for Sanskrit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For promotion of Sanskrit, the Government has taken various steps, details of which are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) Mainly four Research Institutes have been given grant for promotion of Sanskrit through the State

Government of Kamataka. The amount released to them during the last three years institution-wise and year-wise is given in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The proposal of Academy of Sanskrit Research, Melkote, Kamataka for grants for the activities aimed at technology development for sanskrit and computer aided teaching package for Sanskrit is under consideration.

Statement-I

For promotion of Sanskrit language, the Government has a Central Plan Scheme of Development of Sanskrit Education consisting of six sub-schemes viz; (i) Financial Assistance to eminent Sanskrit Pandits, (ii) Award of Scholarships to the students of High/Higher Secondary Schools studying Sanskrit, (iii) Providing facilities for teaching of Sanskrit in Secondary Schools, (iv) Modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas (v) Promotion of Sanskrit through State Government's own Programmes and (vi) Financial assistance to Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Deemed Universities/CBSE/NCERT/SCERT etc. for Schemes to improve the methodology of teaching Sanskrit in schools, Sanskrit Colleges/Vidyapeethas and for orientation of teachers towards this end. Government of India also promotes Sanskrit through various institutions namely Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Maharshi Sandipnai Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati. These institutions implement various schemes including providing financial assistance to Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Shodh Sansthans and to Voluntary Sanskrit Organisations, Publications and purchase of Sanskrit Books, Implementation of the scheme of Shastra Chudamani and conduct of all India Sanskrit Education Contest, Vedic Conferences for promotion of Sanskrit. Besides this the Ministry gives President's Award of Certificate of Honour to fifteen Sanskrit and one Pali/Prakrit scholars every year for substantial contribution in their respective fields.

Statement-II

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Research Institute	Amount Released		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
1. Academy of Sanskrit Research, Melkote, Kamataka.	10.70	7.50	12.50

	1	2	3	4
2.	Kalpatharu Research Academy, Bangalore, Karnataka.	7.45	8.23	5.54
3.	Dwaita Vedanta Studies and the Research Foundation, No.33/163, 10-B, Main road, Jayanagar, I-Block, Bangalore-560002.	—	6.85	9.29
4.	Vedanta Bharathi (Veda Vedanta) Institute of Studies & Research, Shri Yoganandeshwar Saraswati Math, Mysore, Karnataka.	—	—	10.93

R&D Centres in CBSE

4709. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need for the Research and Development (R&D) centres in CBSE for Secondary and Sr. Secondary education; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPEMNT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Research and Development in the field of Secondary/Sr. Secondary Education is an on-going process. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), an autonomous organisation, undertakes these activities in the areas of curriculum, Examination and Evaluation, etc. through various committees constituted by the Board under its Rules and Regulations

Separate Department for North East Affairs

4710. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create a separate Department for the North East Affairs;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to create a Department for North East Affairs in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The proposal will be finalised shortly.

Personnel Military Forces

4711. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of death of personnel of Para Military Forces occurred during the last three years;

(b) the number of family pension, employment on compassionate grounds to their dependents and other financial benefits pending with the Government; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for speedy finalization of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Child Abuse in Goa

4712. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the children are brought from all over the country and mostly from Western Indian States of Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra to be forced to have sex with the tourists;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sounded these States in the matter;

(c) whether in view of the alleged child abuse cases propose an enquiry in the working of orphanages and other such voluntary organisations situated in different tourists centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The

information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Visit of Delegates to Geneva

4713. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delegates who visited W.H.O. Geneva to attend conferences during 1999-2000;

(b) whether any agreement with WHO has been signed during the said period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) 15 Delegates visited WHO Geneva to attend conferences during 1999-2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Population Control as a Subject in Schools

4714. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce 'population control' as a subject at the senior secondary level in all the educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Significant concepts, elements and contents relating to population issues are integrated appropriately in the school syllabi and textbooks, teaching learning process and co-curricular activities in the school education sector right from primary stage to higher secondary stage.

[*Translation*]

Production of Toothpaste

4715. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies manufacturing toothpaste in the country are not following the guidelines prescribed by the specialists in this regard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures taken to check the tendency of cheating the people through misleading advertisement by the toothpaste manufacturing companies; and

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the public in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The quality standards prescribed in Schedule 'S' of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules 1945 are required to be mandatorily adhered to by all manufacturers of toothpastes.

(c) and (d) To check the tendency of cheating the public by misleading advertisements on toothpastes, a meeting of leading manufacturers, representatives of Central and State Drug Control administration, consumer organization and Cosmetics manufacturers association was convened. A Steering Committee was formed to lay down guidelines for permissible claims for toothpastes. The manufacturers have volunteered to adopt these guidelines.

Anomalies in Excise Duty

4716. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pesticides industry is passing through a period of crisis due to anomalies in the excise duty law and indifference of the Government towards it;

(b) if so, whether the dominance of the multi-national companies is resulting in the closure of two hundred such units and the rest of them are on the verge of closure;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the pesticides industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) Prior to the Union Budget of 2000-01, based on circulars issued by the CBDT, different levels of excise duty were applicable to technical pesticides and formulations. The pesticides industry had been representing for uniform excise duty of 8% on both technical pesticides & their formulations. In the Union Budget, 2000-01, a uniform Excise Duty of 16% has been levied on pesticides.

(b) and (c) The share of domestic Companies in the pesticides industry is substantial. While the reasons for sickness and closure could be manifold, no report has been received regarding the closure of pesticides units due to dominance of the multi-national companies in this sector.

(d) Steps taken to boost the pesticides industry include, *inter-alia*, delicensing, simplification of registration procedures and strengthening of institutional infrastructure for providing technical assistance.

Human Development Index

4717. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

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

(a) whether India stands at 132nd place out of the 174 countries of the world in the list of Human Development Index for 1999;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the noted scholar Dr. Swaminathan had given some suggestions for implementation to bring the country at 50th place from 132nd by 2000; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) The Human Development Report, 1999 brought out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New York has placed India at 132nd position. The Department is, however, not aware of any suggestions made to improve India's Human Development Index ranking by 2000.

[English]

Plan to Prevent Sabotage of Tracks

4718. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to prevent sabotage and tampering with the rail track in isolated areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether meeting of Chief Secretaries of States was convened to discuss the issue;

(d) if so, the conclusions arrived therein;

(e) whether the Government propose to involve Panchayats and Youths in their efforts to check such activities;

(f) if so, the details in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of a Second Defence

4719. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a second defence line;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

White Paper on ISI

4720. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have with held its decision to bring out a white paper on ISI activities in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) All relevant aspects pertaining to a White Paper on ISI activities are under close examination at present.

Naxalite Violence

4721. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting at the international level has been held in the context of naxalite violence;

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

(c) whether any proposal is lying with the Union Government to invite the public representatives in these meetings;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any action plan proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh is lying with the Union Government for the development of the naxalite affected areas; and

(f) if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) An Hon'ble Member of Parliament has proposed convening of a meeting of MPs representing areas affected by Left Wing Extremism.

(e) and (f) The Action Plan sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been recommended to the Planning Commission for earmarking separate funds for the purpose. The State Government has been advised to take vigorous follow-up action.

Infant Food

4722. SHRI RASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that infant foods containing phytoestrogens through soya ingredient are not suited to young children, pregnant and breast feeding women as per research in U.K.;

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

(c) whether such products need to be properly labelled; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Dwelling Units for Slum Dwellers

4723. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether D.D.A. had registered slum dwellers for providing dwelling units during the preceding decade;

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the number of registrants provided with the dwelling units so far;

(c) the present policy/proposal of the Government in respect of registrants waiting rehabilitation for more than decade;

(d) the time by which the remaining registrants are likely to be provided with dwelling units;

(e) whether there is any scheme for giving priority to the registrants in other housing schemes being run by the D.D.A.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Slum Wing of DDA (now under the MCD) had launched a scheme namely 'Residential Flats Registration Scheme for Slum Dwellers and Others-1985'. So far 5419 registrants have been allotted flats under this scheme.

(c) and (d) Slum & JJ Department (MCD) has reported that they are committed to providing flats to the remaining registrants as and when the flats are available. However, no time frame can be set in this regard.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Bioagriculture

4724. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have enlisted the farmers engaged in bio-agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to promote the low-cost inputs based agriculture;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to invest in the research and development of bio-agriculture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (d) About 2,50,000 farmers and extension personnel have been trained throughout the country under technology development and demonstration of biopesticides and biofertilizers. The objective is to provide low cost inputs to farmers to increase crop productivity and retaining soil fertility. An integrated project of nutrient and pest management has also been implemented. A number of technologies for mass production of biofertilisers and biopesticides suitable for most of the economically important crops have been developed and demonstrated into farmers field. Some of these technologies have been transferred to small entrepreneurs for large scale production and marketing and Government is promoting the integrated approach of

bio-agriculture including nutrient and pest management during 9th plan with special emphasis on imparting training to farmers and extension functionaries.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Government is supporting R&D in the area of bio-agriculture covering new product development, molecular level understanding, quality control, shelf-life etc. To promote and encourage the use of bio-control agents and biofertilizers, State Governments and some promising entrepreneurs are being provided grants to establish production units alongwith quality control laboratories.

[English]

Availability of Safe Drinking Water

4725. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of safe drinking water in the urban areas of the country is diminishing;

(b) if so, whether the union Government have increased the plan allocation to increase the availability of safe drinking water in the urban areas;

(c) if so, the allocation made to various States for this purpose during each of the last three years State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) As per the report of the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development of M/o Water Resources published in September, 1999, the availability of utilisable water and the requirement/demand of water for different uses for 1997-98, 2010, 2025 and 2050 is at statement-I. So far as drinking water supply facilities to the urban population is concerned, on the basis of information furnished by different State Implementing agencies, viz. PHEDs/Water Supply and Sewerage Boards, as on 31.03.97, about 90% of the urban population is reported to have access to water supply facilities. However, the quality and quantity of water in most of the urban areas is not as per norms. The State-wise coverage of population with water supply facilities as reported by different State Governments is given at statement-II enclosed.

(b) to (d) Water supply being a State subject, it is the responsibility of State Governments to plan, implement operate and maintain water supply facilities and make

adequate provision of funds in their State Plans for the purpose. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments for providing water supply facilities to the towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census), a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) was launched during

1993-94 in order to provide Central assistance to the State Governments on 50:50 matching basis between Centre and State. Under AUWSP the funds released by the Ministry of Urban Development as Central share to different State Governments during the last three years is at statement-III enclosed.

Statement-I

	Quantity in Cubic Kilometres (Km ³)			
	1997-98	2010	2020	2050
Utilisable water available	996	996	996	996
Estimated requirement of water for all uses (of which requirement for Domestic use)	629 (30)	694 (42)	784 (55)	973 (90)

The requirement of water for domestic use (including drinking water purposes) indicated in the bracket is for both urban and rural areas. The figures for urban areas separately are not available.

Statement-II

*Ministry of Urban Development
Status of Urban Water Supply—India
(Tentative Status As on 31.3.97)*

(Population in '000)

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Estimated popln. as of 31.3.97	Population provided with water supply* through			%
			H.S.C.	P.S.P.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16937	10377	4318	14695	86.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	226	171	45	216	95.58
3.	Assam	4239	429	1573	2002	47.23
4.	Bihar	11892	4187	5327	9514	80.00
5.	Delhi	10300	4730	4540	9270	90.00
6.	Goa	504	310	106	416	82.54
7.	Gujarat	16810	13227	3307	16534	98.36
8.	Haryana	3705	2408	1297	3705	100.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	546	328	218	546	100.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2030	1421	609	2030	100.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Karnataka	14172	9681	3494	13175	92.97
12.	Kerala	7680	3180	2572	5752	74.90
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17800	10300	5800	16100	90.45
14.	Maharashtra	34309	23744	10176	33920	98.67
15.	Manipur	548	402	60	462	84.31
16.	Meghalaya	481	227	220	447	92.93
17.	Mizoram	445	83	125	208	46.74
18.	Nagaland	214	63	151	214	100.00
19.	Orissa	4407	810	2061	2871	65.15
20.	Punjab	4202	3235	33	3268	77.77
21.	Rajasthan	10664	8503	2361	10664	100.00
22.	Sikkim	195	95	25	120	61.54
23.	Tamilnadu	26600	9990	13860	23840	89.62
24.	Tripura	428	71	279	350	81.78
25.	Uttar Pradesh	29837	19643	8418	29061	94.05
26.	West Bengal	18495	6281	9505	15766	85.24
Total States		237866	133666	80480	214336	90.11
Union Territories						
1.	A & N Islands	90	55	22	77	85.56
2.	Chandigarh	722	722	0	722	100.00
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40	6.4	1.1	7.5	18.75
4.	Daman & Diu	31.2	25	1	26	83.33
5.	Lakshadweep	37	0	29	29	78.38
6.	Pondicherry	526	378	148	526	100.00
Total U.Ts.		1446.2	1196.4	201.1	1387.5	95.94
Grand Total		239312.2	135052.4	80681.1	215733.5	90.15

Remarks:

H.S.C.—House Service Connection. P.S.P.—Public Stand Posts.

*Indicates accessibility only adequacy and equitable distribution of water supply not as per the prescribed norms of Govt. of India.

Statement-III**Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ U.T.	Fund released		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	21.16	0.00	149.08
3.	Assam	140.00	198.87	324.26
4.	Bihar	0.00	192.75	319.47
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	347.25
7.	Haryana	87.03	130.19	259.56
8.	Himachal Pradesh	44.95	58.95	156.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	41.61	20.75	183.90
10.	Karnataka	179.96	298.08	465.91
11.	Kerala	64.39	85.50	67.69
12.	Madhya Pradesh	417.98	626.72	936.56
13.	Maharashtra	271.80	393.94	369.01
14.	Manipur	90.99	63.16	160.51
15.	Meghalaya	38.92	0.00	0.00
16.	Mizoram	51.68	76.95	63.42
17.	Nagaland	34.36	17.51	175.80
18.	Orissa	156.62	268.00	258.62
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	105.48
20.	Rajasthan	171.52	324.81	0.00
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	28.92
22.	Tamilnadu	205.46	234.91	521.36
23.	Tripura	0.00	42.11	91.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	776.57	932.83	1515.26
25.	West Bengal	0.00	43.97	0.00
Total States		2795.00	4000.00	6500.00

*[Translation]***Adulteration of Edible Commodities**

4726. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Three arrested with spurious mustard oil" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated December 20, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of complaints in this regard came to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have enquired into the said complaints; and

(e) if so, the number of traders against whom action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the Rules thereunder were enacted by the Central Government. The administration and enforcement of the PFA Act 1954 and the rules thereunder is the responsibility of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administration. As per information received from the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi the SHO Keshavpuram PS, raided some premises in Lawrence Road Industrial Area on 19.12.99 and seized spurious mustard oil from the premises alongwith some pure oil colour concentrate and colour powder. The samples on analysis were found to contain unpermitted oil which resembled soyabean oil and soluble synthetic colour which was also unpermitted. The samples were taken by the police. Hence no action has been taken under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

(c) to (e) The Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi has further intimated that the record of the complaints available with the Directorate of PFA during the period 1998 have been seized by the CBI in connection with the inquiry regarding dropsy epidemic. Further information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

*[English]***New Code of Ethics**

4727. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to release new code of ethics for the drug advertisements in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Committee has been constituted for suggesting responsible ways of advertisements of drugs in the country;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) A Committee constituted by the Department of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy (ISM&H) to formulate a code of ethics for advertisement of drugs has submitted its recommendations. These recommendations inter-alia focus on the need for preventing the following statements in advertisements promoting drugs (1) statements that are offensive to good taste (2) that are misleading in terms of safety, usage or immediacy of relief in advertisements, (3) which create fear or apprehension in the public mind (4) that allow offer of rewards or other inducements leading to excessive use of drugs (5) that give an impression that a medical consultation or surgical operation is unnecessary and (6) that refer to or imply references to statutory bodies, international agencies etc.

(e) It is proposed to take a final view after consultations with concerned Departments, and other relevant stakeholders.

Custodial Death

4728. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:
SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "46 years old man dies in police custody" appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated April 2, 2000;

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

(c) the total number of custodial deaths reported during the last three years, till-date;

(d) whether any enquiry/magisterial enquiry has been conducted/ordered in this regard;

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

(f) the action taken or propose to be taken by the Government against the guilty officials;

(g) whether compensation had been paid to the nearest kin of the victims; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A person arrested on the charge of robbery on 31st March, 2000 died early next morning while in police lock-up.

(c) There were 12 persons who died while in police custody during the last three years and till date. This includes the aforesaid case.

(d) to (f) The inquest proceedings in the latest case of custodial death are being conducted by the SDM concerned. In the meantime, 2 police officials have been palced under suspension and a criminal case has been registered against them.

(g) and (h) Out of 12 cases of custodial death reported during the last three years and till date, one case has been cancelled and one case is pending trial in the Court. Out of the remaining 10 cases pending investigation, in one case interim compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs was paid to the legal heirs of the deceased as per the directions of National Human Rights Commission.

Growth in Profit of FACT

4729. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of growth in profit of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travencore Limited Cochin during the last two years;

(b) whether there has been any downfall in the profit during the said period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to bring improvement in FACT; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The financial performance of Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) showed a negative growth with loss of Rs. 48.26 crore for 1998-99 as against net profit of Rs. 53.94 crore for 1997-98. The company has again projected a provisional loss of Rs. 48.00 crore for 1999-2000.

(c) The main reasons for the decline in profits are inter-alia the high capital related charges of the new Ammonia plant commissioned in March, 1998 (Rs.65.00 crore towards interest and Rs. 35.00 crore towards depreciation), coupled with increase in cost of petroleum products which resulted in high cost of Ammonia affecting the profitability of Factanifos, Ammonium Sulphate and Caprolactam.

(d) and (e) The Government have provided a budgetary support of Rs. 35.00 crore to FACT during 1999-2000 and have made a provision of Rs. 40.00 crore for 2000-01 to enable it to implement essential renewals/replacements and upgradation schemes directed towards improving the health and overall performance of its plants.

Setting up of Medical Research Institute

4730. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Medical Research Institute in or around Hassan in Karnataka in view of the fact that the Bangalore is far away from the Northern parts of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research, which coordinates medical research activities of the Government, have no proposal to set up a Research Institute in or around Hassan in Karnataka. Besides, no such proposal has been received from the State Government of Karnataka also.

Legislative Councils

4731. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to accept the proposals to create Legislative Councils in the states where there is only Assembly;

(b) if so, the States whose demand is pending in this regard;

(c) the time by which it is likely to give effect to the same; and

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat fulfils the necessary requirement for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Proposals for the creation of Legislative Council have been received from the States of Assam, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. The Government has decided to first discuss the issue in the Inter-State Council before taking a final view. No time limit can be indicated in this regard at present.

(d) No request has been received from Gujarat for creating a Legislative Council in the State.

[Translation]

Dental College Indore

4732. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of conditions laid down for opening of Dental College;

(b) whether International Dental College in Indore fulfils all the conditions laid down for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for which Dental Council of India recommended to open the said dental college?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The conditions for opening of new dental colleges have been prescribed in Dental Council of India (Establishment of new dental colleges, opening of higher courses of study and increase of admission capacity in dental colleges) Regulations, 1993 published in Part-III Section 4 of Gazette of India vide notification No. DE-2293, dated 25th September, 1993.

(b) and (c) Government has not granted any permission for setting up a dental college in the name and style of 'International Dental College' at Indore.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Homoeopathy Pharmacy

4733. DR. GIRIJA VYAS:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not making an Act to regulate the Homoeopathic Pharmacy Profession in the country;

(b) whether the Government have done expansion development for homoeopathic physicians to make better provision for the regulation of their profession and practice in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons for not inclusion of Homoeopathic Diploma in Pharmacy Education and Constitution of Pharmacy Council;

(d) whether any proposal is under active consideration of the Government in this regard as on date;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) A separate Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy was set up only in 1995. Thereafter, the Department has initiated proposal for having a Council to regulate pharmacy education.

(b) The Central Council of Homoeopathy, a statutory body, regulates the education and practice by Homoeopathic practitioners.

(c) and (d) The Pharmacy Council of India did not agree to regulate the homoeopathic pharmacy education. Therefore, the Government initiated proposal for a separate Pharmacy Council which is under process.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Illegal Drug Trade

7434. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drug trafficking is spreading in the country day by day;

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

(c) whether the United Nations has extended its co-operation and assured to provide financial and technical assistance in combating the spread of drug trafficking in the country;

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

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to utilise the said assistance; and

(f) the action being taken by the Government to check this phenomenon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) There are no indications of any significant changes in the patterns of Drug trafficking in the country. The details of seizures during the last three years are as under:-

Sl. No.	Drugs in Kg.	1997	1998	1999
1.	Opium	3316	2031	1635
2.	Heroin	1332	655	861
3.	Ganjha	80886	68221	40113
4.	Hashish	3281	10106	3391
5.	Methaqualone	1740	2257	474

(c) to (e) The Government of India interacts on a regular basis and maintains coordination with International Agencies such as UNDCP, INCB etc. in the field of combating drug trafficking. At present, there are no specific projects relating to Drug Law Enforcement under implementation through the Narcotics Control Bureau.

(f) Instructions have been issued to all the Enforcement Agencies to maintain utmost vigil and to step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. Drug Enforcement Officers are also being trained to improve their effectiveness. Quarterly Coordination meetings are being held by the Narcotics Control Bureau, New Delhi for proper coordination of drug enforcement efforts by all the concerned Central and State agencies in the country. Reward scheme for informers and Enforcement Officers is also being implemented. A comprehensive bilateral agreement has been entered into with the Govt. of Myanmar for reducing demand and preventing illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs apart from a bilateral agreement with the authorities in Pakistan for direct operational communication.

[*Translation*]

Shifting of Meteorological Office

4735. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift regional meteorological office Nagpur to Bhopal; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) No Sir, there is no proposal under consideration of the Union Government for shifting of Regional Meteorological Office, Nagpur to Bhopal.

(b) In view of answer at (a), question does not arise.

[*English*]

Unhygienic Conditions in Government Hospitals in Delhi

4836. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the unhygienic condition prevailing in various Central Government Hospitals in the Capital;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any strategy in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to maintain the hygienic condition of the hospitals in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) In Central Government Hospitals in Delhi cleanliness and hygienic conditions are given top priority by the concerned hospital authorities. The hospitals have the infection control committee and waste management committee to monitor and suggest measures to prevent spread of any infection on account of unhygienic surroundings.

Rajasthan University

4737. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of the Rajasthan University has deteriorated considerably on account of lack of finances and internal administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to declare the said university as Central University; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Rajasthan University is a State University which has been set up by an Act of the Legislature of Rajasthan. Provision of adequate Plan and Non-Plan grants to Rajasthan University and management of its affairs is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. Central Government is not directly concerned with the internal affairs of State Universities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Indo-US Cooperation in Science and Technology

4738. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether an agreement regarding the setting up of Indo-US science and technology Forum has been signed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time to be taken to implement the agreement;

(d) the benefits likely to be accrued to India as a result thereof; and

(e) the details of Institutions on which the restrictions have been lifted by the U.S.A.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. An agreement on the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum was signed

on March, 21, 2000 in New Delhi. The main objectives of the Forum are: 1) to facilitate and promote Indo-US interaction of Governments, academia and industry in science and technology and other related areas. 2) to focus on issues of common concern and activities of mutual benefit while exploring trends in science and technology. 3) to promote research and development, the transfer of technology and creation of a comprehensive electronic reference source for Indo-US science and technology cooperation. 4) to promote an active electronic exchange of ideas and opportunities in Indo-US science and technology cooperation. The agreement has come into effect upon signing.

The agreement on Indo-US Science and Technology Forum provides a platform for not only the inter-governmental interactions in S&T but also for interactions with the academic institutions and industry from the two countries. The Forum has the ability to raise resources from sources other than the Governmental sources also. Thus the agreement provides for a very broad spectrum of activities and interactions in science and technology and other related areas which would be beneficial to India.

(e) 44 institutions under the Ministry of Defence, 7 institutions under the Department of Atomic Energy and two units of one public sector undertaking, have been removed from the entity list.

[Translation]

Dental Colleges

4739. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of dental colleges in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the demand for dental colleges has been increasing continuously in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to open dental colleges in the country;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to meet the increasing demand of dental colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):(a) A statement containing the number of dental colleges in the country, State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) to (g) Government has been receiving a large number of proposals mainly from private promoters for opening of new dental colleges in the Country under the Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993. Those proposals found complete as per DCI Regulations, 1993 are referred to Dental Council of India for evaluation and recommendations. Subsequently on the basis of recommendations of DCP, the Central Government grants permission to the promoters to open new dental colleges.

Statement

Statement containing the number of approved/recognised dental colleges in the Country, State-wise:

Sl. No.	Name of the State/U.T.	Number of approved/recognised Dental Colleges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	7
4.	Delhi	1
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	3
7.	Haryana	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10.	Karnataka	40
11.	Kerala	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3
13.	Maharashtra	15
14.	Orissa	2
15.	Pondicherry	1
16.	Punjab	9
17.	Rajasthan	2
18.	Tamil Nadu	13
19.	Uttar Pradesh	10
20.	West Bengal	2
Total		124

Chicken Pox/Small Pox

4740. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes being run by the Union Government to control chicken pox/small pox;

(b) the reasons for discontinuing the immunization programme;

(c) whether the Government have asked for some report from the hospitals and dispensaries on the increasing number of patients of chicken pox;

(d) if so, the details in the regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to control the disease fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Small Pox has been eradicated globally. If and when a rumour of occurrence of small pox is received the same is investigated immediately by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi. So far chicken pox immunization is not a part of Universal Immunization Programme.

(c) to (e) While Government has not asked for specific reports regarding the incidence of chicken pox from hospitals and dispensaries, it is relevant to mention that chicken pox is a self-limiting disease and its treatment is symptomatic. Facilities for treatment of chicken pox and any of its complications are available in various hospitals both in Government and private sector.

Reservation in Medical Colleges

4741. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for admission in medical colleges in the country;

(b) whether there is reservation of seats for candidates of SCs/STs and OBCs in such colleges;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to make special quota of reservation for these categories in such colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The criteria adopted for admission in medical colleges in the country is framed by the respective State Governments and the institutions themselves in consonance with the Indian Medical Council Act 1956 and the regulations thereunder.

(b) to (d) The reservation of seats in the medical colleges for candidates belonging to SCs/STs etc. is being made as per the policy laid down by the respective State Governments. However, as per the directives of the Supreme Court of India, there is to be no reservation of any kind in respect of admission for Super-specialty courses and 15% of the Undergraduate and 25% of the Postgraduate medical seats filled up through All India Entrance Examination.

[English]

Terrorism in Punjab

4742. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Babbar Khalsa International is trying to revive terrorism in Punjab and other parts of the country;

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

(c) whether police of some States and other security agencies have formulated the strategy to check the activities of Babbar Khalsa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Interrogation of several Punjab militants who have been arrested from Punjab and other parts of the country in recent years indicates that Pakistan based top ranking Punjab militants of terrorist outfits like Babbar Khalsa International are under tremendous pressure from the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan for carrying out terrorist strikes in Punjab and neighbouring States. The investigation of some recent terrorist incidents in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi have revealed the involvement of Punjab militants belonging to various terrorist outfits. Apprehension of some Babbar Khalsa militants has also exposed their nefarious designs to target VIPs. Central and States Security agencies are working in a coordinated manner to neutralise terrorist conspiracies and as a result of intelligence based operations, there have been many significant successes in neutralisation of terrorist modules with the arrests of militants and recovery of arms and explosives as well as working out

of several terrorist crimes. Vigilance along the Pakistan border has also been enhanced to check infiltration and other subversive activities.

Rain Water harvesting Project

4743. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has launched a Rain Water Harvesting Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps by the Government to ensure the safety of the children who play at that places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The objective of the Project is to optimise the availability of water from underground sources.

(c) A provision has been made for M.S. Railings around recharged shafts, pits, etc. to ensure safety of the children playing near such shafts, pits, etc.

Unrest in Tribal Areas

4744. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have pondered over the causes of unrest in the tribal areas especially the fifth and sixth scheduled areas of the country;

(b) if so, the causes and factors responsible therefor and the measures taken by the Union and State Government to arrest this tendency;

(c) whether the responsibility of providing good governance in these scheduled areas lies with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the legal and constitutional measures taken by the Union Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shrinking of property resources like land and forest, lack of infrastructure, unemployment, low level of literacy, poverty etc. are the reasons and causes of discontentment amongst the tribals residing in Fifth and Sixth Scheduled Areas. The strategy of Tribal Sub Plan, which has been adopted since Fifth Five Year Plan has resulted in increasing the flow of funds for the

development of Scheduled Tribes and tribal areas including Fifth and Sixth Scheduled Areas. In order to provide remunerative prices to tribals for their surplus agricultural produce and minor forest produce, a multi level cooperative society namely TRIFED has been set up. Further to increase the educational infrastructure in tribal areas, this Ministry provides financial assistance to States for setting up of hostels, Ashram Schools, Vocational Training Centres and Educational Complexes in Low literacy pockets. In the field of health, norms for setting up of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and sub-centres have been relaxed. In addition to above, protective measures in the form of land alienation laws, regulations on money lending, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 have been taken.

(c) Yes, Sir, providing good governance is the responsibility of State Governments as well as the Union Government.

(d) The Union of India provides financial assistance under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India to the States having tribal areas therein for development of tribals and raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas to that of rest of the State. In order to protect the tribals from atrocities, the Government of India have enacted the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. Under the provision of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution, various State Governments have enacted land laws for:-

(a) Prohibiting or restricting transfer of land to others or among members of Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Regulating allotment of land to members of such tribes.

According to the provision of the Sixth Schedule the Distt. Councils and Regional Councils regulate allotment of land, management of forest and practice of shifting cultivation etc.

[English]

Standard of Sports

4745. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study or analysis has been made by the Government during 1999-2000 to ascertain the reasons for decline in the standard of sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for improving the standard of sports?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, the performance of Indian sports persons is evaluated after major sports events in order that appropriate further steps may be initiated in respect of various disciplines.

(d) The following steps are being taken for improving the standard of sports:-

(i) As per the Government Policy and Olympic Charter, the National Sports Federations, recognised by the Government are primarily responsible for the promotion of their disciplines. The National Sports Federations have formulated Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) covering various aspects. In consultation, inter-alia with the Sports Authority of India. The National Sports Federations are being assisted in arranging coaching camps for sports persons included in the National Teams, with the help of Indian and Foreign coaches, provision of requisite equipment and scientific supports through the sports Authority of India.

(ii) The Federations are also assisted in holding National Level championships and in sending sports persons for participation in International Sports Events.

(iii) Promising sports persons are being provided a package of assistance (up to Rs. 5 lakhs per year) for training and up-gradation of their skills. Supporting personnel, such as coaches and sports scientists, are also being assisted to undergo specialised training.

(iv) Assistance is being provided in the creation of sports infrastructure, including laying of Synthetic Surfaces.

(v) With a view to further motivate the sports persons, Awards and Incentives are provided. The scale of Awards has been increased substantially.

- (vi) Department (other than the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) are also being persuaded to extend incentives to sports persons and to consider measures for the employment of sports persons/provision of loans from Banks etc.

Survey on Unemployment

4746. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding unemployment in the urban areas;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether the number of unemployed persons are increasing rapidly in the urban areas;

(d) if so, the details of unemployed persons in the country till December 1998, State-wise;

(e) whether International Labour Organisation has cautioned the Government against the danger of increasing unemployment;

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour have intimated the number of job seekers (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed), belonging to the urban areas and registered with the Employment Exchanges in various States and Union Territories as on 31.12.1999 as in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Labour have also reported that the number of job seekers from urban areas, which was of the order of 163.3 lakh in 1990, has gone up to 180.5 lakh at the end of December 1999. It is observed that the average annual increase in the number of job seekers from urban area was of the order of 1% during the period 1990-99. A statement indicating the number of job seekers belonging to urban areas on the live registers of the employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1999, is given in the statement enclosed.

(e) This Ministry has not received any such caution from the International Labour organisation.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Number of Job-Seekers Belonging to Urban Areas on the live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1999.

State/Union Territories	Number in Thousands
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	1327.2
2. Arunachal Pradesh	15.4
3. Assam	613.6
4. Bihar	1316.3
5. Goa	33.5
6. Gujarat	456.4
7. Haryana	303.2
8. Himachal Pradesh	113.4
9. Jammu & Kashmir	87.8
10. Kamataka	1071.5
11. Kerala	860.6
12. Madhya Pradesh	1255.6
13. Maharashtra	2164.9
14. Manipur	220.8
15. Meghalaya	24.7
16. Mizoram	80.5
17. Nagaland	28.3
18. Orissa	323.1
19. Punjab	262.0
20. Rajasthan	463.3
21. Sikkim*	
22. Tamil Nadu	2093.2
23. Tripura	150.0
24. Uttar Pradesh	1298.6
25. West Bengal	2504.4
Union Territories	
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	27.8

1	2
27. Chandigarh	92.8
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
29. Delhi	747.6
30. Daman & Diu	4.1
31. Lakshadweep	—
32. Pondicherry	106.8
Total	18047.5

Note:- * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State. Figures may not add to total due to rounding off.

[English]

HIV/AIDS Programmes

4747. DR. (COL. RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the theme of year 2000 World AIDS Day Campaign of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UN AIDS) is "AIDS men make a difference";

(b) if so, the reasons for the focus being on men; and

(c) the steps taken to end or reduce to a greater extent the gender discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been felt that actively engaging men as partners in the efforts against spread of HIV/AIDS is the surest way to change course of the epidemic because men's behaviour currently contributes substantially to the spread and impact of HIV/AIDS and also puts them on the front line of risk.

(c) Though the focus is on bringing about behavioural change in the men, the strategy through the World AIDS Campaign will be to promote understanding of the ways in which gender stereotypes and expectations affect women and men, and support work to enhance gender equality and equity.

Expenditure on Health

4748. SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial commitment of the Government to health care has been falling day by day;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the 55th Joint Annual, Conference of the Association of Physicians in India held in Jaipur during January 2000 has recommended to increase the *per capita* expenditure on health and nutrition in the country;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The percentage of outlays/expenditure on health and family welfare has remained more or less same over the various previous Plan periods. The percent of outlay for health and family welfare during the Ninth Five Year Plan shows an increase when compared to that of Eighth Five Year Plan.

A statement showing pattern of Plan investment on Health and Family Welfare during different plan periods in public sector—centre, States and UTs is attached.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Details are not available.

(e) Government has been making every efforts to augment the resources for the health and family welfare sectors by mobilising external assistance from various bilateral and multilateral agencies for supporting programmes for control of diseases such as Malaria, T.B., Leprosy, Blindness and AIDS. Secondary health facilities are also being upgraded in selected States with World Bank assistance. Substantial financial support has also been obtained for improving reproductive and child health.

Statement**Pattern of Investment on Health & Family Welfare for Different Plan Periods
in the Public Sector (Centre, States & UTs)**

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Period	Total Plan Investment (All Heads of Development)	Health		Family Welfare		Total (Health and Family Welfare)	
			Outlay/Expd.	% of 3	Outlay/Expd.	% of 3	Outlay/Expd.	% of 3
1.	1st Plan (Actuals) (1951-56)	1960.00	65.20	3.33	0.10	0.01	65.30	3.33
2.	2nd Plan (Actuals) (1956-61)	4672.00	140.80	3.01	5.00	0.11	145.80	3.12
3.	3rd Plan (Actuals) (1961-66)	8576.50	225.90	2.63	24.90	0.29	250.80	2.92
4.	Annual Plan (Actual) (1966-69)	6625.40	140.20	2.12	70.40	1.06	210.60	3.18
5.	4th Plan (Actuals) (1969-74)	15778.80	335.50	2.13	278.00	1.76	613.50	3.89
6.	5th Plan (Actuals) (1974-79)	39426.20	760.80	1.93	491.80	1.25	1252.60	3.18
7.	(1979-80) (Actuals)	12176.50	223.10	1.83	118.50	0.97	341.60	2.81
8.	6th Plan (Outlay) (1980-85)	97500.00	1821.20	1.87	1010.00	1.04	2831.00	2.90
	6th Plan (Actuals) (1980-85)	109291.7	2025.20	1.85	1387.00	1.27	3412.20	3.12
9.	7th Plan (Outlay) (1985-90)	180000.00	3392.90	1.88	3256.30	1.81	6649.20	3.69
	7th Plan (Actuals)	218729.60	3688.60	1.69	3120.80	1.43	6809.40	3.11
10.	(1990-91)-Actual	61518.10	960.90	1.58	784.90	1.28	1745.80	2.84
11.	(1991-92)-Actual	65855.80	1042.20	1.58	856.60	1.30	1898.80	2.88
12.	8th Plan Outlay (1992-97)	434100.00	7582.20	1.75	6500.00	1.50	14082.20	3.24
13.	9th Plan Outlay (1997-2000)	859200.00	19374.11	2.25	15120.20	1.76	34494.31	4.01

Source: F.R. Division, Planning Commission

**Additional Seats for Post-Graduate
Medical Colleges**

4749. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned additional seats for Post-Graduate Medical Colleges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) On the recommendations of Medical Council of India, the Central Govt. have been permitting additional seats in PG level courses in various medical colleges under the provision of IMC (Amendment) Act, 1993 and the Regulations made thereunder.

(b) As per information given by Medical Council of India, College-wise additional seats in Post-Graduate courses permitted after Amendment to IMC Act in 1993 are given in statement enclosed.

Statement

*List of Additional seats for post-graduate courses permitted
after amendment of IMC Act in 1993*

S. No.	Name of the College	Name of Speciality	Number of seats
1	2	3	4
1.	Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Instt., Chennai.	MD (Obst. & Gynae)	5
		MS (Ortho.)	3
2.	Arvind Eye Hospital Madurai	MS (Ophthalmology)	4
		D.O.	4
3.	National Instt. of Mental Health & Neuro-Sciences Banalgore.	MD (Psychiatry)	6
		DM (Neurology)	2
		M. Ch. (Neuro-Surgery)	2
4.	Regional Instt. of Medical Sciences, Imphal	MS (General Surgery)	2
5.	Stanley Medical College Chennai.	MD (Microbiology)	1
		MD (Anaesthesiology)	2
6.	Madurai Medical College Madurai	MD (Anaesthesiology)	2
7.	M.S. Ramaiah Medical College Bangalore.	MD (Paediatrics)	1
8.	Heopegowda Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bangalore	MD (Community Medicine)	1
		MD (General Medicine)	3
9.	Sanjay Gandhi P.G. Instt. of Medical Sciences, Lucknow	M. Ch. (Urology)	2
10.	G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi	M. Ch. (Neuro-Surgery)	3
11.	J.S.S. Medical College Mysore	MD (General Medicine)	2
		MS (General Surgery)	2
		MS (Orthopaedics)	3
		MD (Physiology)	1
		MD (Pathology)	2

1	2	3	4
		MD (Obst. & Gynae.)	2
		DGO	2
		D. Ortho.	6
		MD (Anaesthesiology)	2
		DA	4
		MD (Paediatrics)	2
		DCH	4
12.	Rajah Muthiah Medical College	MS (General Surgery)	5
		MS (Orthopaedics)	2
		MD (General Medicine)	4
		MD (Obst. & Gynae.)	3
		MD (Anaesthesiology)	1
		MD (Paediatrics)	1
13.	Post-Graduate Instt. of Medical Education & Research Calcutta.	M. Ch. (Neuro-Surgery)	2

Blood Banks

4750. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the blood banks in several hospitals and the Indian Red Cross Society are disposing off over 100 units of blood as waste due to their expiry date for use;

(b) if so, the quantum of such blood units disposed off during each of the last three years, hospital-wise;

(c) the reasons for not using the blood before the expiry date;

(d) the total units of blood collected by IRCS every year against the total requirement; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check this wastage of blood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Most blood banks in the country, including Indian Red Cross Society utilise blood/blood components within the expiry date. However, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has reported following units of blood disposed off during the last three years:

1997:- 70 expired out of 23,405 units

1998:- 79 expired out of 23,308 units

1999:- 42 expired out of 21,203 units

The reasons for not utilising blood units before the expiry date is mainly due to availability of some blood units of a specific blood group in excess of the demand at that particular period of time.

(d) Total units collected by Indian Red Cross Society is 40,000 units a year, approximately against a requirement of 3.5 lakh units (approx) for entire Delhi.

(e) The steps being taken by the Government to check this wastage are:

(i) Development of linkages between different blood banks in a city to avoid this type of wastage.

(ii) Strengthening and modernisation of blood banks in all districts of the country.

(iii) Establishment of more Blood Component Separation Units for the rational use of blood.

(iv) Comprehensive training programme of medical and professionals on the rational use of blood.

(v) Intensive education programme for recruitment of voluntary blood donors.

[*Translation*]

Vaccine for AIDS and Cancer

4751. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop a vaccine to tackle the increasing disease like cancer and AIDS in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) In respect of Cancer vaccine according to ICMR they are gathering molecular biology data responsible for H.pylori related stomach ulcer and papilloma virus responsible for cervix cancer. There is already vaccine available for Hepatitis B virus which is responsible for hepatocellular carcinoma. Presently no vaccine is available for Hepatitis C which is also responsible for hepatocellular carcinoma.

In respect of AIDS, the Institute like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Disease, Calcutta, National AIDS Research Institute, Pune and National Institute of Immunology have initiated HIV vaccine related basic research.

[*English*]

Scrapping of Indo-Oman Project

4752. SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take a long term view on the delayed one billion dollar urea project with Oman in the wake of low international urea prices and surplus stock in the country;

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

(c) the present status of the project; and

(d) the likely impact of scrapping of the said project on the domestic plants and the international agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (c) It has not been possible to take an early decision with regard to Indo-Oman Fertilizer Project on account of the need to restructure the project in the wake of the fall in international urea prices and the consequent stiff conditions imposed by the foreign lenders which were not acceptable to Indian Sponsors of the Project. The Project can be implemented only after the approval of the restructured project, which is under consideration of the Government of India.

(d) Since no such decision has been taken by the Government, the question does not arise.

Distance Education Commission

4753. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand to set up Distance Education Commission in view of global trends in distance and open learning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Quota for Handicapped in Central Universities

4754. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post reserved for physically handicapped persons for various categories in the Central Universities;

(b) whether the quota of such Persons has been filled up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Freedom Fighters Pension**

4755. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
 SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:
 SHRI SUBODH ROY:
 SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:
 SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for the freedom fighters pension during the last three years till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications approved/rejected out of them alongwith the number of cases lying pending till date, State-wise;

(c) whether many cases are lying pending due to the non-cooperation of the State Governments;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far for the immediate disposal of the said proposals by State Governments; and

(e) whether the Government are contemplating any specific scheme drive to dispose of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) A Statement containing the requisite information is enclosed.

(c) to (e) No case, complete in all respects and eligible for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension, duly verified and recommended by the State Government, is pending.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Applications received	Sanctioned	Rejected
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	175	42	133
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	549	34	515
5.	Goa	10	0	10
6.	Gujarat	46	1	45
7.	Haryana	15	3	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16	0	16
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	259	1	258
10.	Karnataka	151	2	149
11.	Kerala	539	40	499
12.	Madhya Pradesh	34	2	32
13.	Maharashtra	514	2	512
14.	Manipur	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	0	0	0
19.	Punjab	154	8	146
20.	Rajasthan	18	0	18
21.	Tamil Nadu	164	15	149
22.	Tripura	0	0	0
23.	Uttar Pradesh	120	3	117
24.	West Bengal	0	0	0
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
26.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
27.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
28.	NCT of Delhi	41	3	38
29.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
Total		2,805	156	2,649

[English]

Hepatitis 'B'

4756. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who died due to Hepatitis B virus during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether indigenously produced Hepatitis B vaccines are available at the cheaper rates;

(c) if so, the details of such vaccines produced in the country;

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider to include Hepatitis B vaccine in the National Immunisation

Programme as recommended by the World Health Organisation; and

(e) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The latest figures regarding the number of deaths due to viral Hepatitis (which include death due to Hepatitis B) are placed at statement-I.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of indigenously produced vaccines for which marketing approval has been given are placed statement-II.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Hepatitis B vaccinations are not covered under the Universal Immunization programme of the Government, in view of the large expenditure involved.

Statement-I

Viral hepatitis deaths during 1996-1999

Sl. No.	Name of State	1996	1997	1998	1999*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96	93	101	70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	NR	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	NR	—	—	—
5.	Goa	0	0	1	0
6.	Gujarat	63	44	30	5
7.	Haryana	18	17	10	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	9	4	2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	3	0	2
10.	Karnataka	36	61	72	8
11.	Kerala	12	6	17	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31	135	31	25
13.	Maharashtra	198	515	419	183
14.	Manipur	1	0	0	1
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	6	1
16.	Mizoram	1	1	2	3
17.	Nagaland	0	0	2	0
18.	Orissa	172	125	125	—
19.	Punjab	26	—	20	—
20.	Rajasthan	24	19	14	39
21.	Sikkim	NR	—	—	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	1	3	—	—
23.	Tripura	2	3	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12	10	25	31
25.	West Bengal	NR	—	—	—
26.	A & N Island	4	7	2	2
27.	Chandigarh	NR	1	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	2	6	3	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	93	38	—	22
31.	Lakshadweep	1	0	1	0
32.	Pondicherry	1	2	1	13
Total		801	1098	668	411

*upto June, 1999
Source: CBHI

Statement-II

Serial No.	Name of Firm	Brand Name	Dosage form	Price
1.	M/s Shanta Biotech, Hyderabad.	Shanvac-B	0.5 m. Inj.	Rs. 140.00
			1 ml. Ing. 10 ml. (multidose)	Rs. 190.00 Rs. 1800.00
2.	M/s Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad	Revac-B	0.5 mg. Ing.	Rs. 160.00
			1 ml. Inj. 10 ml. (multidose)	Rs. 230.00 Rs. 2100.00
3.	M/s Wockhardt Limited, Mumbai	Recently approved	—	—
4.	M/s Transgene Vaccine, Hyderabad	Recently approved	—	—

Research Activities in Medical Research Institutes/Centres

4757. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh policy/initiatives to encourage the research activities in Registered Private Medical Research Institutes/Centres:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names and number of Registered Private Research Institutes/Centres in Maharashtra and the financial assistance, incentives made available to them

during the last three years, year-wise and Institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The private medical Research Institutes/Centres can avail of research assistance to carry out their research programmes provided such centres or Institutes are recognised to receive such grants by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Indian Council of Medical Research have also been considering proposals for research including those from Private/Voluntary Medical Research Institutes/Centres. The details of Medical Research Projects funded in Maharashtra by the ICMR during the last three years are given in statement attached.

Statement*Indian Council of Medical Research Bioinformatics centre**List of projects in Maharashtra funded during last three years to non-Government agencies*

20-Apr-2000

S. No.	Project ID Start Date Enddate Status	Title	Name & Address of PI/Guide	Year-wise Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5
Mumbai				
1.	1996-02320 1-Mar-1999 28-Feb-2002 Ongoing	Role of Cytokines and Cytotoxic Cells in Inflammation and Tissue Damage in Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis in Comparison with adult Rheumatoid Arthritis	Dr. Sudha S. Deo Senior Scientific Officer Department of Immunology Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children and Institute of Child Health Research Society Acharya Donde Marg, Parel Mumbai-400012	1998-1999 98560 1999-2000 114800 Total 211160

1	2	3	4	5
2.	1995-02320 15-Nov-1996 14-Nov-1999 Completed	Development of Potent Uterine Relaxants for Better Management of Premature Labour	Dr. C.L. Viswanathan Assistant Professor Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry Bombay college of Pharmacy Santacruz East, Kauna Mumbai 400098	1997-1998 129800 1998-1999 64665 1999-2000 237260 Total 431745
3.	1981-04138 1-Sep-1981 31-Mar-2000 ongoing	National Cancer Registry- Population Based 74, Jeebai Wadia Road	Dr. M.R. Kamat Honorary Trustee Indian Cancer Society 74, Jeebai Wadia Road Parel Mumbai 400012	1997-1998 488000 1998-1999 477250 1999-2000 477250 Total 1442500
4.	1996-0235C 1-Sep-1997 31-Aug-2000 ongoing	Vasectomy and Cancer of Prostate. A multicentric Case Control Study under NCRP	Dr. M.R. Kamat Honorary Trustee Indian Cancer Society 74, Jeebai Wadia Road Parel Mumbai 400012	1997-1998 151160 Total 151160
5.	1994-0192B 1-Apr-1996 30-Sep-1998 Completed	A study of Reproductive Health Awareness and Sex Behaviour Amongst Adolescents	Dr. M.C. Watsa Chief Consultant Sexual Medicine and Family Planning Medikon Clinic "Surya" 79, Hill Road opposite Holy family Hospital Bandra Mumbai 400050	1997-1998 184760 1998-1999 44380 Total 229140
Pune				
6.	1987-0258B 1-Apr-1987 31-Mar-2000 ongoing	Human Reproduction Research Centre	Dr. K. Coyaji Professor Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology King Edward Memorial Hospital Research Centre Rasta Peth Sardar Moodliar Road Rasta Peth Pune 411011	1997-1998 506200 1998-1999 571630 1999-2000 734200 Total 1812030
7.	1992-0247D 1-Nov-1994 31-Mar-1998 Completed	Collaborative Study on Prevalence of RTVSTD (Hospital Based)	Dr. K. Coyaji Professor Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology King Edward Memorial Hospital Research Centre Rasta Peth Sardar Moodliar Road Rasta Peth Pune 411011	1997-1998 439830 Total 439830

1	2	3	4	5
8.	1993-0133N 1-Sep-1993 1-Aug-1999 Merged	Improving the Quality of Family Planning Services in The national Family Welfare Programme At the PHC Level Through the ICMR HRRCs	Dr. K. Coyaji Professor Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology King Edward Memorial Hospital Research Centre Rasta Peth Sardar Moodliar Road Rasta Peth Pune 411011	1997-1998 305520 1998-1999 129161 1999-2000 124620 Total 559301

Report of Mashelkar Committee

4758. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of Mashelkar Committee on Pharmaceutical Research and Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) The Pharmaceutical Research & Development Committee (PRDC) was constituted in March, 1999 to recommend measures to strengthen the research & development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in India and to identify the support required by Indian Pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic Research & Development. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. To achieve these objectives, the Committee has recommended, inter alia, the establishment of a Drug Development Promotion Foundation, to promote such R&D. For this purpose, it has recommended setting up of a fund called the 'Pharmaceutical R&D Support Fund' to be administered by the Drug Development Promotion Foundation. It has also suggested several fiscal and non-fiscal measures. The Government is generally supportive of the approach suggested by the Committee.

[Translation]

Dandakaranya Project

4759. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent annual-audit certificates pertaining to Dandakaranya Project for the period from 1985-86 to 1989-90 and also pertaining to the erstwhile eastern Pakistan from 1987 to 1988 and 1989 to 1990 to the Union Government;

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

(c) the time by which compensation to Government of Madhya Pradesh is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has already reimbursed an amount of Rs. 7,87,81,107 as against the total claim of Rs. 8,64,36,308 preferred by the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for the years 1985-86 to 1989-90 in respect of the Dandakaranya Project. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 3,28,92,661 has been reimbursed by the Government of India as against the total claim of Rs. 4,03,16,453 for the years 1987-88 to 1989-90 pertaining to other displaced persons from the erstwhile East Pakistan. Action is being taken to release the balance amount.

[English]

Entrance Examination for Medical and Dental Courses

4760. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments/Union Territories have represented to the Union Government to hold All India Entrance Examination for medical and dental courses in regional languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Pensions of Widows in CISF

4761. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pensions of the dependent widows of the personnel of Central Industrial Security Force have not been fixed on the basis of their husbands basic pay, as per the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not making their fixations till now; and

(c) the time by which the said cases are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Family Pension of widows including dependents of Central Industrial Security Force is fixed/re-fixed by the concerned authorities on the basis of orders issued by the Govt. in this regard from time to time. The orders of the Govt. for re-fixation of pension on the basis of the recommendations of the Vth Central pay Commission have already been circulated to all Heads of offices for expeditious compliance.

[English]

Special Drive for ILCS

4762. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has launched a special drive for Implementation of Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS) in the urban local bodies with the assistance of HUDCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to sanction ILCS stage II programme for the towns of Andhra Pradesh for which proposal is pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported to have launched Clean and Green Programme with a strategy to improve overall sanitation conditions in urban towns. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported to have decided to implement ILCS programme for construction of individual toilets for urban poor families in all urban towns in the State.

(c) Proposal to include 34 towns of Andhra Pradesh under ILCS Scheme was sent by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh out of which 24 towns were approved by this Ministry till 12.1.2000. A decision has been taken by this Ministry to sanction ILCS schemes in the remaining 10 towns in which schemes were previously sanctioned by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (M/o SJ&E). To implement this decision, modalities are being worked out with M/o SJ&E.

Corruption by officers of RCFL

4763. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received several complaints of corruption against some officers of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some complaints having vigilance angle have been received in the Department. Some of these have been examined and the matter closed as the allegations made were not substantiated. In one case of purchase of rock phosphate, departmental action has been initiated and in another case involving purchase of DAP, the matter has been referred to CBI for further investigation. One recent complaint alleging irregularities has been sent to RCF for comments. Action against those found guilty will be taken on the conclusion of the departmental proceedings and/or CBI investigation.

**Central Assistance for Terrorist
Affected Areas**

4764. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide Central Assistance for the development of roads in terrorist affected districts of Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has been providing funds for the development of roads in the State of Assam. However, there is no specific scheme for providing Central Assistance for the development of roads in terrorist affected districts of Assam as such.

Recognition of Alternative System of Medicine

4765. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have written letters to various Ministries of the Union Government suggesting them to include and recognise treatment of Alternative Systems of Medicine like Ayurveda, Homoeopathy and Unani and to introduce Yoga in offices for their employees;

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

(c) the response of the Ministries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Department have written letters to various Ministries of the Union Government to popularise Indian system of medicine in their Departments and public sector organisations viz. (i) Extending facilities for treatment under ISM&H. (ii) Growing medicinal plants. (iii) Projects involving women, panchayats and small-scale industries. (iv) To introduce Yoga. (v) To offer herbal tea etc.

(c) The responses received so far are encouraging.

Rehabilitation

4766. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Srilankan repatriates rehabilitated in Kerala;

(b) if so, the total number of families rehabilitated in the State;

(c) whether the Government have started Joint venture with Government of Kerala as, Rubber Plantation;

(d) the total amount of Government share on this venture/company;

(e) whether this Joint Venture Company is profitable;

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

(g) whether the Government would consider for giving employment opportunity for the sons and daughters of these employees born in India; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 700 families have been rehabilitated in the State.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rs. 133.42 lakhs.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The profit before tax during the financial year 1998-99 was Rs. 3,27,97,598.41.

(g) and (h) The children of the repatriates born in India cannot be considered as repatriates and, as such, jobs in the company cannot be reserved for them. However, such children are considered for employment in the company, subject to their eligibility and suitability, along with other candidates.

Traffic Problem

4767. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Police chief cracks whip on traffic troubles" appearing in the 'Times of India', dated April 4, 2000;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to discipline the traffic police and identify the corrupt officials;

(d) whether there is any proposal to introduce free way in the Capital on important roads like outer and inner ring roads; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news-item is based on the written directions recently given by the Commission of Police, Delhi in which he suggested certain measures to improve the management of traffic in Delhi.

(c) There already exists a well defined mechanism within Delhi Police to identify corrupt police personnel and take suitable action against them. In addition, there is a Public Relation and Grievances Cell in the Traffic Unit to inquire into the complaints of corruption etc. against traffic police personnel.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. These relate to introducing a signal free way on Ring Road from Azadpur to ITO and on Outer Ring Road from III, Delhi to Vishvesriya Setu.

Decongestion of Cities

4768. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to decongest some Metropolitan and major cities;

(b) if so, whether some model towns are proposed to be developed for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details of cities near which these model towns are proposed to be developed;

(d) whether the Planning Commission has not cleared the said proposal due to resource constraint;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to seek World Bank assistance for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) A scheme for New Township Development was posed to the Planning Commission for an allocation of Rs. 100 crores as seed money in the Ninth Plan. The scheme aims at developing 100 Model New Townships during the Ninth and Tenth Plans to decongest metropolitan/large cities and create satellite towns as engines of economic growth. The scheme has not been cleared by the Planning Commission due to paucity of funds. Therefore, at present no such scheme is in operation.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Financial assistance by UNESCO

4769. SHRI A. NAREDNRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of financial assistance provided by UNESCO for the development of children in Indian during the last three years;

(b) the details of programmes on which the amount is spent; and

(c) the agencies through which the amount has been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) According to the information furnished by UNESCO's New Delhi Office, the financial assistance provided by UNESCO for the development of children in India during the last three years (1997-1999) was Rs. 54,80,000/-.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating the details of programmes and the agencies through which the amount has been spent is attached.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Programme	Name of the agency
1	2	3
1.	Improving the Quality of life of Children among the Urban Disadvantaged Group through Education	CINI-ASHA, Calcutta
2.	Impact of Education in Improving the Quality of life of Disadvantaged Urban Groups in Calcutta and Howrah	DON-BOSCO, Calcutta

1	2	3
3.	Residential Camps for Adolescents with Disabilities	Lok Jumbh Parishad, Rajasthan
4.	State Policy on Incentive Schemes of Primary Schools & their Contribution to Girls' participation	NCERT, New Delhi
5.	International Institute for Special Needs Education	Government of India, MHRD, NCERT, New Delhi
6.	Promotion of Basic Education for Children with Special Needs	Govt. of India, New Delhi and UNESCO PROAP, Bangkok
7.	Inclusive School and Community Support Programme-Translation and Implementation of the Teacher Education Resource Pack	Spastics Society of Northern India, New Delhi
8.	The U.N. System Support for Community-based Primary Education called JANSHALA	Govt. of India, New Delhi
9.	Integrating HIV/AIDS Prevention in School Curriculum	PRAYAS, PRERANA, AHEAD, YAAR, HELP, NAZ FOUNDATION, REMEDIA TRUST
10.	Promoting Awareness about HIV/AIDS Prevention and Drug Abuse	UNESCO Clubs, INCCU
11.	Peer-based Approach to Adolescent Education for In-School and Out-of-School Youth in Madhya Pradesh	U.N. Agencies, NACO & NLM

[*Translation*]

Lottery Tickets

4770. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which lottery tickets are being sold in the country;

(b) the value of the lottery tickets sold in various States during each of the last three years alongwith the profit earned thereby; and

(c) the time by which a final decision to ban all types of lotteries is likely to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999, which seeks to prohibit the organisation, conduct and promotion of lotteries falling under entry 40 of List I—Union List of the

Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

[*English*]

Water Supply and Sewerage Projects

4771. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal in regard to the water supply and sewerage projects for Cuttack and Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status of the proposal;

(c) the areas likely to be benefited by these projects;

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared;

(e) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for seeking financial assistance from the World Bank in this regard; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to obtain assistance from the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa has submitted two different project proposals on sewerage schemes for Bhubaneswar and one waste water feasibility study proposal for Cuttack city. No proposal from the Government of Orissa has been received in

regard to the water supply for Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. Brief details of the schemes submitted their present status and the areas likely to be benefited are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) No proposal from Government of Orissa has been received for seeking financial assistance from the World Bank.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

C.P.H.E.E.O.

As on 18.4.2000

Status of water supply and Sanitation Projects for World Bank/Bilateral Assistance

S. No.	Name of the Project	Date of Receipt by CPHEEO	Estimated Cost in Rs crores	External Funding ING Agency	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa					
1.	Comprehensive sewerage Scheme for Bhubaneswar City.	April 1993	170.00	Finland Govt.	March 95 and a meeting held with the Representatives from Wapcos in March 95, State Govt. was asked to submit the revised project report incorporating the suggestions made by Ministry. Discussed with Officials from OWSSB on 25.7.96 State Agency was asked to modify and resubmit the report in the light of comments made. Final reminder sent on 24.4.98 with the deadline of 8.5.98. No reply received so far. The scheme has been prepared to cover the proposed development area of the city as planned for 2011 AD.
2.	Feasibility study of the waste water master plan for Cuttack	April 1994	1.75 million (AUS\$)	Australia	The Ministry Examined the proposal and communicated the observations on the prefeasibility study and draft TOR in June, 94. No reply received so far in regard to compliance of observations. CPHEEO reminded the State Govt. to submit reply latest by 31.3.95. No further reply received so far. In regard to funding of the feasibility

1	2	3	4	5	6
					study/Master Plan, the cost was proposed to be shared between the Donor agency for an amount of AUS \$ 1.50 Million and balance AUS \$ 0.25 Million by the State Govt. However, the State Govt. expressed their inability of bearing their share of AUS \$ 0.25 Million and requested GOI to consider the amount as grant to the State Govt. The proposal has been made to cover the entire Cuttack City.
3.	Project for Sewerage system to Bhubaneswar	July, 1997	48.97	SIDA	Examined, comments sent to State Govt. in 3/98 to revise the project in the light of comments made and resubmit the same through State Govt., reply still awaited. The scheme has been prepared for the proposed and existing Development of major area of the city for the year 2011 AD.

*[Translation]***Indian Education Service Cadre**

4772. SHRI MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create 'Indian Education Service' Cadre like other Cadres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education, 1986 as modified in 1992, envisages establishment of Indian Education Service as an All-India Service to bring a national perspective in management of education. The basic principles, functions and procedures of recruitment to this Service are to be decided in consultation with the State Governments. It has, however, not been possible to arrive at a consensus in this regard.

*[English]***Intensive care unit of AIIMS**

4773. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there Intensive Care Unit of AIIMS for neo-natal surgery has only six beds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the beds in ICU for neo-natal surgery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Neonatal Surgical speciality is highly technical and demanding especially with reference to trained manpower like Paediatric Surgeons, neonatologists, anaesthesiologists, radiologists, trained

nurses and other technical staff. It also requires specialised area of high care equipped with various sophisticated equipments. The Institute has recently renovated the existing Neonatal Surgical Intensive Care Unit and envisages to accommodate 10 surgical newborns, with various types of congenital malformations, within the same space limitation.

Hospitals in Delhi

4774. SHRI DILIPKMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite having received subsidies from the Government most of the Government aided/private and charitable hospitals in Delhi ignore the poor patients;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to cancel their registration;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (g) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi: has constituted a Committee to review the position.

Deficiency of Vitamin 'D'

4775. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "North Indians prone to Vitamin 'D' deficiency" as appearing in Indian Express dated March 31, 2000;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation in the country in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The scientific studies conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences have indicated prevalence of Vitamin D deficiency among normal subjects in North India due to poor direct sunlight exposure and skin pigmentation. However, this study is very limited in its coverage and cannot be treated as being representative of the entire population. Nutrition education is a routine activity carried out through the media as well as through the Government health network, wherein people are suitably sensitised on the importance of a balanced diet, including supplementation in the form of micronutrients/vitamins, where-ever required.

Grants to NGO's

4776. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Ministry of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the voluntary organizations running educational institutions in the tribal areas in the country; and

(b) the grants given to these NGO's during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) A list of NGO's alongwith the amount released during the last three years to run the educational complexes in tribal areas is at statement-I. and a list of NGOs alongwith the amount released during the last three years to run the Residential and Non-Residential School for STs is at statement-II.

Statement-I

List of NGOs to whom grant-in-aid released during the last three years under the scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas.

Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of the Organization	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Little Flower Society Ranzole Village Zaheerabad Distt. Medak	1,42,158	9,44,818	3,45,000
2.	Social Action for Social Development (SASD) Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar Hyderabad	—	9,18,000	1,20,000
3.	Constructive Workers & Development Society, Mahboob Nagar	—	86,000	1,94,000
4.	Samaskar Vijaywadsa	—	7,69,847	—
5.	Integrated Development Agency Nandigram, Krishna Distt	—	1,60,000	3,60,000
6.	Andhra Pradesh Tribal Welfare Ashram & Residential Education Institute Society, Hyderabad For 41 complexes.	—	92,25,000	—
7.	Jagurithi Educational & Community Development Society Hyderabad.	—	—	2,25,000
8.	Vennela Educational & Rural Development Society Hyderabad	—	—	1,89,000
9.	Social Integrated & Rural Development Society Panagal, Nalgonda	—	—	1,62,500
10.	Society for Health & Education Economic Development, Amberpet Hyderabad	—	—	1,62,500
11.	Chatainya Rural Development Association, Poddar, Cudapah	—	—	1,62,500
12.	SAM Society for Social Justice Rangareddy Distt. A.P.	—	—	1,62,500
13.	Priyadarshani Service Org. Narshimba Nagar Vishakhapatnam	—	—	1,62,500

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Chaitanya Educational & Rural Development Society, Cuddapah Distt	—	—	1,62,500
15.	Rural & Urban Progress Society Chintal Basti Hyderabad	—	—	1,62,500
16.	Sri Venkateswara Mahila Mandli, Guntur A.P.	—	—	56,500
17.	Santosh Educational Society Vidyanagar Karimnagar distt.	—	—	56,500
18.	Arundhati Educational Society North Lallaguda. Secunderabad	—	—	56,500
Assam				
19.	Vivekanand Kendra Vidyalaya Breezy Madovas, 104 Riverside Dibrugarh, Assam	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh				
20.	Ozu Welfare Association Pampunpara Distt	—	9,57,297	3,55,000
Bihar				
21.	Rajendra Instt. of Education And Social Welfare West Champaran Distt	6,87,940	3,72,900	2,02,500
22.	Tharhut Mahila Vikas Sanathan At PS Lawkaria, Via Narain pur, West Champaran Distt	—	—	—
23.	Vishwa Bandhu Ramavtar Jamina Madya Vidyalaya Halimpur Distt. Sitamarhi	4,59,000	—	2,61,000
24.	Taradevi Shiksha Samiti Gopalganj	—	1,40,000	—
25.	Naveen Bhartiya Partisthan Balaghat, Muzafarpur	4,59,000	—	—
26.	Mahila Mukti Wahini A-30, police colony Anisabad, Patna	4,59,000	—	—
Gujarat				
27.	Sh. Manilal Gangadas Patel Sarvodaya Kendra Palanpur Taluka Distt. Banaskantha	1,53,502	4,82,714	2,00,532

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Lok Niketan Ratanpur The Palampur Distt. Banaskantha	4,43,835	1,80,200	6,40,000
29.	Shree Sarvodaya Ashram Sanali, Distt. Banaskantha	2,69,150	3,85,000	2,25,000
30.	Gram Swaraj Sangh Distt. Kutch	1,89,870	3,30,900	5,31,992
31.	Shrimati Sushilaben Memorial Trust Distt. Kutch	3,16,484	3,63,604	—
Kerala				
32.	Kerala Sakshartha Samiti Rajdhani Building East Fort, Thiruvananthapuram	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh				
33.	Rural Development Service Society. Pushpa Social Cube Silvani, Distt. Raisen	3,48,300	—	6,64,000
34.	Prasad Ekla Samiti, Arjun Nagar, Raisen Distt.	4,59,000	—	4,56,000
35.	Dr. Ambedkar Sarvodaya Vikas Parishad, Shankar Nagar, Bhopal, Complex in Raisen Distt.	4,59,000	—	—
36.	Sh. Lav Shiksha Prasar Samitee, Distt. Raisen, Bhopal	4,59,000	—	—
37.	Gramin Seva Kendra, Mandlinathu Samoi Ranapur Zila, Distt. Jhabua	5,62,000	6,01,181	2,25,000
38.	Rajendra Ashram Trust Kathiwad, Distt. Jhabua	4,59,000	—	4,59,000 (NR)
39.	Bheel Seva Sangh Vill. Guha. Block Rawa Distt. Jhabua	—	—	3,35,720
40.	Deendryal Research Institute, Krishna Devi Barvasi Balika Vidhyalaya Majhgaon, Distt. Satna.	1,43,720	3,71,289	6,30,000

1	2	3	4	5
41.	Adraah Shiksha Samiti Bakiya Vil. Bakiga. Distt. Satna.	56,050	4,52,450	8,19,000
42.	Pandey Shiksha Samiti Bamarache, Distt. Satna	6,05,250	4,59,000 (NR)	—
43.	Savya Sanchi Cube for Urban & Rural Development, Distt. Sidhi.	2,80,567	10,44,174	—
44.	Shri Ramakrishna Vivekanand Sevashram Mai ki Baghia, Distt, Sahdol	2,89,037	—	3,99,600
45.	M.P. Adivasi Sevak Sangh AI/P.O. Jaisingh Nagri, Distt. Sahdol	4,59,000	—	—
46.	Mahakaushal Mahila Shiksha Samiti, Jabalpur Distt. Sahdol	—	4,59,000	1,02,000
47.	Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust. Kasturba Gram, Indore, Distt. Sahdol	—	1,38,553	79,636
48.	Vivekanand Instt. of Social Health & Social Welfare (VISHWAS) Narainpur, Distt. Bastar	4,59,581	3,68,926	2,79,990
49.	Mata Rukamani Seva Sanathan Gram PO Dinrapal, Distt. Bastar	—	—	—
50.	Pranami Adivasi Shiksha Samiti, Sirai Jagir Distt. Guna	—	—	—
51.	Bandhewal Shiksha Samiti Bhopal, M.P.	—	—	2,25,000
52.	Pramod Adivasi Vikas Prasid, Jabalpur, M.P.	—	—	1,89,000
53.	Pushpa Convent Shiksha Samiti, Bhopal	—	—	1,62,500
54.	Asha Deep Kalyan Samiti Sihora, Distt. Jabalpur	—	—	1,62,500
55.	Madhya Pradesh Adivasi Sevak Sangh, Amahia, Rewa M.P.	—	—	1,62,500
56.	Jagat Shiksha Avam Samaj Kalayan Samiti, Shivpuri, M.P.	—	—	1,62,500

1	2	3	4	5
57.	Aradhana Gramin Seva Samiti, Mattan Mohlla, Niwari, M.P.	—	—	1,62,500
58.	Shakti Swasthaya Avam Samaj Kalayan Samiti, Gwalior	—	—	1,62,500
59.	Shivam Social Development Society, Moorena. M.P.	—	—	2,62,500
60.	Adarsh Shiksha Samiti, Bakiya Complex at Hardua Kalan, Distt. Satna	—	—	56,500
61.	Annapurna Shiksha Samiti, Samerkhapa (Achli) Distt. Mandla, M.P.	—	—	52,900
62.	Richa Samaj Seva Evam Shiksha Prasar Samiti, Krishana Vihar, Gwalior	—	—	56,500
Maharashtra				
63.	Apang Mahila Mandal, Maya Nagar, MIDC Road Amaravati, Maya Nagar, Amaravati	4,59,000	—	—
64.	Apang Asso. Maya Nagar Amaravati, At/Vill. Malegaon, Distt. Nasik	—	4,59,000	—
65.	Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra, Dist. Thane	—	1,90,424	—
66.	Tantrik Prashikshan Sansthan Pawan Nagar Amarawati	—	1,44,000	3,36,000
67.	Jeevan Dhara Viyam Avam Krida Shikshan Prasarak Sansthan, Akola	—	57,500	—
68.	Swaitribai Phule Girls School, Distt. Akola	—	1,40,000	—
69.	Akhil Bhartiya Magasvargiya Samaj Prabhodan Sansthan, Distt. Thane Maharashtra	—	—	1,62,500
Orissa				
70.	Marr-Munning Ashram Jeypore, Distt. Koraput	—	4,24,302	3,62,500
71.	Naya Sahayak Samiti Koraput Distt.	4,36,877	3,67,000	3,90,000

1	2	3	4	5
72.	Jan Kalayan Samiti Bhubaneswar, Complex in Koraput.	5,37,500	4,39,500	3,90,000
73.	Bright Carrier Academy Jeypore, Diatt. Koraput	3,52,400	4,39,000	—
74.	Bioparignda Kestra Samiti Blopringnda, Distt. Koraput	6,71,300	6,13,450	1,35,982
75.	Liberatlon Education and Action for Devp., Koraput Distt.	2,21,000	4,18,848	3,45,000
76.	Sarvodaya Samiti Distt. Koraput	3,68,280	1,45,780	3,49,500
77.	Bana Bharti AVPO Distt. Koraput	—	—	—
78.	Seva Samaj, Distt. Rayagada	4,47,751	3,04,500	2,45,000
79.	Sarvants of India Society Distt. Rayagada	3,76,637	4,22,656	4,50,000
80.	Agargamee, Kashipur Distt. Rayagada	—	5,52,907	—
81.	Orgn. of Social Change & Rural Development (OSCARD), Bhubaneswar	3,15,000	3,72,200	—
82.	Inst. of Engineering & Management, Jaipur	3,56,650	6,10,000	—
83.	Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust. Cuttack	3,45,278	1,47,500	4,55,500
84.	Council of Cultural Growth and Cuttack	4,05,989	7,67,709	—
85.	Society for Nature Education Health (SNEH), Bhubaneswar	1,85,000	4,01,870	—
86.	Tagore Society for Rural Development, Bhubaneswar	—	4,95,611	—
87.	National Youth Service Action & Social Development Research Instt. (NYSASDRI) at Santhosara Distt. Dhenkanal	4,59,000	—	4,59,000 (NR) 3,80,000 (Rec)

1	2	3	4	5
88.	People's Orgn. for Welfare Employment & Rural Devp. (POWERD) AT/PO	4,59,000	4,59,000 (NR)	—
89.	Social Education for Environment & Development (SEED), Bhubaneswar, Complex at Malkangiri	—	95,000	1,95,000
90.	Arun Institute of Rural Affairs Kumool, Distt. Dhenkanal, Orissa	—	—	58,500
91.	Vanvasi Seva Parkalpa, At. Thuanul, P.O. Kenigume, Distt. Kalahandi, Orissa	—	—	1,58,000 (two complexes)
92.	Sri Ramkrishnan Ashram, Angul Distt. Orissa	—	—	56,500
Rajasthan				
93.	Rajasthan Bal Kalyan Samiti. Jhodol Distt. Udaipur	4,57,420	4,16,100	2,25,000
94.	Rajasthan Vanvasi Kalyan Parishad, Udaipur	—	—	—
95.	Jawhar Veedyapeeth, Kanod, Udaipur, Rajasthan	—	62,500	—
96.	Chetna Arogaya Mandir and Samaj Sewa Samiti Udaipur	3,50,644	8,75,352	—
97.	Catholic Diocessan Education Society of Udaipur Bhupalpura Udaipur	3,98,000	8,09,725	—
98.	Mahavir Jain Vidhyalaya Sansthan 143, Sec. 4 Hironamgiri, Udaipur	4,59,000	—	54,000
99.	Mewar Saririk Shiksha Samiti Distt. Udaipur	4,59,000	—	—
100.	Rajasthan Vidyapeeth Lok Shiksha Pratiethan, Udaipur	3,98,893	48,450	—
101.	Gyan Bharti Shiksha Vidyalaya Samiti Naya Bazar, Bundi	—	4,55,650	—
102.	Om Vidya Mandir Tonk	—	4,51,520	2,79,000

1	2	3	4	5
103.	St. Soldier Education Society Tonk Distt.	4,59,000	—	—
104.	Abhinav Shiksha Samiti Nav Abadi, Banaswara	3,75,952	1,61,642	2,67,000
105.	Study Cube Sanatha Ved Mandir, Custom Colony Banaswara	4,59,000	—	—
106.	Hadoli Adimjati Vikas Samiti P.O. Shri Ram Nagar, Kota	4,59,000	—	—
107.	New National Public School Samiti Ganesh Peepali. Wawai Madhopur	4,36,664	—	—
108.	Gramin Mahila Avam Bal Vikas Samiti, Gaon Sop. The. Nadoti, Distt. Swai Madhopur.	—	—	—
109.	Zila Yuva Meena Samaj Sansthan C-1 Vijay Singh Pothik Ngr. Bhilwara	4,21,069	44,100	70,470
Uttar Pradesh				
110.	Lohia Samaj Sewa Sansthan Pardhan, Mau.	—	4,59,000	—
111.	Hindu Muslim Ekta Kalyan Samiti Lal Kuaon Lucknow	—	4,59,000	—
112.	Nandani Bal Vikas Evam Gramin Gramodyog Sewa Samiti, Distt Gonda	—	4,59,000	1,26,000

Statement-II

List of NGOs which are getting the grant-in-aid for running Residential and Non Residential Schools for STs in the country.

Sl. No.	Name of the organization	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
1.	Centre for Rural Education & Dev. Society, D. No. 2-163-1, Chakalaveedi, Gorantla-512231 Anantapur	—	311487	—

1	2	3	4	5
2.	BABA's Organ. for Social Service MIG-19 APHB colony, Tadepallingudem, W.G. distt.	—	—	595643
3.	Rural Orgn. for Social Activity, Manthenaveri Palem, P.O.-Pithnavani, Palem, Mandala, Guntur.	293669	299385	575910
4.	Sahrudaya Stree Sewa Samaj D. No. 5-98-61/4, B. Ed. College Campus, Brodlepet-52202, Guntur.	—	144433	—
5.	Sharda Education Acadamy, Vinukonda-522647, Guntur	—	96210	—
6.	Divya Teja Education Society, Laxmi Nagar Langerhous, Golkonda, Hyderabad.	136442	313434	—
7.	Vani Niketan Mahila Mandali, Near Krishna Distt. Central Bank Ltd, Raithupet, Nandigama Krishna	—	—	296708
8.	CHRIST Rural Dev. & Edu. Society, Vill. Dalavayapalli, P.O. Kodidonda, Anantpur	—	284757	983881
9.	Society for Integrated Rural Improvement, 5/1640A, 4th Road, Ananthpur-515001	—	149483	928883
10.	Grama Abhyudaya, 6th Ward Kota Street Urvakonda, Anantpur	—	219375	1210392
11.	Human Resources Dev. Association D. No. 13-2-1, Kotla, Indu, Punganoor-517247, Chittoor	—	197367	586710
12.	A.P. Girijana Sevak Sangh Chandamapet, Nandigama-521185, Krishna	306945	935415	1010160
13.	Praja Abhudaya Seva Samiti, S-475, Greampet, Chittoor.	341550	388935	—
14.	Social Transformation and Rural Tech. LIG-H. No. 67/10, Phase III, K.P.H.P. colony, Kukatapally, Hyderabad, Rangareddy.	—	143008	1060920
15.	Vellama Weak Section Mahila Mandali, D. No. 7-175, Manthena, Varipalem, Pittalavanipalem, Guntur.	—	209932	165481

1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh				
16.	Centre for Buddhist Cultural Studies, Tawang Monastery, PO-Tawang Tawang.	—	466155	1054575
17.	Arunachal Pali Vidyapeeth P.O. Chowkham, Lohit	—	284355	1009620
18.	Seva Kendra, Borduria Khonsa, Khonsa	—	322110	—
19.	Buddhist Cultural Preservation Society Upper Gompa Road, Bomdilla, W. Kameng	—	141818	494144
20.	OJU Welfare Association, Naharlagun Naharlagun.	821070	1583685	755955
21.	R.K. Mission School (Narottam Nagar) Viveknagar, Along, Tirap.	4659610	5065250	2158495
22.	R.K. Mission (Along) Narottam Nagar, Tirap	—	—	3165275
Assam				
23.	Garo Welfare Rehabilitation Society	—	—	695918
Bihar				
24.	Adivasi Netik Uthan Sangha, Bardela, Rajdham, Purniya	—	—	190926
25.	Akhil Bhartiya Adivasi Vikas Parishad, Ratu, Ranchi.	357480	222064	—
26.	Bharat Sevaashram Sangh (Sonari) Sonari West, Jamshedpur.	563090	1955388	1776902
Himachal Pradesh				
27.	Rinchen Zangpo Society for Sipiti Dev. (Sipiti Dist.) Sipiti Bhavan, Tikkaasher Yol Cantt. Tah. Dharamshala, Jabgram Kangra.	—	177960	1504000
28.	Himalayan Buddhist Cultural Asso. P.B. No. 98, Manali.	—	—	13301
Jammu & Kashmir				
29.	Mohabodi International Meditation Centre PB No. 22 Leh-194101, Ladhak.	—	251791	—
30.	Lamdon Sociela Welfare Society, Leh Pin-194101. Ladhak.	—	308998	—

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Budhist Youth Association, Zanekar, P.O. Padum, Kargil	—	2483585	149985
32.	Lamdon Social Welfare Society Kargil Ladhak	117550	—	—
Karnataka				
33.	Swami Sarvadhramam Sharanlaya Tumkur	—	—	126178
34.	Vivekanand Girijana Kalayan Kendra B.R. Hills-571441, Yalandur Taluk Chamarajanagar	610527	1221132	573322
35.	Swami Vivekanad Youth Movement N. Bagur Post. H.D. Kote Taluk-571116, Mysore.	955256	1446369	1563567
36.	Sh. D. Devraj Urs. Educational Trust 174, LIG KHB colony, Pin-585401, Bidar	—	149310	—
Madhya Pradesh				
37.	Gram Chetana Seva Samiti, Moreana.	—	—	167203
38.	Sh. Lal Bahadur Shiksha Prasar Samiti Sagar.	—	—	166203
39.	Adivasi Vikas Samiti Jeoria, Mandla.	—	—	325170
40.	Lt. Jagannath Society Sagar.	—	—	166203
41.	Bandhewal Shiksha Samiti Bhopal.	—	—	751463
42.	M.P. Anusuchit Jati Janjati, Pichhda Varg Kalayan Sangh, Muni Nagar, Ujjain.	—	469245	801230
43.	Adarsh Shiksha Samiti, Gram-Hindoriya, Near Government Hospital, Damoh.	—	404235	1904611

1	2	3	4	5
44.	Saidhantik Shiksha Samiti, H. No. 111, Manegaon, Tah, Westland P.O. Champanagar, Jabalpur.	—	174987	281880
45.	Lovely Samaj Seva Shiksha Prasar Samiti, Sagar.	—	—	168203
46.	Suman Mahila Kalayan Shiksha Samiti, Bhatera Chowaki, Tah. Balaghat, Balaghat.	—	275292	—
47.	Rama Education and Welfare Society, Bhopal.	—	—	751239
Maharashtra				
48.	Servants of India Society, 846, Shivaji Nagar, Pune-411004, Pune	3158055	2099800	—
49.	Divya Jyoti Gramin & Sahari Vikash Seva Bhavi Sha Latur Udgir	—	278705	—
Manipur				
50.	Bunglug Area Welfare Association Building, Senapati.	—	153990	—
51.	Siamsinpanilp CPAITE Students Welfare Association SSPP Complex, Bungmul, Lamka	—	—	1476568
52.	Dr. Ambedkar School Planning & Dev. Society, Lamka, Misionveng Lamka, PO BOX-67 Churchandpur	—	269496	—
53.	Christian Grammia School Green Hills-795141 Tamenglong	—	152114	—
54.	United Rural Dev. Service Waba Ching Village Chendal	—	—	1476568
55.	Sumchivanam Youth Welfare Association Sangaikot, Churchandpur South Distt. Churchandpur	—	283005	—
56.	Integrated Rural Dev. & Educational Org. P.O. Wangbal 795138 Thoubal	182970	213480	519660

1	2	3	4	5
57.	Integrated Edu. Social Dev. Org. Khongman East Zone-1 Imphal	—	238860	581760
58.	Paite Student Welfare Asso. S.S.P.P. Complex Lamka Churchandpur	—	1714455	—
59.	Onnuri Mission Society, Kanglatongbi Manipur-795151 Kanglatongi	—	199125	—
60.	Anallon Christian Dev. Society, Nagram Stadium Rd. P.O. Box-47-795151 Imphal	—	337500	498060
61.	Typewriting & Rural Dev. Service A/4, P.O. Thoubal 795138 Thoubal	107118	467532	444186
62.	Integrated Tribal Upliftment Society, G-69, Type-III, Langol Housing Complex Lamphel, Imphal	—	496980	—
63.	Educational Un-Employed Youth Dev. Association Thoubal	—	—	174105
64.	North Eastern Boys Scout & Girls Guide Association, Mantripukhri Koirengel-795002 Imphal	—	196542	—
65.	Manipur Eastern Hills Peoples Dev. Society 99, Super Market Lamphel	—	841900	—
Meghalaya				
66.	R.K. Mission Ashram P.O. Cherrapunjee Distt. East Kashi Hill Cherra Bazar-793111	10984487	—	858319
Mizoram				
67.	Thutak Nunpuitute Team 'Zuangtui Calvary Hospital Aizwal	—	408060	575100

1	2	3	4	5
68.	Mizoram Hmeithei (Widows) Organization Republic Road.	291780	579712	—
Nagaland				
69.	Lazami Social Wel. Asso. Napali Basti P.O. Nepali Gaon Dimapur	—	357255	—
70.	Yermns Co-Opp. Society 98 uncan Basti Dimapur	—	159210	—
71.	Peize Club Padam Pukri Dimapur	—	458525	—
72.	Naga United Society 5th Mile N.H. Dimapur	—	173882	—
73.	Radiant Club Dimapur	—	—	298733
74.	Shen Women Society Duanar Vill. Dimapur.	—	—	254632
New Delhi				
75.	India International Rural Cultural Centre 24, Aravali Apartments New Delhi	224100	—	—
Orissa				
76.	Lazmi Narayan Harijan Adivasi Backward Dev. Society, Jaipur	130086	276370	—
77.	Harijan Adivasi Kanya Seveshram, 8-Jadumani Nagar P.O. Nayagarh.	—	588148	—
78.	Cuttack Zilla Harijan Adivasi Seva Sanskar Yojana At-CHHATA, Fakirabad Cuttack	—	3007690	575910
79.	Social Weaker Awareness Dev. & Evonomic Service, Contractorpada, Phulbari	—	248862	519660

1	2	3	4	5
80.	Association for Vol. Action At. Dimapur Berbol, Puri	—	439272	549360
81.	Harijan Sevak Sangh Bhanipur Baripada Mayurbhanj	—	—	410940
82.	Bhairabi Club Hadapada Khurda	—	339457	511560
83.	Nehru Seva Sangh P.O. Banpur Khurda	476550	691170	592380
84.	Arun Instt. for Rural Affairs Mahimagadi-759014 Dhenkanal	—	229590	540810
85.	Vishwa Jeevan Seva Sangh Khurda Bhanipur	—	326407	519660
86.	Orgn. for Rural Women & Youth Dev., Nalagaja Mayurbhanj	—	243432	498060
87.	Jana Kalyan Samiti Plt. No. 1550, Bhubaneswar	716850	358435	453385
88.	Kalinga Instt. of Indust. Tech., 1002/2478 IRC Village Bhubaneswar	750199	776763	587920
Tamil Nadu				
89.	Society for Rual Dev. Jamunamarathur P.O. Jawudhu Hills Tribal Bhawan, T.V. Malai	633960	316845	—
90.	South India SC/ST Welfare Asso. 369, Annasalai Saidapet Chennai	—	197015	—

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh				
91.	Saket Mahila Mandal Kalyan Samiti Mutthganj, Nawabganj Gonda	—	352425	567810
92.	Samkon Viklang Kalyan Samiti, Kanpur Road, Lucknow.	—	—	604875
93.	Grammen Mahila Silai Kadhai Bunai Kendra Mustafabad Gujarpur Azamgarh	—	301410	—
94.	Ashok Ashram Dehradun	275414	931833	544030
West Bengal				
95.	All India Federation of SC/ST & Minorities 90A/1B Suren Sarkar Road Calcutta	—	308603	575910
96.	Vanbasi Ashram Trust Wayanad	—	—	311010
97.	Society for Rural And Urban Development Kakdwip-VIII. 24, Paraganas	—	—	548280
98.	Gandhi Smarak Gram Seva Kendra 90-A/1B, Suren Sarkar Road Flt. No. D-1, Calcutta	—	308603	586710
99.	Vivekananda Child Wel. Home Kakdwip, 24, Paraganas	120149	238999	575910
100.	Bharat Sevashram Vill. Dokarr Midnapur	551009	277533	—
101.	Nikhil Bharat Banvasi Panchayat H.Q. Jhargram Midnapur	668009	2077515	—
102.	Birsa Munda Education Centre Kranti Jalpaigudi.	112095	248240	586370

Bond Issue Floated by HUDCO

4777. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of HUDCO during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) proposes to float a bond issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the purpose of floating such an issue; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be floated?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Govt. of India signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) setting out targets for each financial year. At the end of each year, performance of HUDCO is compared with the targets assigned. The MoU provides for quarterly review of performance. Current year's performance as of quarter ending 31.12.1999 is given below:-

		(Rs. in crore)	
		Annual Target As on 31.12.99	Achievement
1.	Loans Sanctions for housing & Urban Infrastructure Schemes	3030.00	4302.00
2.	Loans Releases Thereunder	2450.00	1114.00
3.	Loan Sanctions Under 2 Million Housing Programme	2610.00	236.00
4.	Loan Releases thereunder	1560.00	157.35

(c) to (e) The proposal to float bonds is under consideration.

Crime in Maharashtra

4778. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to tackle the organised crime syndicates and extremists the Maharashtra has sought financial assistance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of financial assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government for the purpose; and

(c) the extent to which Maharashtra police force is likely to be modernised as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The State Government of Maharashtra has forwarded a proposal in March, 2000 for allocation of funds to deal, inter alia, with crime syndicates and extremists. The State Government has conveyed that the requirement of funds would be to the tune of Rs. 352 crores per year over a period of 5 years (2000-2005). The break-up of the requirement of funds is given below:—

		(Rs. in crores)
(i)	Electronic Gadgets	96.70
(ii)	Mobility	99.86
(iii)	Training	150.00
(iv)	Computerisation	200.00
(v)	Strengthening of Infrastructure	200.00
(vi)	Weaponry and communication	1010.20
(vii)	Requirement of Mumbai city	4.25
Total		1761.01

During the Financial year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 568.82 lakhs was released to the Government of Maharashtra under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces. Besides, an amount of Rs. 196 lakhs was reimbursed to the State Government as Security Related Expenditure incurred on tackling the problem of left-wing extremism in the State.

Since 'Police' is a State subject as per the Constitution of India, it is primarily for the State Governments to modernise their police forces. The Central

Government however, supplements the efforts of the State Government in this regard.

Security of the Country

4779. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved its motto in tackling the terrorist activities by foreign nationals in the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which the same has been achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons for failure of the Government to provide security to the citizens in the country; and

(d) the action plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various measures and take concrete steps in this regard. Central Government has been assisting them in their efforts in this connection and regularly sensitising all the State Governments and concerned agencies regarding terrorist activities. Intelligence is shared on continuous basis and support is provided by way of financial assistance under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces. Central Government also provides para-military forces on need basis. In order to prevent infiltration, border fencing and flood lighting has been undertaken along stretches of Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders. ❦

Import of LNG

4780. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted a core group to explore the possibility of import of LNG for manufacturing of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a proposal for preparation of detailed feasibility Report for import of LNG is being processed by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation of India are likely to be in operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) Government had constituted a Core Group to explore the possibility of import of LNG for manufacture of fertilizers. The Core Group submitted its report to the Government in March 1999. The highlights of the project, as recommended by the Core Group are given below:-

(i) A 7 million tonne per annum LNG project, basically for fertiliser feedstock but could also serve complementary sectors like power, domestic gas etc., to be implemented in two phases.

(ii) It is proposed to implement the project as an integrated chain with overseas liquefaction plant, LNG tankers, a regasification terminal and the gas delivery system with pipelines and compressors.

(iii) The suggested location of the regasification terminal was Kishorprasad in Orissa.

(iv) The cost of the project has been estimated at Rs. 21832 crore and a completion schedule of seven-and-half years for both the phases.

Based on the recommendations of the Core Group, the proposal for preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report on the project at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crore to be funded by the Consortium of various companies is being processed by the Government.

(e) The revamp of Namrup unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) is already under implementation. The rehabilitation of the remaining units of HFC and various units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. would depend on the decision of the competent authority in the Government and the final sanction of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Killing by Ultras in Assam

4781. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed by the ultras during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the militant activities in Assam; and

(c) the assistance provided by the dependent of victims of the militant violence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Government has taken various steps to tackle the militant activities in Assam. These include, inter alia, deployment of Para-Military Forces and Army in the State; coordinated action by army, Para-military Forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations and declaration of the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. Regular review of the situation, both at State and Central Government level, is being made.

(e) An ex-gratia amount of Rs. 1 lakh is paid by the Government of Assam to the next of kin of civilians killed in terrorist violence.

[*Translation*]

Mobile Dispensaries

4782. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have the highest number of T.B. patients and the poor people are unable to buy medicines for this disease;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide medicines to the patients living in tribal, backward and remote areas;

(c) whether the Government also propose to make arrangements for the distribution of medicines through mobile dispensaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) India accounts for nearly one-third of global TB burden. It is estimated that 2.2 million TB cases occur every year.

Under National TB Control Programme, diagnosis and treatment facilities including supply of anti-TB drugs are provided free of cost to TB patients.

TB control activities are being strengthened with the implementation of the Revised National TB Control Programme. This already covers many tribal/backward and remote areas in various States. Under this Programme, to facilitate access to service delivery, norms are being relaxed in the tribal areas as follows:

- Providing for additional supervisory staff for 2-3 lakhs population against the established norm of 5 lakhs.
- Opening of one microscopy Centre per 50,000 population against the established norm on one lakh.
- Provision to reimburse the travel claims of patients and accompanying relatives for taking treatment at DOTS Centres.

(c) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Science and Technology to Rural Areas

4783. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any programmes to take Science and Technology to Rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have spent a large amounts for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the results obtained thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) Department of Science and Technology under its Science and Society programme have a focussed scheme for the Application of Science and Technology to rural areas. This programme aims at development and demonstration of appropriate and relevant technologies to improve the quality of life of the rural poor. The interventions are done through time bound projects pertaining to both farm and non-farm sector.

(c) and (d) The investment on these time bound projects are only marginal. As role of Department of

Science and Technology is only catalytic and confined to development of technology models, which are sustainable, large scale replications are not taken up. However, a number of such proven technologies which have already been developed and demonstrated are now being taken up by agencies like CAPART for replication.

[Translation]

Article 370

4784. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people not belonging to Jammu and Kashmir do not have the right to acquire property in the valley;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether certain political parties have demanded to abrogate article 370; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The right to acquire property in Jammu and Kashmir, is governed by pre-Constitution laws, which prohibits transfer of property to non permanent residents of the State and these laws have been given protection under article 35 (A) of the Constitution of India, as applicable to Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) and (d) Voices have been raised from time to time by different individuals organisations for the abrogation of article 370, however no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Residential Facilities in KVS

4785. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas having residential facilities, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide such facilities in more Vidyalayas during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (JAYSINGRAO

GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The following 10 Kendriya Vidyalayas have hostels attached to them

S. No.	KVs	Name of the State
1.	No. 1 Delhi Cantt.,	Delhi
2.	No. 1 Gwalior,	Madhya Pradesh
3.	Jhajjar,	Haryana
4.	Jawaharnagar,	Bihar
5.	Panchmarhi,	Madhya Pradesh
6.	VN, Nagpur,	Maharashtra
7.	Landsdowne,	Uttar Pradesh
8.	No. 2 Jalandhar Cantt.,	Punjab
9.	ASC Bangalore,	Karnataka
10.	VKV Ghaziabad,	Uttar Pradesh

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Street Vendors

4786. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police and other civic agencies have collected crores of rupees from the street vendors in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the street vendors from such exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as and when any individual official is found to have indulged in a corrupt practice, suitable action as per law is taken against him.

[Translation]

Development and Expansion of Elementary Education

4787. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI RAJO SINGH: .

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

(a) whether the Government of Bihar and submitted a proposal for implementation of scheme for the development and expansion of elementary education in the state;

(b) if so, the allocation made for this Scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) At present assistance for elementary education sector is provided to Bihar under District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), Operation Black Board (OBB), Non Formal Education (NFE), Teacher Education (TE) and Joint GOI-UN Project. No consolidated proposal for implementation of scheme for the development and expansion of elementary education in the state has been received so far.

[English]

Visit of Special Team to J&K

4788. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ministry suggests setting up offence along Jammu border" appearing in the Pioneer dated February 17, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the special team has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the recommendations made therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A two-member team from Ministry of Home Affairs visited Jammu in February, 2000, following two

consecutive bomb blasts. The team recommended that the International Border in the Jammu sector may be fenced on priority.

(e) The Union Government have recently taken a decision for adopting a multi-modal approach for erecting an obstacle system on the Jammu International Border to check infiltration and smuggling of weapons/explosives etc.

Surcharge on Medical formulations

4789. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has sent any proposal to the Finance Ministry for imposing surcharge on maximum retail price of all medical formulations to promote innovative research in pharma industry;

(b) if so, whether the retail price of pharmaceutical formulations could go up and affect the patients living below the poverty line;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to provide the adequate funds from other source;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide cheap and good quality medicines to the common man of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) No proposal for imposing surcharge on maximum retail price of all medical formulations has been sent to the Ministry of Finance.

(d) to (f) The Government has considered a proposal to provide funds to support R & D in the pharmaceutical Sector.

HIV Infection

4790. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent country-wide surveillance report of the National AIDS Control Organisation, there is a high prevalence of HIV infection,

and a very small percentage of people suffering from STD attend public medicare facilities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a study has been conducted to identify the problem, State-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to effectively fight the disease and spread thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) There is a wide regional variation in the prevalence level of HIV infection in the country. Except for the high prevalence states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Kamataka and Manipur, the prevalence of HIV in general population is still low. Presence of Sexually Transmitted Diseases facilitate the transmission of virus because of the ulcer or inflammation of the genital organs. It is a fact that in some STD clinics attendance is poor because of the stigma attached to such diseases and attitude of health care providers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Reports from all states have not been received so far.

(e) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main strategy consists of:

- Strengthening programme management capabilities at central and state level.
- Creation of awareness amongst high-risk behaviour groups and general public about HIV/AIDS.
- Control of Sexually Transmitted diseases.
- Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood through proper licensing of blood banks and encouraging voluntary blood donations.
- Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis; and
- Extending training in clinical management of HIV/AIDS cases.

Women Development and Empowerment Project

4791. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 342 on 30.11.99 and state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the centrally sponsored "Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project" to other States including the West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and allocations proposed to be made for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project is jointly assisted by International Development Agency and International Fund for Agricultural Development. The project is still at a preliminary stage at present and these agencies have not given any indication to extend the coverage of the Project to other States.

[Translation]

Transport System in Delhi

4792. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Delhi will die a dirty death' appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated December 31, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news-item draws attention towards the increasing number of vehicles on the roads and increasing level of pollution in the city of Delhi. The total registered vehicles in the capital as on 30.6.1988 were about 31 lakhs which have increased more than 100% in the last 10 years. The pollution level during 1991 was estimated

at about 2.49 lakh tonnes which is expected to increase to 4.35 lakhs tonnes during 2005 if no remedial measures are taken.

(c) With a view to improve the traffic situation in Delhi, a multi-modal Mass Rapid Transit System is proposed to be implemented in Delhi. The first phase of the project consisting of 55.3 kms. including 11 kms of underground railway is scheduled to be completed by March, 2005. Strengthening and augmentation of Ring Rail and its integration with the Delhi MRTS could also be considered.

The following actions have been/are being taken by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi to improve the vehicular traffic and to reduce the air pollution in Delhi:-

1. It has been decided to invite tenders for 3000 new CNG Air-Conditioned Deluxe and Semi-Deluxe buses in corporate and Co-operative sectors to strengthen Public Transport system.
2. 10 New CNG buses are being run by DTC, which has decided to place order for 100 such new buses. Two old buses of DTC have been converted on CNG as a pilot project and it has been decided to convert 100 such buses on CNG.
3. Ban has been imposed on plying of 15 years old and above commercial/transport w.e.f. 1.1.99 and all 15 years old and above commercial/transport vehicles have been phased out in Delhi.
4. Routes for inter-State carriage buses have been specified from three ISBTs with a view to reduce traffic congestion as well as vehicular pollution.
5. Ban has been imposed on the issue of permits and on the registration of new autos which generally pollute maximum.
6. All new commercial/transport vehicles are required to obtain Fitness Certificate at the time of registration and after two years of their registration every year which is granted by Vehicles Inspection Unit, Burari Office subject to their road-worthiness.
7. Only those four-wheeler petrol driven vehicles which are fitted with catalytic convertor are being registered on first sale basis in Delhi.
8. Regular checks are being conducted against vehicles which do not have Pollution Under Control Certificate as well as polluting vehicles and overloaded vehicles. During the period 1.4.99 to 31.1.2000 as many as 8951 overloaded Goods Carriages have been challaned, and as many as 30,492 vehicles without PUCC have been prosecuted and PUCC of 720 vehicles have been cancelled.
9. An Express way connecting four National Highways has been planned to obviate the entry of Inter-State Vehicles, which do not require to enter into Delhi.
10. 25 New Fly-overs have been planned for the next four years.
11. Two more inter-State Bus Terminals, one in South-West District at Dwarka and other in North District have been planned.
12. Efforts at creating public awareness about health hazards relating to vehicular pollution the responsibility of motorists in this regard and the punitive provisions for violation of the statutory norms through following activities:-
 - Release of advertisement in Newspapers.
 - Holding of seminars and street plays in association with NGOs.
 - Organising free pollution checking camps in association with the leading vehicle Manufacturers and Petrol Pump Dealers' Association.
13. As many as 410 private petrol pumps and workshops have been authorised to check the level of vehicular emissions of petrol diesel vehicles, tuning of polluting vehicles & issue of Pollution Under Control Certificates (PUCC) for petrol and diesel vehicles.
14. Supply of lead free petrol has started in Delhi.
15. Supply of Pre-mix 2-1 oil to autos and two wheelers has commenced in Delhi.
16. From 1st June, 1999 onwards only those private non-commercial vehicles (cars) which conform to EURO-I/India 2000 Emission Norms are being registered and no diesel taxi which does not conform to EURO-II/Modified India 2000 Emission Norms is being registered.

17. As a result of these above measures, there has been drop in lead emissions at traffic intersection from 49% in 1999 as compared to 1998 and 79% as compared to 1995. The Carbon monoxide level has also reduced by 22% as compared to 1998. Similarly, SPM (Suspended Particulate Matter) at traffic intersections has gone down to 418 micro grams per cubic meter (UG/m³) in 1999 from 426 ug/m³ in 1998 and 455 ug/m³ in 1995 though still remains alarmingly high. The nitrogen dioxide level has been also reduced to the extent of 3 to 7% during this period at different locations.

[English]

ELISA Test of HIV

4793. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ELISA test alone is the basis of HIV confirmation;

(b) whether the HIV confirmation reports of such Medical Colleges can be relied;

(c) if so, whether these Medical Colleges are authorised to announce the status of an AIDS victims, simply on the basis of this test; and

(d) if so, the number of cases noticed during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.I. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Three ELISA tests on different antigen preparations form the basis of HIV confirmation. However, in case of children under 18 months of age the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test is used for confirmation of diagnosis.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The medical colleges, where HIV testing facility exist and testing with 3 ELISA tests is conducted, are authorised to announce HIV status to the affected person after informed consent and pre test & Post test counseling.

(d) The number of HIV positive cases and AIDS cases reported to National AIDS Control Organization upto 31st March, 2000 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

National AIDS Control Programme, India

AIDS cases in India (Reported to NACo)

(As on 31st March, 2000)

S. No.	Name	AIDS Cases
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48
2.	Assam	67
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	A & N Islands	0
5.	Bihar	3
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	157
7.	Delhi	219
8.	Daman & Diu	1
9.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
10.	Goa	19
11.	Gujarat	137
12.	Haryana	1
13.	Himachal Pradesh	28
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
15.	Karnataka	282
16.	Kerala	106
17.	Lakshadweep	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	369
19.	Maharashtra	3405
20.	Orissa	16
21.	Nagaland	37
22.	Manipur	454
23.	Mizoram	12
24.	Meghalaya	8
25.	Pondicherry	141
26.	Punjab	100
27.	Rajasthan	115

1	2	3	1	2	3
28.	Sikkim	2	31.	Uttar Pradesh	234
29.	Tamilnadu	5231	32.	West Bengal	57
30.	Tripura	0	Total		11251

SERO-SURVEILLANCE FOR HIV INFECTION

Period of report up to: (31st March, 2000 Provisional)

S. No.	Name	Screened	Positive	Sero Positivity Rate per '000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74566	704	9.44
2.	Assam	17310	251	14.50
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	495	0	0.00
4.	A & N Islands	15452	129	8.35
5.	Bihar	10194	41	4.02
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	56906	266	4.67
7.	Delhi	335594	1545	4.60
8.	Daman & Diu	250	8	32.00
9.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	160	1	6.25
10.	Goa	74962	2642	35.24
11.	Gujarat	454372	1767	3.89
12.	Haryana	172406	661	3.83
13.	Himachal Pradesh	5953	133	22.34
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	8981	40	4.45
15.	Karnataka	417503	6067	14.53
16.	Kerala	44547	215	4.83
17.	Lakshadweep	1211	8	6.61
18.	Madhya Pradesh	112350	1052	9.36
19.	Maharashtra	445417	50925	114.33
20.	Orissa	93750	192	2.05
21.	Nagaland	9156	469	51.22
22.	Manipur	43435	7041	162.10

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Mizoram	44053	140	3.18
24.	Meghalaya	14250	60	4.21
25.	Pondicherry	92896	3479	37.45
26.	Punjab	1523	65	42.68
27.	Rajasthan	23197	573	24.70
28.	Sikkim	616	12	19.48
29.	Tamilnadu	768872	15394	20.02
30.	Tripura	5613	4	0.71
31.	Uttar Pradesh	123356	1572	12.74
32.	West Bengal	163991	649	3.96
Total		3633339	96105	26.45

[Translation]

Welfare of Mother and Child

4794. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any action plan for the health and welfare of mother and child in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount being spent on each mother and child in this regard;

(d) the contribution of domestic and foreign sources for this purpose during the last two years; and

(e) the amount likely to be spent in this regard in each State during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Reproductive and Child Health Programme is under implementation in all States of the country. The programmes aims at

improving the reproductive health of the people and reducing maternal, infant and child mortality. A number of interventions are being implemented under the programme for improving the health status of the mothers and children. These include antenatal and post-natal check up, improving safe delivery practices, prophylaxis and treatment of maternal anaemia, immunization against tetanus and promotion of birth spacing. Interventions being implemented for children include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of deaths due to diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections; new born care and prophylaxis against vitamin A deficiency, blindness and nutritional anaemia.

(c) to (e) It is not possible to give exactly the expenditure incurred on each mother and child in the country.

The RCH Programme has an approved outlay of Rs. 5112.53 crores during the Ninth Plan. Out of this Rs. 1362.53 crores comes from domestic sources and the rest from external sources, mainly from World Bank, European Commission, UNICEF, UNFPA, USAID and other bilateral donors. Details of likely financial assistance (cash and kind) for each State during the two remaining years of the 9th Five-Year Plan are given at in the statement enclosed.

Statement**Reproductive and Child Health Programme**

Estimated amount of Assistance (kind and cash) during the last two years of the programme)

(Rs. in crores)

States/UTs	Amount
1	2
1. Arunachal Pradesh	25.17
2. Andhra Pradesh	98.00
3. Assam	51.91
4. Bihar	200.24
5. Goa	5.96
6. Gujarat	67.81
7. Haryana	58.49
8. Himachal Pradesh	36.15
9. Jammu & Kashmir	38.00
10. Karnataka	84.76
11. Kerala	52.18
12. Madhya Pradesh	162.63
13. Maharashtra	115.48
14. Manipur	30.60
15. Meghalaya	14.57
16. Mizoram	22.25
17. Nagaland	24.47
18. Orissa	94.30
19. Punjab	41.85
20. Rajasthan	130.85
21. Sikkim	10.59
22. Tamil Nadu	81.58
23. Tripura	20.26
24. Uttar Pradesh	300.37
25. West Bengal	101.71
26. A & N Island	4.24

1	2
27. Chandigarh	2.31
28. D & N Haveli	2.55
29. Daman & Diu	4.24
30. Delhi	11.59
31. Lakshadweep	2.65
32. Pondicherry	8.34
Total	1908.10

*[English]***Allocation of funds to National Book Trust**

4795. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to National Book Trust for the publication works during the current year;

(b) the details of publications brought out by the Trust in Tamil and other regional languages;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to start a regional office, of National Book Trust at Chennai to look after the publications in Tamil;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure speedy work in bringing of books in Tamil or Tamil works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) An amount of Rs. 185 lakh has been earmarked by the National Book Trust, India (NBT) for publication of books and related expenditure during the current financial year.

(b) The number of books brought out by the NBT in Tamil and other regional languages during the five years from 1994-95 to 1998-99 are as under:

Assamiya	162
Bangla	184
Gujarati	189
Kannada	317

Malayalam	103
Marathi	189
Oriya	88
Punjabi	117
Tamil	93
Telugu	70
Urdu	78
Kashmiri	02
Konkani	19
Manipuri	11
Nepali	12

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal to start regional office of NBT at Chennai. The Southern Regional Office of NBT at Bangalore takes care of sales and marketing of NBT publications in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry.

(e) Tamil is one of the nineteen languages in which books are regularly published by the NBT. Maximum possible number of books are brought out in each language every year taking into account the funds available, sale prospects and other factors.

[Translation]

Installation of Additional water Tanks

4796. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the additional water tanks have been installed by the CPWD in the Government quarters in the Capital by charging ten percent of the actual expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether no arrangements have been made to clean the tanks since installation as a result of which residents are forced to sue polluted and contaminated water;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Water tanks are cleaned at least once in six months or earlier in the event of any complaint.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 1976

4797. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "FCRA Citizens Charter modified" appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated 10.3.2000;

(b) if so, the factual position in this regard;

(c) the amendments made in the FCRA;

(d) whether this is likely to hamper the foreign contribution; and

(e) if so, the details in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item is essentially based on the press briefing by the official spokesperson of the Ministry of Home Affairs in respect of the contents of the Citizens' Charter on the receipt of foreign contribution drawn up by this Ministry, the revision of the forms for applying for grant of registration or prior permission to receive foreign contribution and information in respect of the major donor countries recipient states and purpose-wise utilisation of foreign contribution.

(c) No amendment has been made to the Foreign contribution (Regulation) act, 1976. Only the forms meant for applying for registration or grant of prior permission to receive foreign contribution prescribed in the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 1976, have been modified through the insertion of the format of a certificate for the verification of the antecedents of the applicants from any concerned:

(i) Collector of District.

(ii) Department of the State Government.

(iii) Ministry of Department of the Government of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Mobile Health Units

4798. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Mobile Health Units in the country,

(b) if so, the allocation made to the State Governments for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of states operating this scheme; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to expand this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to expand Mobile Health Units in the country with special reference to National T.B. Control Programme and National Leprosy Eradication Programme of this Ministry. However, Mobile Health Units have been provided for 77 moderate and 176 low endemic districts in the country.

(d) The National Population Policy 2000 identified under-served segments of the population for more focussed attention. In this context, it is specifically stated that Mobile Clinics will be provided for tribal and displaced migrant and hill population, so as to provide some degree of regular coverage and outreach to these segments of the population.

Global Institute of Science and Technology

4799. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

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

(a) whether a group of IT entrepreneurs in India and US have drawn up plans to set up a Global Institute of Science and Technology in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost involved in the project;

(c) whether the founding members of the group propose to focus on setting up world class research technology centres in the field of bio-technology, IT and internet;

(d) if so, whether the University of California has already tied up with GIST to provide faculty and research support; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A group of IT entrepreneurs in India and US propose to set up a Global Institute of Science and Technology (GIST) in India. The main objectives of GIST are stated to motivate students to the excitement of discovery and make GIST one of the premier institutes of S&T in the world, exploiting the value of India's human talent by providing access to teaching and research conducted by renowned international faculty, world class equipment and facilities and significant funding to maintain ongoing excellence.

The cost estimates are not available. However, the proposers plan to raise a \$ 1 billion endowment. The founding members of the group propose to focus on IT, e-commerce, materials, engineering science, life sciences, etc.

(d) and (e) According to the proposers of GIST, the University of California, Berkeley, has expressed an interest in affiliating with GIST.

Modernisation of Para-Military Forces

4800. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reorient the training process and modernise the para-military forces in the country to tackle the changing internal security scenario; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Modernisation of the Central Para Military Forces is a continuous process and necessary steps are taken from time to time in tune with the prevailing Internal Security situation in the country.

In order to upgrade the training of CPMFs, training modules have been revised after a comprehensive review. The new modules lay more emphasis on physical training/tactics/weapon training, field craft, etc.

[Translation]

Official Secret Act

4801. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Official Secret Act is also needed to be amended to facilitate the passing of the legislation regarding right to information to all;

(b) whether the Government have decided to pass the said legislation during the current session; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Bill on Freedom of Information has been drafted after taking into consideration all relevant aspects pertaining to existing laws. The draft Bill is presently under examination for introduction in Parliament.

[English]

Label of Genetically Modified Food

4802. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand to label the genetically modified food and food products so as to determine the contents; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, world over there is a general view to have labelling of food and food

products derived from the genetically modified crops taking note of consumer's interest. Government is also considering this issue; a policy paper has been prepared from the view point of labelling and also bio-safety issues as per the Environment (Protection) Act as and when the genetically modified food and food products are available for commercial utilization.

Himalayan Institute of Mountaineering and Adventures Sports

4803. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Himalayan Institute of Mountaineering and Adventures Sports is facing financial and manpower crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total assistance provided against the demand to the said institute during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate assistance for the smooth functioning of the said institute?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) This Department is not aware of an institute having the name "Himalayan Institute of Mountaineering and Adventures Sports". However, there is an Institute with the name "Himalayan Mountaineering Institute", located at Darjeeling in West Bengal. This Department has no information that the institute is facing any financial and manpower crisis:

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of West Bengal, Ministry of Defence, Government of India and Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India provide financial assistance to this Institute. Figures for the last three years are as follows:

Years	Govt. of India		Govt. of West Bengal
	M/o Defence	Deptt. of YA&S	
1997-98	Rs. 78,85,000	Rs. 31,83,443	Rs. 80,00,000
1998-99	Rs. 97,50,000	Rs. 36,10,000	Rs. 90,00,000
1999-2000	Rs. 69,65,000	Rs. 44,25,884	Rs. 1,28,00,000

Mega Fertilizer Projects

4804. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to shelve two mega fertilizer projects recently despite the fact that these were approved last year;

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

(c) whether Public Investment Board has raised objection in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of urea projects under consideration of the Government for 2000-01?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) Following four urea projects in the Public/Cooperative sector to be set up within the country were accorded 'in principle' approval by the Government in April, 1999, subject to investment appraisal by Public Investment Board (PIB).

- (i) Expansion of Hazira plant of KRIBHCO in Gujarat.
- (ii) A new urea plant to be set up by KRIBHCO at the existing site of FCI's Gorakhpur Plant in Uttar Pradesh.
- (iii) Expansion of Thal Plant of RCF in Maharashtra.
- (iv) A grassroots urea plant to be set up by IFFCO at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

Investment appraisal of these projects was undertaken by the PIB in July, 1999. The observations of the PIB relate inter-alia to the need to stagger implementation of these projects due to demand supply gap forecast; as also the desirability of encouraging use of LNG as feedstock for future urea capacity additions in the country to reduce the incidence of subsidy. Action for obtaining the Government's decision with regard to the four projects on the basis of PIB's observations has been initiated. The Government have also decided not to encourage new capacities for production of urea in the country till the year 2003-04, over and above the aforementioned four urea projects, on account of the near self-sufficiency achieved in production of urea and also on the

assessment of the demand supply scenario till the year 2003-04.

Grants to Universities

4805. SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:

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

(a) the grants and funds released by U.G.C. to various universities during the last three years till date, year-wise and university-wise;

(b) whether some cases of misutilisatin of funds/grants by the Universities have come to the notice of the U.G.C. during the said period;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by U.G.C. against them; and

(e) the number of colleges blacklisted by UGC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Stadium in Karnataka

4806. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Karnataka for providing central assistance for the construction of stadium in the State during the last four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds provided to the Government of Karnataka for the purpose during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken to release the fund by the Government?

THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. During the last four years i.e. 1996-97 to 1999-2000, 18 proposals for construction of stadia in Karnataka were received. Out of these, three proposals, i.e. Indoor Stadium at Field Marshall K.M. Cariappa Auditorium Trust, Kodagu; Outdoor Stadium at Mandya; and Indoor Stadium at Mangalore, were found viable and approved with Central assistance of Rs. 52.50 lakh, Rs. 18.00 lakh and Rs. 90.00 lakh respectively.

[Translation]

Land Scandals

4807. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bhu-mafia police ke liye pareshani ke sabab bane" appearing in 'The Navbharat Times' dated January 27, 2000;

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

(c) whether land scandals regarding the disputed-plots have increased in an unprecedented way in National Capital Territory of Delhi particularly in trans-Yamuna area;

(d) if so, the annual number of such cases noticed and disposed of during each of the last three years alongwith the number of cases lying pending in this regard;

(e) the effective policy proposed to be chalked out for the purpose specially with the focus deal with the land-mafia;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up a separate cell to resolve the cases of disputed plots;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Activities of Placement Firms

4808. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Placement firm dupes 60 youngsters of lakhs" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated December 19, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of firms and placement companies which are reported to have duped the employment seekers, especially foreign assignment seekers, including the cases of export of job seekers on fake documents in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to enact any law in order to take action against such firms and to monitor their activities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken to effectively tackle the menace involving duping of job-seeking youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A placement agency which operated under the name and style of Victoria hospitality from Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi is alleged to have duped several persons of lakhs of rupees on the promise of arranging jobs for them in foreign countries. Delhi Police have registered a criminal case against the owner of the said agency on the basis of complaint made by one of the alleged victims.

(c) The requisite information in respect of National Capital territory of Delhi is given in the attached statement.

In so far as Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are concerned "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects as per the Constitution of India, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is essentially the responsibility of the State Governments concerned.

(d) and (f) The existing provisions of law are sufficient to take suitable action in such cases.

(g) The steps taken to curb such fraudulent activities include immediate initiation of legal action by Delhi Police against such firms/companies on receipt of specific

complaint; checking up the authenticity and keeping a watch on the working of such placement companies; and setting up of a special Economic Offences Wing under Crime Branch for speedy and effective investigation of such cases.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of firms/company	No. of cases registered year-wise		
		1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shruti Enterprises, 3530 Darba Pan Phar Ganj..	—	—	2
2.	Phonnix airlines, Sadar Delhi Cantt. M-44/V Farida Bad.	1	—	—
3.	Victoria Hospitality Consultants, A-305 Ansal Chamber-I, Bhikagi Cama Place.	—	—	1
4.	Nirupama Placement Agency, 105, Pal Mohan Sadan, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi.	1	—	—
5.	Travel world Travels, Flat No.1/3 East Patel Nagar New Delhi.	1	—	—
6.	Aakarshk Finance Leasing Company, J-9/36 Rajouri Garden, New Delhi.	—	1	9
7.	Relaxo Comp. Industry 2/7 Tilak Nagar, New Delhi.	1	—	—
8.	Naveen Airtravels & Raw Airways pvt. Ltd., A-3 Community complex Janakpuri.	—	—	11
9.	Crown Associate, 13 Shiv Puri, Patpar Ganj, Delhi.	—	—	1
10.	T.L.S. travelling, E-16/410 Sec. 8, Rohini.	—	1	—
11.	Travel agency run by Sh. Tarshem Bansal r/o D-15 Prithvi Raj Adrash Nagar.	—	—	1
12.	Travel Agency run by Kumar Bhushan Sethi, 6 Surya Mension, Hauz Khas.	—	—	1
13.	Metro travel agency, Udai Chand Marg, K.M. Pur, Delhi.	1	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Zap Tours & travels 102 GK House Sant Nagar, East of Kailash	1	—	—
15.	Dulject-Nikhi Enterprises, 110-B pocket A-3 Mayur Vihar Phase-III, Delhi.	—	—	1
16.	Travel Agency, F-9, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi.	—	—	1
17.	Avtar Singh & Co. 98 A Usha Kiran Building Azad Pur.	1	—	—
18.	M/s Sipra Tour & Travels C-24, Suwami Nagar, Hauz Khas	1	—	—
19.	M/s Stepping Stores, B-5/22 Azad Appt. Hauz Khas	1	—	—
20.	M/s Beeflon Engineers B-25 Mayfair Garden, Hauz Khas	1	—	—
21.	M/s Daver Industrial Corp. 1449/28 Durga Puri Shadhara, Delhi.	1	—	—
22.	M/s Heero India Regd. 1/10 Shivalik House, Karampura	1	—	—
23.	Surender Kr. Bagga, Travel Agent, 103 Janak Complex Janak Puri.	—	—	1
24.	Raja Singh, Travel Agent 1674 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road	—	—	1
25.	Trilochan Singh, D-245 Vinod Puri Vijay Enclave, Delhi-45	—	—	1
26.	Jimmy Majnuka Tila, Travel agent, Civil Lines, Delhi.	—	—	1
27.	Gemini Globles, Placement Service F/A/36 Shivaji Enclave Rajori Garden.	—	—	4
28.	Heero Honda Management, B-52 Amar Colony Lajpat Nagar.	—	—	1
29.	Sharajuddin Travel Agent	1	—	—
30.	Golf International BE-91 Gali No. 10 Shashi Garden, Delhi.	1	—	—
Total		14	2	37

12.00 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's Address is listed at S.No. 12 in today's List of Business. Nine hours and 53 minutes have already been spent on it. As recommended by Business Advisory Committee on April 18, 2000, if the House agrees, hon. Leader of Opposition may speak after Papers are laid on the Table and hon. Prime Minister may reply to the discussion immediately thereafter. Statement by Minister listed at S. No. 9 and Matters under Rule 377 may be taken up thereafter.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nagaland University, Kohima, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Statement regarding review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nagaland University, Kohima, for the year 1996-97.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1685/2000)
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Napaam, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tezpur University, Napaam, for the year 1998-99.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (3) above.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1686/2000)
- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1687/2000)
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (7) above.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1688/2000)
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, for the year 1998-99.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1689/2000)
- (11) (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 1998-99 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 1998-99.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1690/2000)

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1998-99.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1691/2000)

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Rourkela, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Rourkela, for the year 1998-99.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1692/2000)

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Malaviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Malaviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur, for the year 1998-99.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1693/2000)

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1694/2000)

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (NR), Kanpur, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (NR), Kanpur, for the year 1997-98.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1695/2000)

- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Chennai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Chennai, for the year 1998-99.

- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1696/2000)

- (25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

- (26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1697/2000)

- (27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chennai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chennai, for the year 1998-99.

- (28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1698/2000)

- (29) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers, Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (30) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (29) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1699/2000)

- (31) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99.

- (32) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1700/2000)

- (33) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Practical Training, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (34) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (33) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1701/2000)

- (35) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology Longowal, for the year 1998-99.

- (36) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (35) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1702/2000)

12.01½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Second and Third Reports

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings:

- (1) Second Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fourth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on "Senior Level Posts in Public Undertakings—Appointment and Related Matters."
- (2) Third Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in their Fifth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on "Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited Dehradun Unit."

12.00 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
STATEMENT REGARDING ACTION TAKEN**

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of Chapter V of Forty-fourth Action Taken Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Indian Airlines Under Utilisation of Fleet, Idle wages to flying crew, Avoidable payment on leased Aircraft, Wasteful expenditure on training of pilots and Delay in Commissioning of Jet Engine Shop.
- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of Chapter V of Fifth Action Taken Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Steel Authority of India Limited—Bhilai Steel Plant.

Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of Chapter V of Sixth Action Taken Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on ITI Limited.

12.02¹/₂ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Reports

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance:

- (1) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation;
- (2) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Planning;

- (3) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs and Expenditure); and Seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue).

12.03 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS**

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Reports

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals:—

- (1) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
- (2) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers (Deptt. of Chemicals & Petro-Chemicals).
- (3) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers (Deptt. of Fertilisers).

12.03¹/₂ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR
AND WELFARE**

Third, Fourth and Fifth Reports

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirs): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour & Welfare:—

- (1) Third Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Labour.
- (2) Fourth Report on Demands of Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (3) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Ninety-Third, Ninety-Fourth, Ninety-Fifth and Ninety-Sixth Reports

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:

- (1) Ninety-Third Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy (Ministry of Human Resource Development);
- (2) Ninety-Fourth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development);
- (3) Ninety-Fifth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Department of Women and Child Development (Ministry of Human Resource Development); and
- (4) Ninety-Sixth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports (Ministry of Culture, Youth Affairs and Sports).

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, what about the statement by the hon. Minister regarding the copra price policy?

MR. SPEAKER: It will be taken up later, not now.

12.05 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*contd.*

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to join the hon. Members who have spoken earlier in expressing my thanks to the hon. President for his gracious speech addressed to the Joint Sitting of the two Houses.

It is, however, a matter of regret that the Government should have drafted for the hon. President a speech so lacking in vision, in commitment and in consistency and revealing no appreciation of the grave challenges which are facing our nation.

[Translation]

ONE HON'BLE MEMBER: You speak in Hindi.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI: I will try next time.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): You continue in English. We would like to hear you....(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI: This speech, it seems to me, is designed only to cover up for the many sins of commission and omission committed by this Government ever since it has come to power. But luckily for us and luckily for our nation, our people are aware and our people are alert to the disturbing reality of contradiction which characterises this Government.

The single most important duty devolving on a Prime Minister is the safeguarding of our nation. The quintessence of India's culture and of India's civilisation is our secularism. Secularism is what has defined us for a millennium. Secularism is the bedrock of our nation. That secularism has been under repeated assault and attack over the last two years by the 'Sangh Parivar', which constitutes the bedrock of the BJP Government.

The Prime Minister, I do admit, has from time to time attempted to deflect this assault. But I must add, the Prime Minister has done so not out of deep conviction but he has done so out of compulsion to protect the very fragile coalition that he heads and that too after very long, very prolonged and aggravating delays and under intense pressure not only from the Opposition but some of his own coalition partners.

Our quarrel, I would like to point out is not with the stance on secularism of the National Agenda for Governance. Our quarrel is with the not-so-hidden agenda of those to whom the largest single component of the NDA has pledged its first loyalty. I wish to assure this House and the country through this House that the Congress will be unrelenting in its century-old struggle to preserve the secular traditions of our great nation we will stand upto all forces—overt or covert which are engaged in subverting the most essential principle of our nationhood. We are prepared to do so in concert with all sections of the House who believe that secularism is much more important than the passing glories of ministerial office.

[Smt. Sonia Gandhi]

So with economic policy, we share the concerns of the Opposition as well as some of the NDA coalition partners over the anti-people policies which this Government is pursuing. There is no weakening, I can assure you, on our will for reforms as alleged by the hon. Minister of Finance and others.

But it is the collapse of growth levels to under six per cent as opposed to nearly eight per cent growth attained when the Congress Government demitted Office in 1996, which is, for us, the real issue. It is the alarming weakening of the Government policies in regard to the poor, which is, for us, the real issue.

The burden and pain caused by the changes necessitated by reforms must not and cannot be allowed to fall on the shoulders of the poor or the deprived only. The burden that they carry—we all know—is much too heavy already and in the last year, it is they who have suffered the most.

Agriculture, which is the single most important determinant of India's prosperity, has declined. Agricultural output and food grain production have fallen. The same has been true of non-farm rural income. The poor performance on the agricultural front should have, to our mind, galvanised the Government into concerted action to strengthen the anti-poverty and employment programmes, but what did this Government do instead? This Government allowed the performance of a large number of poverty alleviation programmes to fall to a shockingly low level.

The renamed Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, the Employment Assurance Scheme, the Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, the Nehru Shehari Swarozgar Yojana, the Watershed and Desert Development Programmes, the Drought-prone Areas Programme, the Indira Awas Yojana and the Drinking Water Scheme, all but all, have registered an alarmingly steep decline. This Government, it seems to me, is more inclined to changing names of existing programmes and disrupting on-going programmes than dealing with the real concerns of the needy.

No wonder then that according to recent studies, where as poverty ratio fell by half in the quarter century from Indiraji's Garibi Hatao Programme to the last Congress Government, there has been very little improvement in the lot of the weaker sections through the past four years, and I am afraid, none at all during the last year. Yet, what has the Government's response been to these happenings? Instead of launching an assault on poverty, the Government has actually launched an assault on the poor.

At the precise moment, when the poor and the deprived are most in need of support from the Government, the Government has completely messed up the food security system, massively increasing the issue prices of PDS for all, and most tragically for the poor. Steep increases in the prices of cooking gas and kerosene have compounded the misery of crores and crores of women. The hike on diesel prices has added to the woes of the farmers and ordinary city travellers.

On the social side, the Government ought to have made a special effort to provide universal secular-I repeat secular accessible primary education, greater employment opportunities to the youths, quality and affordable health cover to remote areas.

The Government ought to have taken concrete steps to ensure economic and social empowerment to women. Along with poor, the *kisans* and the small entrepreneurs have become the victims of this Government's unjust policies. How can fertiliser subsidy be so drastically cut when stagnating agriculture sector desperately needs all the incentives it requires to maintain the country's hard-won self-sufficiency in food and other essential agricultural commodities? At a time when the industry requires a transition period to adjust to global competition, this Government has hurriedly and secretly—I repeat secretly—advanced the date of removal of controls on imports by two years. May I remind this august House that the announcement of this betrayal did not come from Delhi, but came from Washington? So much for those who claim a monopoly on nationalism. In my travels and in my interaction with the people of different walks of life, especially with the deprived, I have come to understand that there is a strong belief that concern for the poor, for the deprived and their problems take a distant second place to the solicitude reserved for more affluent classes.

At the time of War, when our nation was in need of all the resources it could possibly muster, the Government succumbed to the demands of the telecom players. To prevent the stock market bubble from bursting, this Government is prepared to sacrifice even larger economic interests. We in the Congress Party have consistently been raising serious questions on the way decisions have been taken in various sectors, like steel, power, sugar, wheat imports and disinvestment. These questions, to this day, remain unanswered. We have also been extremely concerned with the cavalier and not at all transparent fashion in which vital decisions are being taken with regard to public sector. In the case of Modern Food disinvestment, it appears that value of land assets of the Company far exceeds the amount for which it has been sold to the multi-national company. Now, we hear that more such plans and actions are in the offing. My colleague, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasgupta, has brought the

case of IISCO to my notice, where apparently same sort of decision is going to be taken. Can the Government continue to betray the trust of the people in such a manner again and again?

Inevitably, this Government has also bent its knees in the international arena. The nation watched in shocked dismay as the hijackers of IC-814 and their terrorist backers were shamefully appeased. The sight of the External Affairs Minister escorting to Kandahar men who had been imprisoned for their crimes, will not—I repeat will not—be erased from the mind of our people. The Congress Party is also extremely concerned at the creeping dependence on external intervention in the affairs of our region.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sharp deterioration in the internal security situation in Jammu and Kashmir as well as the continuing failure to stem or to moderate infiltration across the LoC, not withstanding the empty boasts we used to hear before Kargil, are a matter of deep, deep concern to all of us. There does not seem to be any progress either in political initiatives to restore normalcy or in diplomatic action.

Externally sponsored terrorism is on the increase in the North-Eastern areas of our country. I must point out to this House that instead of provoking further disruption by threatening the repeal of the IMDT Act, instead of concentrating on its implementation, the Government is actually aggravating matters in that most sensitive border region of our country. Promises of special packages and reserving 10 per cent of the Budget expenditure for the North-East have been made again and again but I am afraid they remained very much on paper. They are not fulfilled.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, of late, we have also heard conflicting statements on Non-alignment. I would like to point out that the Non-alignment was not just our response to a world divided by power blocs. Non-alignment was an assertion of our sovereignty in our external affairs. It was the self-reliant foreign policy of a self-confident, peace-loving country. That independence of thought and action in international affairs is now in jeopardy as foreign policy, I believe, lurches from one misplaced enthusiasm to another with very poor preparation and little regard for the long-term.

The country, we all know, has had to pay a heavy price for the naivete of the Lahore Bus ride at a time when the Government ought to have known, and, I believe at a time when the Government did know that our frontiers were being breached by our hosts. Now, all of us in the Congress and in other parties, must be vigilant. Our

fundamental national interests cannot be compromised as this Government stumbles from one ill-thought out action into another.

But, Sir, before I conclude, I would like to say a word about the States which are now facing tremendous odds because of the drought. I am told that we have food stocks which according to experts are almost double of what is required for the food security of our country. I would, therefore, urge the Government, through you, to urgently increase the pace of food for Work and other relief programmes and measures in all those affected areas. During the Orissa cyclone, the Government never quite provided required help to the people of Orissa. There was a very definite and strong perception that this was done because there was an Opposition Government in power. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would, therefore, through you, urge the Prime Minister not to deal with this problem with a cold political heart but with a just and benevolent one desiring to help all its suffering people regardless of their political leanings.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we thank the President for his Address, but we regret that it contains no recognition of the Government's many failings and the damage this has inflicted on our beloved nation.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole House is grateful and thanks. His Excellency, the President for his gracious speech addressed to the joint sitting of the two Houses on which we are holding discussion. Recently, the President has returned from his successful official tour of France which enhanced the prestige of India as well as it strengthened our friendly relations with France.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, 28-29 hon'ble Members took part in this discussion. Smt. Sonia Gandhi delivered her maiden speech, for which I congratulate her....*(Interruptions)* Our National Democratic Alliance Government is in power for more than two years. It is true that one election was held in between and instead of 12th Lok Sabha we are Members of 13th Lok Sabha. But correct evaluation can only be done when we look at the overall performance of this Government during the last two years.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that we look into some earlier events. We have got to view the situation prevailing in the country during Pokhran in order to deliberate about Kargil. Though the Pokhran tests showed the might of our country but we had to face adverse criticism at the international level. Not only that we had to face criticism within the country also where it was stated that India will

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

be left isolated due to this Pokhran tests. The outcome of Pokhran was Kargil. Both the incidents took place in the month of May-one in 1998 and other in 1999. But there was wide variation between them. Can anybody say today that India is isolated because of our policy? Can anybody say that the credibility of India at the international level took a nosedive because of this? We also used to criticize and in future also if we get the opportunity to sit there we will show you the way criticism is done.

But we are helpless if you do not give opportunity to us. Mr. Speaker, Sir, even now Lahore Bus Service is being criticized. I do not know how you take it but this is a fact that due to Lahore Bus Service India's image has been enhanced at the international arena and gave the message that India indeed wanted peace and was ready to do anything to achieve this. Whole world is praising our approach and our opposition! Why this is happening.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: We removed forces from Kargil on the instructions of America.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our journey for the last two years has been journey of the nation marching ahead. India is an old Nation but at this time it is young because most of the population is of young people. Today 60 per cent of our population is below 35 years of age and we have to fulfill their expectations and provide opportunities for their development. Economic sanctions were imposed after Pokhran tests and we faced them. Still sanctions are there but the country which imposed sanctions have understood that they cannot overlook India. The reason for this is the emerging power of India and I agree that it did not happen in two years or two days. I also accept the fact that they have also contributed a lot who are sitting in opposition today to help India reaching this stage. But they are not ready to accept. Sometimes they even hesitate in taking our names.....(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Spaker, Sir, it is not necessary to remind me that there was a caretaker Government and election was round the corner when Kargil war started and perhaps capitalizing the prevailing opportunity we were targeted. But our forces has shown their might and commanding officers managed well resulting in victory which was a victory of the entire country. Kindly look at my speech which I delivered in and out of Parliament as a leader of opposition after Bangladesh war and creation of an independent Bangladesh the way you spoke after the Kargil war will be witness by the people in the years to come.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Kindly read what did you say after the Chinese attack.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the changes occurred in the life of Nation during the last two years is because of political and social stability. We have come in the era of coalition Governments. Our colleagues from opposition are forced to join such Governments. It is different thing that they join Government only when all Members of their party are made Ministers. we have 24 parties but we are working together with them smoothly. For this all parties have to fulfill their responsibilities. But because of the political stability at the Centre the country has progressed and will further prosper.

Several unfortunate incidents takes place just as Christians were targeted in Uttar Pradesh recently. The entire House condemn this. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has been asked to look into these incidents. The Ministry of Home Affairs is conducting thorough investigation in this regard. Culprits will be apprehended and stern action will be taken against them. But it does not do justice to the country and its culture to claim that only a particular political party will protect the secularism in the country. We have faith in secularism but our secularism is not discriminatory. All the religions should be treated at par and respected. This is secularism and it is positive secularism. This is fundamental to our constitution and all are committed to it. This should not be used to serve the political or party interests.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, till some time back India and Pakistan were one identity and after partition Pakistan came into existence. We wish to see Pakistan a prosperous country. There should not be any misconception in the minds of Pakistani people that we do not accept existence of Pakistan and we want to establish cordial and friendly relations with Pakistan and not that of hatred. If Pakistan wants to build its future on the hostility against India, I am sure it will not succeed in its design. We have opted for democracy. In our country power is changing hands smoothly. Though there are some difficulties but it is the transitional period of democracy. We will overcome these difficulties and despite these difficulties multi party democracy is successful in our country. Pakistan has deviated from the path of democracy. The day on which our Government was taking oath of office in Delhi it was reported in the newspapers that duly elected Government in Pakistan have been dissolved and the Prime Minister has been arrested and the Army has taken over the reins of the country. This depicts difference between the democracy in the two countries. Pakistan is not trying to understand as to why it is being isolated in the world community? In the commonwealth conference all the countries have endorsed the proposal to oust Pakistan from commonwealth.

It is not a matter of pleasure for us but it should be a matter of concern for Pakistan as to why it is getting isolated in the world community. We are willing to improve relations with Pakistan but Pakistan should take initiative in this regard. Pakistan should create congenial atmosphere for this. If terrorist activities are continued if ISI keeps on increasing its activities in various parts of our country, if violation of line of control is continued and if propaganda of hatred against India is continued as such conducive atmosphere cannot be created for undertaking meaningful dialogue. Therefore we demand and I want to make it clear that we have feelings of goodwill and friendship in our minds towards the people of Pakistan. Efforts are being made to improve relations at people to people level but the nature of talks will depend on as to what is the intention of political losses across the border. I went to Lahore for talks but intrusion by Pakistan in Kargil came in the way. I do not want to undertake any such new journey. Pakistan will have to change its attitude. The line of control should be honoured.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: This is not a diplomacy, it is mere a drama.

[*English*]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHAYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar appears to be the villain of the drama.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The people who are in favour of fresh talks and who want meaningful conclusion of talk they should also keep in view the fate of the agreements signed earlier with our neighbouring country. Simla agreement has been violated and Lahore declaration has been discredited. Now invitations are being given for the further talks and to reach the new accords. Efforts are being made to sign new treaties at the cost of old ones. It is not possible. There is unanimity in the country in this regard. We are in favour of friendship but friendship cannot be unilateral.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the American President Shri Bill Clinton had visited our country last month and his visit has been very useful. I hope his visit will contribute in improving the relations between the two countries and relations between us will acquire new dimensions. It is a matter of satisfaction that there is a change in the stand of America on Kashmir issue and America is in favour of maintaining the sanctity of line of control. The massacre of Sikh brethren in Jammu and Kashmir during the stay of the President Bill Clinton has made it clear to our American friends that this question is related to get their demand fulfilled through terrorism rather than taking public opinion into account.

Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and it will remain so. America is of the view that borders cannot be demarcated with blood and it is a positive attitude and we hope that further steps will be taken on the basis of this.

America has recognised the increasing importance of India in the field of economy trade and information technology. The vision statement signed by me and the President Bill Clinton will give multi dimensional shape to relations between our two countries and due to this our relations will improve further and I believe our friendship will be based on equality. Just before the visit of the American President a confusion was created in the minds of the people of the country that he is coming here to pressurise us to sign the CTBT. We have had clear discussion on CTBT in a cordinal way and the question of any pressure does not arise. If we have succeeded in improving the credibility of the country during the last two years, its main reason is that we have refused to succumb to any power. America is also aware of our position in this regard. We are going through the process of talks on CTBT and will form unanimity in this regard and I assure you that any decision in this regard will be taken after consulting you.

I would also like to mention the question which has arisen due to difference of opinion with congress and it should be clarified. A delegation of congress party call upon the President Bill Clinton what transpired between them. Whether there was discussion on a unrestrained minimum nuclear deterrent. The spokesmen of congress have given different versions in this regard. There was no doubt in our mind but these two versions have created some doubt. It can be cleared here at the moment by the congress president Shrimati Sonia Gandhi if she desire to do so....(*Interruptions*)... The Home Minister is of the view that this should be left aside. I am not raising this question for creating any controversy. If this is the stand of congress I welcome it because there should not be any difference of opinion between the political parties on the issue of nuclear. All the earlier Prime Ministers have also been trying to make India a nuclear power without making any announcement to this effect. The present Government thought that this is the right time and we went ahead in this direction. We welcome all the political parties to be unanimous on this issue as national security is the prime concern and it should not be made an issue of party politics.

During the past two years economic condition of India has improved. What the leader of opposition has said does not depicts the correct picture. Whether it is a fact that annual growth rate of GDP has improved?

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier this rate was 5.00 percent and now it has become 5.9 percent and I believe it will increase further. We are expecting it to increase upto 6.5 percent. Till some year ago it was 2.00 percent or 3.00 percent, now this growth rate is increasing. Is it not the result of a successful economic policy? I am sure that we will be able to achieve the growth rate of 7.00 to 8.00 percent. The growth rate of industrial production has exceeded 8.00 percent. In March 1998 the growth rate of industrial production was 6.6 percent. Earlier our foreign exchange reserve was 26 billion dollar which has increased upto 35 billion dollar. These are factual data. These data reflects improvement in our economy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not claiming that this is the result of the policies we have followed during the last two years. To be very frank we have been inherited some policies in the economic sector and some of them are really very good and few were not good....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You have pursued the wrong policies.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We have not pursued the wrong policies. I am surprised to see that our friends are retreading from the policies they have pursued earlier. Is it not correct that there is a change in the stand of congress party on the issue of subsidy. What is the reason for this change?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Prime Minister yield and you permit me I would like to make a point.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since we both belong to Gwalior you cannot make me to yield.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: First it should be made clear whether you are from Bhatkeswar or from Gwalior.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am from Lucknow. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of subsidy has to be considered once again. All the political parties should think over this issue collectively. Subsidy meant for poor should continue. Arrangement should be made to provide subsidy to poor wherever it is necessary. The necessary steps in the field of economy will be taken to provide foodgrain, water, houses and for raising the standard of living. In the matter of fertilizers the benefit of subsidy did not reach to farmers to the desired extent. What is the price of Urea in the world market? We wish that our plants should run but our Urea plants are lying closed....(Interruptions)

Yes, I know the United Front Government left these plants in this condition. How much should be the subsidy? When I was in opposition our communist friends used to talk about the public sector....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are still talking about the public sector.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Yes you are still talking about the public sector.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You were with us on this issue. You have crossed over....(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: At that time also we were against the quota permit raj....(Interruptions) You used to talk about taking the public sector to the commanding height. What is the condition today? Labourers have been rendered jobless. Payments of salary to them has become a compulsion....(Interruptions). What can be done in respect of the factories which cannot be revived? You are also doing same in the West Bengal....(Interruptions)....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You should take individual units into consideration. I have said this repeatedly....(Interruptions).... I have said this to the previous Governments and I have also said this to you....(Interruptions) You should revive the factories which can be revived....(Interruptions)....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This is exactly what we are doing....(Interruptions)....

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am challenging you. Mr. Prime Minister, you appoint somebody. Let us sit unit by unit. Are you accepting that?...(Interruptions). We have told that if any unit can never be revived, we shall agree to that....(Interruptions)....

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You start from the West Bengal....(Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We will cooperate with you....(Interruptions)....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER. Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: First you should make efforts for the revival....(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We have divided the public sector undertakings in three categories. The first category is of those undertakings which are running in profit.....(*Interruptions*). Second category is of which efforts should be made to run them in profit, in respect of which our efforts can be fruitful. Third category is where no alternative is left then closing them. We will have to consider the future of the labourers working therein. There cannot be any difference of opinion in respect of this policy. But you are not allowing the practice you are adopting in West Bengal for the rest of the country....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No unit is being closed in West Bengal....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUDIR BANDYOPADHYAYA: Industries are not running in West Bengal. All units have been closed down....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If there are such undertakings which can be run by providing some assistance then we are ready to make them viable....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? When the hon. Prime Minister is giving the reply, this is not the proper way....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Your Ministers or Government do that....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: A group of Minister has been formed to consider this issue....(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Topdar, you are a senior member, how can you object to the hon. Prime Minister?...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I want that consensus should be reached in respect of economic reforms....(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Topdar, please take your seat. The hon. Prime Minister is giving the reply....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? You are also a senior Member. You know the procedure....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No cross talk, please. What is this?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is neither the matter of West Bengal nor a matter pertaining to a particular political party. My communist friends must be aware of the matter of IDPL which is being reexamined and efforts are being made to revive that....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Exactly this is what we have been demanding....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We will congratulate them for their good deeds....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But you do not do that....(*Interruptions*) We have to work so hard to earn your appreciation. This matter should be discussed collectively....(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, UP): The fertilizer factory of Gorakhpur is lying closed....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, what are you doing, please?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There is another point regarding review of the constitution and I would like to mention that. I do not know as to why Shrimati Sonia Gandhi did not touch this point today.

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

13.00 hrs.

Perhaps, she has thought that this issue has been discussed adequately outside the House and there is no need to mention it here. I would like to clarify regarding the campaign being launched about Constitution Review Commission.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: That is correct.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: That is not dignified. It cannot be insult to Dr. Ambedkar....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): The Government has no right to appoint Review Commission....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, please take your seat. This will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, please take your seat. Otherwise, I will take action against you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister is giving reply and you are not listening to him patiently.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except hon. Prime Minister's speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, debate on provisions of the constitution have been going on since it came into existence. Amendments have also been made into it and some major amendments have been made. What happened during emergency. What type of measures were taken, I do not want to discuss that.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: That was wrong and it is also wrong....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except hon. Prime Minister's speech.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. What is this? Shri Akhilesh Singh, what are you doing in the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Sir, we have instened to them without disturbing the House. Now they are disturbing the House....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: In the beginning itself while referring to the commission we clarified that the basic structure of the constitution which includes secularism will not be changed at all....*(Interruptions)* it will be incorporated into it if it is not there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, you are always disturbing the House. Nothing should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1976, under the Chairmanship of Sardar Swam Singh, Congress Party constituted a committee to consider various provisions of the constitution and also to consider the amendments. It is the proposal of AICC....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: They were doing wrong. Will you also do that?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What was suggested?

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Sir, That was a party committee and not a Government. I was a member of that committee....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: If you yield, I will conclude my point in two minutes....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. The Prime Minister is replying. If you have any clarification, you can ask that after the Prime Minister's reply. What is this. How can you do it now?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Whether the proposal of the party was not for implementation. Then why party presented such proposal?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: It was wrong....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What is the proposal, please listen to it. I am quoting.—

[*English*]

"The Congress, therefore, urges that our Constitution be thoroughly examined to ascertain if the time has not come to make adequate alterations to it so that it may continue as a living document, effectively responding to the current needs of the people and the demands of the present."

[*Translation*]

What will be done by this commission. Whether any separate terms of Reference have been fixed for it. It will review. Review means to have a second look.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except hon. Prime Minister's reply.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: No interruptions, please.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the Prime Minister's reply.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? I do not understand this. Nothing should go on record.

(*Interruptions*)...*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I appeal to the Leader of Opposition. We heard in pin drop silence. Nobody interrupted her. Now, almost every time all her Members are interrupting....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This is not a question. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no need to tell about the Members of this commission. Their authenticity and ability is above board. They will give their recommendations, which will be presented in the Parliament. Parliament will consider and accept any recommendation if it want to do so....(*Interruptions*) Later on, a bill regarding constitution amendment will be brought in the House and 2/3 majority will be required for passage of the Bill. Why are you so worried. There is no need to worry for that....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the Prime Minister's speech.

(*Interruptions*)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Shri Ramdas Athawale, this is too much. Please take your seat.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Some hon. Members are agitated over this issue which does not indicate that their arguments are strong and rational. Review of constitution is a continuous process and it will continue in future also. Earlier also amendments have been made in the constitution and it will be done in future also. Constitution is not a rigid document which cannot be amended....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola): Why it is not being reviewed in the Parliament.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When commission submits its report, it will be considered in the Parliament....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prakash Ambedkar, Please take your seat. Nothing should go on record except the hon. Prime Minister's speech. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No cross talk please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Parliamentary Committee could have been constituted....(Interruptions) There should be no objection in setting up commission....(Interruptions) Please take your seat. You are raising finger on ability of hon'ble Members of the commission....(Interruptions) You have objections against them....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prakash Ambedkar, please take your seat. If you have anything, you can ask the Prime Minister afterwards, not now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, you are always disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Is it not the reply of the Prime Minister? Tell me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the hon. Prime Minister's speech.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a saying in Sanskrit that when you cannot prove your point rationally then 'Shesham kopen pooryen' which means that remaining part is completed by expression of anger....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, UP): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that Members should not disturb the speech of hon. Prime Minister. But your this decision will prove to be a mistake....(Interruptions) You can speak more loudly but it is not going to affect me....(Interruptions)

[English]

Let them speak like this.

[Translation]

I would like to make a submission. The constitution was framed by representatives of people. It would have been proper if the proposal of setting up a commission for review of the constitution was brought in the Parliament. It would have been done easily as your party enjoys majority in the House. But you have acted at a wrong time and thereby violating the spirit of the constitution and over-riding the authority of this august House. The Government should admit this fact....(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am happy that Chandra Shekharji has not opposed the setting up of the commission but criticised the manner of setting up it. There may be difference of opinion in matter of procedure....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I have no difference of opinion regarding Members of the Commission because I do not know as to who they are? But several Members of this House are expert of the constitution. Members like Shri Nariman, Shri Anand and several other MPs are here....(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The report will be presented here itself.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I would like to say that it will be against the dignity of the constitution and the House to allow any external commission to interfere in matters relating to the constitution. You can discuss it if you know about the constitution....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Commissions have been set up earlier also and these will be set up in future also....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I remember that earlier Swam Singh Committee was constituted and at that time myself and the Prime Minister both were of the view that it was a wrong step....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Hon. Prime Minister is replying.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am concluding....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: We should also be given a chance to speak....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Hon. Prime Minister yield for a minute?...(*Interruptions*) Today he is not yielding. I do not know why. Generally he does....(*Interruptions*) He is very uneasy about this point....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if there is difference of opinion over the issue of commission then I would like to say....(*Interruptions*)

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (*Jalore*): That should be withdrawn....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You should withdraw your objections as these have no strong base and relate to the procedure only. Now the main point is....(*Interruptions*) You are in majority in Rajya Sabha and you will not let it pass there....(*Interruptions*) But it should be debated throughout the country....(*Interruptions*) Elections are being held for the last 50 years and people of this country are requesting for reform in electoral procedure....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Election Commission will do that....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Election Commission is doing. Election Commission can do that and not we....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Hon. Prime Minister, will you kindly yield for just a minute?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, he is not yielding.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)...*

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Whether the Government cannot think over it by setting up a commission....(*Interruptions*) After reviewing the constitution the commission will give its report as to what amendments should be made and what changes should be brought in it. That report will be presented in the Parliament and amendment bill will be brought for making any change in it. But it seems that opposition has decided to oppose all the works undertaken by the ruling party. They have no other point. I would like to say that you should reconsider it. There is no use to divide the House and the country over such an issue for which there is no basic difference. We want your cooperation and I hope that you will cooperate us in creating harmony in the country....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the decorum of the House to disturb when the Leader of the House is speaking?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Even senior Members are disturbing.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the speech of hon. Prime Minister.

(*Interruptions*)...*

* Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Consensus is needed on important issues for the future of the country but I find that except for the brief period after formation of the Government, the largest opposition party is trying to oppose every issue, having lost its popularity. Their attitude is negative....(Interruptions) Several States are still in the grip of drought.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Just now you thanked congress party for cooperating....(Interruptions) Now you are saying that they are opposing. What opposition is there....(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You can decide that with each other....(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: On the one hand you express gratitude to Sonia Gandhiji but on the other hand you say that they are opposing....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we always opposed it and will oppose it in future.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they work in collusion. The whole country knows that Samajwadi Party is fighting against BJP and Congress Party is fighting against Samajwadi Party.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, several parts of the country are in the grip of severe drought. This issue has already been debated in the House. All the hon'ble Members are concerned about it. Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and also Madhya Pradesh....(Interruptions) I have not enlisted all the States. I have no intention to leave any State. Our objective is to provide assistance to every State. Such an issue should not be politicised but unfortunately politics was played in case of Orissa and stress was laid to declare it a major calamity, which was not essential and we tried to provide the required assistance.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You have proposed to hold a comprehensive debate on this issue. I do not understand as to what do you want to do?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You want to know that. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are trying our best for providing assistance. There is need to work collectively. Fodder for cattle is being arranged. Trains are being run for this purpose. Arrangments for drinking water is also necessary and required measures are being taken in spite of differences, such issues should be dealt collectively. I seek cooperation of the whole House on it. An all-party meeting has been convened today. You should take part in it. While extending assistance the Central Government will not discriminate States on the basis of political party

in power there. We will provide assistance to all. We are all native of this country and it is our duty to help our countrymen at the time of distress. Your contribution is essential in it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have taken much time. I intended to make a short speech but due to interruptions my speech over spilled. I am grateful to this House....(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, now I conclude.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: A number of amendments have been moved by Members on the Motion of Thanks. Shall I put all the amendments to the vote of the House together or does any hon. Member want any particular amendment to be put to vote separately?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I want that my amendment be put to the vote of the House separately....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, what is your amendment number?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it is amendment number 276. This is regarding rise in prices of essential commodities which has hit the common people in our country....(Interruptions) Sir, he has not spoken anything about rise in prices of essential commodities....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: On the Motion of Thanks, many hon. Members asked questions and the hon. Prime Minister gave the reply also.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Prime Minister has not spoken anything about the rising prices of essential commodities....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair. Shri Madhavrao Scindia, how many times has the hon. Prime Minister given the reply? How many times has he intervened? Please understand that. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: It will always happen, Sir. Every Speaker has given a chance. We have a right to seek clarifications....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, this is not the correct way....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Can you tell me how many times has the hon. Prime Minister intervened and given replies to a number of hon. Members? What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, you are protecting the Prime Minister. I just want to seek one clarification....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, which amendment do you want to move separately?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I want to move my amendment No. 276 and I want to read it....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want a clarification. I should be allowed to raise the matter....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: How many times has the hon. Prime Minister intervened?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, what is the amendment that you want to move separately?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I should be allowed to say a few words as clarification after the debate....(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): It seems that some Members would interrupt and some Members would seek clarifications and, that way, they want to have the advantage of both....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: What is the problem if I seek a clarification? Is it not a democratic process?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When the Leader of the House was speaking, you did not have patience. How many times has the hon. Prime Minister been interrupted? How many times has he intervened? What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What clarification do you want?

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it is most strange....(Interruptions) We did not object when you allowed Shri Chandrashekharji to speak. We are pleased that you allowed him to speak. One should get an opportunity to clarify one's stand. I listen to hon'ble Prime Minister in a disciplined manner....(Interruptions). I just want to say that hon'ble Prime Minister raised the issue of constitution review. We only demanded a detailed discussion on the issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It has already been replied.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You have given permission for it. We thank you for that. We have serious objection to it and we will severely protest that constitution review committee was appointed by ignoring the elected representatives of the Parliament and by lowering the dignity of the Parliament. You talk about consensus. You did not consult us on the issue nor did you deliberate on it. You talk about coordination but you did not exchange ideas with us. You have absolutely discarded it. At least you should have discussed it after taking us in confidence.

As far as Swaran Singh Committee is concerned, it is a matter of regret that hon'ble Prime Minister is repeatedly trying to create confusion over it. Swaran Singh Committee was formed by a political party. If Bharitya Janata Party wishes to appoint a committee, it can do so. We have no objections to it, but such a committee cannot be formed by the Government.

[English]

The Cabinet is a creature of Parliament. Here, the Cabinet by passed it and appointed a Review Committee to review the Constitution. This is our opinion....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, which amendment do you want to move separately?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, which Amendment of yours would you like to be put separately?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I would like my Amendment No. 276 to be put separately. It reads like this:-

That at the end of Motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rise in price of essential commodities which has hit the common people in the country." (276)

It is regarding rise in the prices of essential commodities which has hit the common people in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: I put Amendment No. 276 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to vote.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): I would like my amendment No. 365 to be put separately. It reads like this:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities thus making them beyond the reach of the common man." (365)

MR. SPEAKER: I now put Amendment No. 365 moved by Shri Rupchand Pal to vote.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very unfortunate situation. Every hon. Member who participated in the debate spoke about this issue and yet the Prime Minister has not replied to it. It seems the

Government is not at all concerned over the rise in prices of essential commodities and that is why the Prime Minister had nothing to say on this. Is this the way a Government should function? We must register our strong protest over the deliberate act of omission on the part of the Prime Minister in not responding to this issue and, therefore, we walk out of the House.

13.31 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all other Amendments to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, price rise has threatened the very existence of the poor and hon'ble Prime Minister did not say anything about it in his reply, Therefore entire Rashtriya Janata Dal and I boycott the house.

13.32 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

"That the members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 23rd February, 2000'."

The motion was adopted.

13.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.36 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at 14.36 hours of the clock.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Price Policy for Copra for 2000 Season and Raw Jute for 2000-2001 Season†

[*Translation*]

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price for Fair Average Quality of milling copra at Rs. 3250 per quintal and that of Fair Average Quality variety of ball copra at Rs. 3500 per quintal for 2000 season. This marks an increase of Rs. 150 per quintal milling copra and Rs. 175 per quintal for ball copra in 2000 season over their respective minimum support prices of the previous season. This increase in minimum support prices is expected to induce the copra growers to invest more and raise the productivity and production of copra....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, this is too meagre a price....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: Let me complete this statement please.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish his statement. I do not think that it is proper to disturb him while he is making the statement. You can speak later.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not permitted any interruptions. Let the Minister make the statement.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have given a notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. You can speak after he completes his statement but not before that.

...(*Interruptions*)

†[Also placed in Library. See No. LT 1703/2000]

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) would continue to act as the nodal agency to undertake the price support operation for copra.

The Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price for Fair Average Quality of Raw Jute at Rs. 785 per quintal for TD-5 variety of Assam for 2000-2001 season. This marks an increase of Rs. 35 per quintal of minimum support price in 2000-2001 over the respective minimum support price of the previous season. The corresponding minimum support prices of other varieties and grades of raw jute shall be fixed by the Jute Commission of India, Ministry of Textiles in the light of normal market price differentials.

The Jute Corporation of India will undertake price support operations in Raw Jute when required adequate funds will be provided in time to JCI to perform its functions efficiently.

The increase in minimum support price is expected to encourage the farmers to invest more in Jute Cultivation and raise the production and productivity of raw Jute.

[*English*]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The price of copra which has been declared is too meagre and the farmers are in a very difficult situation....(*Interruptions*) The situation is very grave. Apart from the low price, there are a lot of diseases too. The mite disease that destroys the crop is also on the anvil and nothing has been done by the Government of India so far....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has made an announcement on the support price. There can be no debate on that.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record now.

(*Interruptions*)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please note the appeal that he has made.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have asked for a clarification, not for a discussion....(*Interruptions*)

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said what you had to say. Please sit down. He cannot review and give a new price now. You have made your point. Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He cannot give a new price now, since you are raising this point. So, you may please sit down. He will look into it for future.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have said that noting will go on record after the statement is made.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except on permission of the chair.

[English]

You may please sit down now. I am sorry, there is no provision for clarification under the Rules, whenever a statement is made.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Clarification is allowed....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I am sorry. It is not allowed in this House. Will you please sit down?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Yesterday also it was allowed....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not under the rules. You may please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I want to seek a clarification. This is a very important issue concerning Kerala....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under Rule 372, it is very clear that in this House we do not have a provision to seek clarification when a statement is made.

We have to take up Matters under Rule 377 and then, we have to discuss the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. We cannot open up another debate now. You can speak about this during the course of discussion on the Finance Bill. We cannot have a debate on this now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: It will not do.

[English]

They may find out some other way to raise this and not like this....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. You are just wasting the time of the House. You may please sit down. Let me explain. Will you please sit down?

(Interruptions)..."

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point in shouting at me. You have said that you had given a notice. It must have gone to the hon. Speaker. The Speaker has not approved it and sent it to me. I do not have the notice, which you have given to him. It has not come back to me. Now, I cannot give you permission for something, which is not before me. The hon. Speaker has not approved it and sent it to me. So, you may please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Madam, protesting against this, we stage a walk out.

14.43 hrs.

At this stage, Shri P.C. Thomas and some other hon. Members left the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we go to item No. 10, Motion for Election to Committee. Shri Shanmugam.

14.43½ hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Central Committee of the Tuberculosis Association of India

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause 3 (vii) (a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Tuberculosis Association of India, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Committee of the Tuberculosis Association of India."

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (vii) (a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Tuberculosis Association of India, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Committee of the Tuberculosis Association of India."

The motion was adopted.

14.44 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) **Need to provide funds to State Government of Rajasthan for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Bawanvas Region.**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Sawai Madhopur): Madam Chairperson, Rajasthan occupies about 10.7% of the total area of the country and large areas there remain unirrigated. In the absence of rains people and cattle are facing the problems of food and livelihood as well as that of fodder and potable water.

This year, State Government has declared 26 out of 32 districts as famine affected. From the view point of water, my Parliamentary Constituency Sawai Madhopur and Assembly Constituency and village Bawanvasi and block Boli has been marked as 'dark zone', as there is no underground water region here. Water in tanks, wells have dried up about a month before and villagers are moving out of the village as a consequence of it. Those who have bullock-carts or tractors are bringing water from a distance of 8-10 Kms. Rajasthan Government has not declared Bawanvas Assembly Constituency as famine affected area. The entire region is inhabited mostly by scheduled tribes and they are dependent on agricultural and animal husbandry.

I, therefore, want to request the concerned hon'ble Minister, through you that efforts should be made to declare Bawanvas assembly constituency of Rajasthan a famine affected area and adequate economic assistance should be given immediately to start the relief works in the region.

- (II) **Need to extend National Highway No. 86 from Kanpur up to Bhopal**

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Sagar-Kanpur road in my Parliamentary Constituency has been declared

as National Highway No. 86. The condition of this road is very bad. Most of the vehicles going from Kanpur to Madras use this road and they go *via* Sagar. It has been declared as National Highway only from Kanpur to Sagar while it can be extended upto Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh via Vidisha so that Lucknow can be connected to Bhopal by road.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to extend the National Highway No. 86 from Kanpur, Sagar to Bhopal and the construction work be started at the earliest so that the people of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh both be benefited.

- (III) **Need to allocate some part of salt cess for the repair of Sonala and Sunupur road in Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Salt is produced at the salt bays of Sonala and Sunupur in Chikiti and Rangailunda blocks of Berhampur parliamentary constituency. Cess is being levied for the produced salt. About 25 years back the salt cess was utilised for construction of a road from Ichapur border of Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh to the sea coast covering Sonala and Sunupur. However, this road is in a dilapidated condition as no repairs have been taken up thereafter for the last 25 years.

The Government of India may sanction a portion of the levied salt cess for repair of the road.

- (IV) **Need for four laning of National Highway No. 8A from Surajbari to Samkhiyali, Gujarat.**

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): In Gujarat, Kutch district is much under-developed and for its development, infrastructural facilities require to be augmented.

For developing this district and the only major port of whole Northern India, *i.e.* Kandla, development of National Highway assumes much importance, for that purpose four laning of National Highway 8-A from Surajbari to Samkhiyali which is only of 20 Kms. and Gandhidham Bypass Road (popularly known as Kandla Khari Rohar Road (K.K. Road) requires to be undertaken and completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I know whose cellular phone is going on? On the other day, I think, the Speaker has said that it should be confiscated. Can that Member hand it over to the Table Office?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): It should not be returned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Speaker's direction is clear. I think something should be done about it.

- (v) **Need to open LPG outlets at Shree Hargovindpur and Ghuman towns in District Gurdaspur, Phillaur Parliamentary constituency, Punjab.**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SANOTSH CHOUDHARY (Phillaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Hargovindpur assembly constituency in my Parliamentary Constituency, Phillaur, which falls in district Gurdaspur (Punjab) remains backward even 50 years of independence. This development block lies near the Pakistan border and almost every family has suffered during the period of terrorism.

This area with a population of 2 lakhs is still without a gas agency. Consumers have to cover a distance of 30 Kms. to go to Batala region under Amritsar Parliamentary Constituency to buy gas cylinder.

I request the concerned Ministry to give orders for the opening of two gas agencies in Shri Hargovindpur and Ghuman of this region and thus help the inhabitants there.

- (vi) **Need to set up a regional provident fund office at Kottarakara in Quilon District, Kerala.**

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor): In Kerala, Quilon district is a major cashew producing district. More than 200 cashew factories run in Quilon district in public and private sector. Around two lakh cashew workers are engaged in this industry. Most of the workers are poor and women. Some cashew factories are also running in Pathanamthitta district. Government of India has introduced provident fund, family pension to cashew workers. Most of the cashew workers are covered under Provident Fund, Family Pension scheme. About two lakh cashew workers are covered by Provident Fund Scheme. In Quilon and Pathanamthitta district, lakhs of cashew workers are going to regional Provident Fund Office at Trivandrum. It is very difficult to go every day to Trivandrum Regional Office. Thousands of cashew workers have to face a lot of problem.

There is a proposal to set up a sub-regional Provident Fund office at Kottarakara, the Central place of Quilon

and Pathanamthitta district. It is a long pending demand for setting up a regional provident office located at Kottarakara for helping cashew workers.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister for Labour to look into the matter seriously and take necessary steps in this regard.

- (vii) **Need for all-round development of North Malda in West Bengal.**

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): North Malda comprising of Harishchandrapur, Ratua, Kharba Assembly constituencies lacks due attention both from Centre and State Government as well as District Administration in terms of its overall development and infrastructure. There is no health facility in this entire region. Most of the parts remain non-negotiable during flood. Agricultural potential gets a setback. The Mahananda embankment requires total repair, expansion and metaling of road. The entire North-Malda damage cost due to flood year after year, as well as devastation on the road cannot simply be taken care of by meagre resource of Zila Parishad, unless jointly Union and State Governments aggressively take part for development involving Ministries of Water Resource, Planning, Agriculture and Power. In 70 per cent villages of North Malda, there is no electrification. Primary Schools are almost being managed in a very poor manner. There is no college in Harishchandrapur and Ratua. We badly need an upgraded Central Hospital at Chanchal during the Ninth Plan with 250 bed facility including a special centre for paediatric treatment and Kidney transplantation unit. I urge upon the Planning, Water Resources and Health Ministries as well as Power Ministry to have a combined effort alongwith State Government for revival of North Malda. Kharba Block I and II, Ratua I and II, Harishchandrapur I and II require immediate survey by Planning Ministry on the aforesaid matter to prepare Projects for next Annual Plan within the Ninth Five Year Plan. Planning Ministry may immediately advise State Government also to incorporate proposals as cited above.

- (viii) **Need to amend CRZ Notification for the benefit of Fishermen of Kerala.**

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargod): I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government and the Minister of Environment and Forests to the problems being faced due to the delay in implementation of the amendments to CRZ Notification.

In this context, I recall the mass agitation against the regulation. Kerala Government also recommended considering the difficulties faced by the coastal people and fishing industry and overall development of coastal

area. After these agitations and Kerala Government's recommendations, Ministry of Environment and Forests appointed Balakrishnan Committee to study this matter. According to the reports, Ministry decided to amend the CRZ Notification positively. Even now the fishermen are facing a lot of problem with their housing and construction of fish trading sheds. Central and State Governments are also not in a position to construct their own buildings.

So, I request the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests to take measures to implement the amendments immediately.

- (ix) **Need to provide necessary funds for rehabilitation of evictee families of Airport Authority land being rehabilitated at Lothukunta and Kukatapalli in Andhra Pradesh.**

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE (Vijayawada): Sir, about 65,00 acres of land valued at Rs. 260 crores belonging to the Airport Authority of India is under encroachment by about 5300 families. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to allot 158.41 acres of land at Lothukunta and Kukapalli valued at Rs. 25 crores for rehabilitating the encroachers. As part of the rehabilitation package, it is necessary to provide housing to the encroachers costing Rs. 45,000 per family for which an amount of Rs. 10.6 crore will be required. In addition, the cost of providing infrastructural facilities and amenities in the area proposed for rehabilitation will come to Rs. 7.14 crore. Since the State Government is providing land valued at Rs. 25 crore for rehabilitation, I request the Union Government to provide Rs. 17.74 crore for early removal and rehabilitation of eligible encroachers.

- (x) **Need to ensure early laying of rail line between Etawah and Shahjahanpur in U.P.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad): Madam, a survey regarding laying of railway line between Etawah and Shahjahanpur in U.P. was conducted long ago but no further action has been taken in this regard.

If the above-mentioned 170 Km. long stretch is connected with rail line, it would be very useful for the people of Etawah and Farrukhabad. I would like to mention that it would facilitate the transportation of defence goods and soldiers between Jhansi and Kathgodam which is an important point from the security point of view of the country. It should be kept in mind that Kathgodam is closer to China border. Besides, the above-mentioned rail-link would be useful in development of Uttarakhand region and providing transportation facility for Mumbai and

Ahmedabad. I would also like to draw your attention towards the point that construction work of rail line between Guna-Shivpuri-Bhind-Etawah has been completed upto 70 per cent.

I, therefore, request the Government to issue instructions for early laying of the above-mentioned rail line in the interest of the nation and the public.

- (xi) **Need to link Himalayan rivers with Peninsular rivers and clear the Ganga-Cauvery link Garland Canal Project.**

[*English*]

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (Arakkonam): Water is a natural resource and a precious one and its conservation and proper harnessing is the national duty. In this connection, there is an urgent need to link and take up the Ganga-Cauvery Garland Canal which was conceived in the last century.

In some way it would also solve the inter-State water disputes since water would be flowing throughout the year and it would pave the way for inland water transportation also.

I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Water Resource Minister to take up necessary action for linking Himalayan rivers with peninsular rivers, especially Ganga-Cauvery link Garland Canal.

- (xii) **Need to take steps for removal of rock patches and widening of the mouth of Nhava Creek at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust at Raigarh, Maharashtra.**

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR (Kulaba): While development of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust reclamation work was carried out in the Nhava Creek at Raigarh, Maharashtra, it ultimately reduced the mouth width up to 150 metres which was naturally up to 300 to 350 metres long. Presently the 150 metre wide mouth has numerous rock patches and rocky area at the banks of the said creek. Due to these open rock patches the depth of the mouth has become less, which increases the pressure of tidal currents and it creates problems for the navigation of fishing trawlers/boats of native fishermen of Garhan, Nhava, Nhava Khadi, Belpada villages of this surrounding area. At the time of low tide, for the passing of vessels through this area it is necessary to wait up to full high tide level, which causes the damage of marine products and fishes.

[Shri Ramsheth Thakur]

Now a days daily 20 to 25 trawlers and 50 to 60 small boats are passing through this creek. If the said rock patches are removed and the width as well as depth of the Nhava creek is increased it will be helpful for the fishermen for navigation and the marine products will also be sold in the market at right time and their business loss can be saved. If the depth and width of the said portion is not increased the fishing activity will be stopped and all fishermen will become jobless. The get a proper job to the fishermen it has become necessary to certify them as project affected persons for Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and an opportunity of service should be provided to all of them in Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.

So, I request the Government to look into this matter and take a favourable action at the earliest.

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Marxist MLA Shri Umadhar Singh is on fast unto death since 18th of this month. Eight days have passed and his condition is quite serious. His demand is that Hayaghat Ashok Paper Mill situated in Darbhanga should be revived. In view of the difficulties being faced by labourers, this matter was taken to Supreme Court. Department of Industry has given a wrong statement in this regard to mislead the Supreme Court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can write a letter to the Minister in this regard and he will look into the matter.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The hon'ble Minister should be sensitive towards it. He is not an ordinary MLA. Rs. 50 lakh were offered to lure him but he refused to accept it. When a Marxist adopts Gandhian

path, he should get support of all those persons who believe in Gandhian ideology. Hon'ble Minister, Sir, do you want to say something in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Your sentiments will be conveyed to the concerned Minister.

15.01 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS* 2000-2001

Ministry of Communications

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 11 to 13 relating to the Ministry of Communications.

Hon. Members present in the House, who desire to move their cut motions, may send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of cut motions they would like to move. Only those will be treated as moved.

Motion Moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2001, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof, against Demands Nos. 11, 12 and 13."

Now, we go on to the discussion. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev to initiate the discussion.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Demands for Grants—Budget (General) for 2000-2001 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on March 16, 2000		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS					
11	Department of Posts	875,74,00,000	14,84,00,000	4378,72,00,000	74,20,00,000
12	Department of Telecommunications	11,75,00,000	—	58,74,00,000	
13	Department of Telecom Services	3577,34,00,000	2889,00,00,000	17886,87,00,000	13344,99,00,000

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we go on to the discussion. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev to initiate the discussion.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Madam, at the outset, I would like to say that I feel happy to have the opportunity to initiate the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. I had the opportunity to serve this Ministry for about two years. At the same time, I feel unhappy seeing the present state of affairs in the Ministry of Communications.

If you go through the records, you will see that from the Twelfth to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, First the charge was under the hon. Prime Minister, then, it was under the charge of Sardar Buta Singh. After that, it was under the charge of Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. Still after that, it was under Shri Jag Mohan with Shri Purkaystha as the Minister of State. In the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, fortunately, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is still there with Shri Tapan Sikdar as the Minister of State. I do not know whether, in the next reshuffle, Shri Paswan is going to the Agriculture Ministry or anywhere else. But I would like to see that he is there.

The Telecom Policy, as envisaged in 1994, was going on. Before the Policy was implemented in 1997, it was updated saying that the Telecom Policy of the Government would be postponed up to 2000. It was again postponed up to 2002. The proper implementation could not be done for one reason or the other. In 1999, overnight, a new Telecom Policy was introduced and that Policy said that the new Telecom Policy has to provide universal service to all uncovered areas including the rural areas to achieve a teledensity of 7 per cent by 2005 and 15 per cent by 2010 to cover villages etc. I do not blame Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. He is a good friend of mine. He has just come to the Ministry. What I am going to say is not against Shri Ram Vilas Paswan because he has inherited a legacy in this Ministry.

When the country was fighting Kargil War and there was a caretaker Government, suddenly it was heard that the Telecom Policy vis-a-vis the licence that was given to the private sector had been changed and from the licence raj the Government had decided to come to revenue sharing ratio. When it was done during the Kargil War—a Group of Ministers with the help of bureaucrats was doing it—it was a caretaker Government. Such a decision should not have been taken. Election was very near and after election it could have been taken. Not only that, but at that time the Prime Minister of the country was inviting people of this country to contribute to the Kargil Fund. People contributed generously.

Subsequent to that, this Government now has again withdrawn subsidy from various essential commodities amounting to Rs. 900 crore. What are those essential commodities? These are fertilizer, sugar kerosene, etc. My point is that there was a change from Licence Raj to the Revenue Raj, and as per the report of the Committee, under the Chairmanship of Shri Somnath Chatterjee, which has been presented in this House, the Government made a loss of Rs. 2000 crore. Those who were in the private sector were given a go-by. No punishment was given. Though initially six people were punished, again they have been brought. Under the new Policy no fresh tender was called. Those people were supposed to fulfil such an agreement, pay certain licence fees. They could not do that and the same group of industrialists or businessmen was given the scope of having the revenue sharing ratio.

How do they come to this revenue sharing ratio? Revenue sharing ratio was not done by DoT. One Government organisation and one non-Government organisation were asked to do it. They did it and it was brought before the Ministry. According to the evidence given by Shri Anil Kumar, Secretary of the DoT, he said 'Yes, we should have brought 20 per cent of the revenue share but we agreed to 25 per cent.'

15.08 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Now it was reduced to 15 per cent. Nobody knows it; it is a mystery, how and why it was done? Even the Secretary could not convince the Standing Committee on Telecommunications. Now, a private organisation says that this new revenue sharing system will continue for twenty years. Previously, the licensing system was for ten years and the total loss to the Exchequer will be Rs. 1,54,000 crore. A PIL has been lodged in the Delhi High Court. They have said that this is the biggest scandal of the millennium or rather after the Millennium, you can say.

As I said, I do not want to put the responsibility on Shri Paswan, I know him personally. But the basic thing is that the change of Ministers frequently in a Ministry, which is so sensitive and which is going to serve the whole country—because the idea was to reach the rural areas with public telephone system—was not in the interest of the country.

Each of this private sector was authorised and was under obligation to play its part. While doing the urban areas, as a social obligation, they have to do certain parts of the rural areas. Except two companies, nobody has performed that obligation till today. I may be wrong. The figure may not be correct. It is subject to correction. I am not quite certain but I am certain that what was

[Shri Santosh Mohan Dev]

supposed to be done by the private sector had not been done. This is why one Kolkatta paper has written that this Department is by the private authorities, for the private authorities and of the private authorities. It has been converted into a Ministry for a few rich people. It is not also spread towards the whole section of the business community. They have built up a caucus in the Ministry. Maybe, Shri Paswan is trying to break it. I do not know whether he will be successful or not. But the fact remains. If the achievement that the country had made in software, C-DoT, technology, engineering and others ought to reach the telecommunication service, it is high time now that the Government takes corrective steps.

This agreement with the private sector, which has been done very wrongly causing loss to the national exchequer, should be scrapped. New tender should be called and new people should be selected. If those people who had been given this earlier and who are guilty of not fulfilling their obligations of the licensing system and the premium to be paid, come on competition, we have no objection. But we strongly object to the scandal that has come. Our Leader of the Opposition has also mentioned today in her speech about this telecom scandal. I think the Government will take some steps in this regard.

Secondly, there is another scheme called, *Shankhyavahini* or *Shankhyabahini*, whatever you say. Suddenly, without inviting a global tender and keeping the DoT in dark, an agreement was signed by negotiation for *Shankhyavahini* to give in the entire net operators some lines. A few NRIs belonging to Hyderabad have got some vested interests in US based companies. I would not like to mention the individual names who are not present here in this House. It is being told that somebody who does the remote control of this Government from somewhere is interested in this particular scheme and he has rather more or less compelled the Government to accept this scheme. Why are we worried about this? This is a scheme amounting to about Rs. 1,300 crore. The Department of Telecommunications will have to pay Rs. 585 crore. The IUNET, USA will pay 49 per cent, that is, Rs. 637 crore. Their is a lion's share. They will have the control. The educational institutions will pay four per cent and the Ministry of IT will pay two per cent. Eventually, the evaluation of equity of the DTS would be done by IUNET and DTS will not have any say. The Department of Telecommunications has no say. The American partner will decide the type of equipment that will be utilised. It is not by us. If a product of Rs. 500 is bought for Rs. 2,000, our Government has to swallow it. This is the resolution and this is the decision.

Hence, this is yet another scandal. I am sure, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is not happy about it. He has done

many good things in the Railways. I would humbly request him to kindly go through it very very seriously and go deep into it. If he is satisfied with whatever he sees, he should say, yes, he is satisfied on behalf of his party. But our information is that it is not doing properly. TRAI was formed by the previous Government. First there was a hitch amongst them. When Shri Paswan became the Minister, if I remember right, he went and visited the TRAI and said, he would try to solve the problem. What happened subsequently? A new body has been formed. The previous body has gone. There is nothing wrong in that. I do not know today's position, I know the position five days before. TRAI had not been completed. The members were not in position. TRAI also, in their wisdom, has decided that in three phases, STD and ISD call charges will be reduced. They kept quiet on what will be the local call charges. Two of the Secretaries, who have served this Department, met me yesterday. They do not want their names to be mentioned. They said, if the tariff, with this idea, is gradually reduced, by 2003, the Department of Telecommunications will be on rag because in the current year, DoT has got a surplus of Rs. 9,000 crore against the estimated Rs. 11,000 crore. Their surplus has come down in comparison to their requirement of Rs. 38,280 crore per year to achieve the target of 1999, according to the National Telecom Policy. Now you are not dependent on Budget, you are depending on your own revenue income. You can say for argument that the New Telecom Policy, 1994 was formulated by our Government and not by you. We agree. We also agree that during that time, one of the Ministers did some mischief. The House was paralysed by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and others for 21 days. Now he is a friend of yours. He has been accepted by you. He has a big say in the Himachal Government. There is nothing wrong in that. In politics, everything happens. But the fact remains that from licence *raj* it has gone to revenue *raj* and from revenue *raj* it has gone to licence *raj*. Why this is being done? Why are you not transparent? Why did you not wait for the Parliament to be there? What was the need for having an Ordinance in January to form this TRAI when the Session was to start in February? These are the questions on which we would like to get the answers from the hon. Minister.

Village telephone system has improved—I would not say it has deteriorated—but it needs further improvement. I saw just now a paper cutting. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has said somewhere in Kolkata that by 2002, everybody will get telephone. I was also a Minister. I used to come and stand here. Some officials used to brief me and I used to say that all the hexagon of the country will be covered by 1995-96. But it never happened. It is good to have ambitious things. They must try to do it. They are now in a position to use optical fibre which was also

started during our time. I had to face the wrath of this House when optical fibre was first given to Madhya Pradesh.

Subsequently it was given to U.P. where it was needed.

Hon. Minister, Shri Tapan Sikdar is here. You belong to the eastern India. There was a Minister from that area previously. He defeated me and I was not an M.P. Now I defeated him and he is not an M.P. at present. I have authenticated here a paper duly signed by me. In that paper, there is some allegation of some work done during his time in my constituency. I told you many a time to come and visit and see for yourself. I told Shri Ram Vilas Paswan also to look at it. Thanks to him—though you refused—some changes in the staff have been made and now the situation has improved. I am not individually against anybody. Everywhere you lay cable, it has to go down below certain depth. If you do go to certain depth, it will be a problem. Your Calcutta is the highest victim. Water seepage is there. The cables must be proper. The cables must come from the appropriate quarters. That has not come. Contracts were not given to the registered contractors. Some people have overnight become contractors. That man has bought property in Calcutta, Delhi and other places. I will give it to you. I have signed it. I want an enquiry into it. Who do I want an enquiry? It is because of the fact that we are in the border area. All the plans and programmes that were done during our time have now been implemented. I was a Minister in the Department of Tourism, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence. Whichever Department that I left, I talked to the officials. They were very amiable. I do not know what happened to your officers in this Ministry. After I left I stopped talking to them. I talk to some of them if I meet them at the airport or somewhere else. I tell them something and they laugh to each other. One officer says something to the other. We the Members of Parliament will some time become Members on that side and Ministers also. The officers should know how to behave.

The report of the Standing Committee is a very revealing one. I do not want to go all through this because I know that you have got the habit of studying things and you must have come to the House after going through it. You must have seen what they have said. Even Shri Somnath Chatterjee was telling me that it was not because of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. Whatever happened, had happened in the past.

Hence, my request to you is that without going into the details, please have a re-think of your revenue-sharing policy. The policy may be there; but you have to see whether the amount fixed or the ratio fixed are correct or

not. That needs to be seen. I understand that there is an effort to have some more private parties to come and to have some share.

I will say that your MTNL—in spite of everything else of your Department—has done a good job. We should encourage it. There should be quite a distance between the private and the Government, that is the Department of Telecommunications or Telecommunication Services. It should not completely overnight go to the private parties. This is why people say that "this is a Government of the Private parties; for the Private parties and by the Private parties". That slug should be removed from our Department.

Now, coming to the Department of Posts, this is one of the best services that the people get from us. In the rural programmes, the post offices, postal facilities, E.D. services, National Saving Certificates etc. are the services which a villageman looks for. As a Minister or a Member of Parliament if you can give a village one post office they are very happy.

Now, I understand from your report that your Department has prepared a scheme for opening more post offices in rural areas and for having more E.D. post offices in the villages; but the Ministry of Finance has not given the money.

Through this forum, on behalf of all Members of Parliament, without any ism, I shall request the Finance Ministry to provide necessary funds to the Ministry of Posts so that they can start these services in the rural areas.

Today, the system of money order in certain areas has become a source of corruption for the postal officers. When I was the Minister, the then Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao went to Bihar. There was a complaint. I went to the particular post office and saw that the Post Master was paying the village people their money by instalments. Everyday, he was getting more than Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 and as a moneylender, he was telling the village people.

[Translation]

Someone will take away your money, let it be with us and take it whenever you require.

[English]

And religiously, he was to pay everybody. He had a big sum at his disposal. There was no inspection. Some people complained and so, I went there. It may be there in other parts of the country also. The menace has started in the country.

[Shri Santosh Mohan Dev]

The courier services started from our times and to counter it, the Department started Speed Post Service. This service started very well. There was a clause that from one point to the other, you have to deliver the parcel within so much time and if you do not deliver, you have to return the money. But what happens now? The courier services are growing and growing. In every corner of a big town, there will be a courier service. But why is the Government-run Speed Post service not improving? I do not know. We have to look into it. Why can we not give good service? If a private courier service can provide good service, why can we not? I have been told that if you give a parcel at the airport, at certain sensitive airports, unless it is kept for 48 hours, it cannot be sent whereas what do the private couriers do? They send it through a passenger with a suitcase and say that you take it to Kolkatta and post it from there. Our Postal Department being a Government Department cannot do it, but we must take corrective steps regarding checking of parcels and other things.

Now, I come to accommodation. When I was the Minister, I travelled to many areas. I went to Kolkatta GPO. There was a complaint that sorting takes a lot of time. The Union Leader took me around the post office and intentionally kicked a packet. It went from one place to another at a distance of 10 feet. I asked him to bring it here, but he said; 'No'. This is International Air Service Centre sorting and this kick of mine has taken it from Germany to Australia. This is the space where I am doing all sorting for foreign air mail and foreign service and there is lack of space.' Now, Union Leaders are telling that it started well, but it has been stalled suddenly. I do not know 'why'. The facilities must be given to the workers to do work in a hygienic atmosphere and in a comfortable way.

Another Memorandum is given to us by postal RMS Service people saying that after retirement, all Central Government employees, even their counterparts in the telecommunications, also get medical benefit, but the RMS and Postal Department employees do not get any medical benefit after retirement. If this is a fact, this is not proper. If the employees of their sister organisation get medical benefit after retirement, why must not the employees of other Departments?

There are many more points which I do not want to ask. I would only request Shri Ram Vilas Paswan that during my time, the North-Eastern region was one Circle.

In Assam, I have created both Postal and Telecommunication Circles separately. At that time, it was also felt that other North-Eastern States should also get separate circles because the population has gone up, and also the quantum of mail and other things have also

gone up. A large number of people are using these postal services. My friend, Shri Sangtam, will speak about other North-Eastern States. I just want to say that North-Eastern States depend very much on your telecommunication as well as postal services. What is happening is that if a man dies today, his *shraddh* is performed after 11 days, but we get the letter from Silchar only after 15 days. When it happened during my tenure, I showed it to the officer and said, "This is how your service is". It is happening even now. So, the service has to be improved. It may be due to lack of facilities or air service. When something has to be sent by air, people used to calculate the costs and say, "This much is our loss".

Mr. Minister, you have improved the railway movement and other facilities in the North-Eastern region because you have got a soft-corner for it. If you conduct a study to find out how much money you would be losing by sending mail by air from North-Eastern region to other parts of the country, then you would find that it would not be much. As long as I was the Minister, it continued. Now, it has been stopped. I do not know whether it will start again. The point is that the mail has to be sent by air and not by road.

I do not want to take much time. Since you are there, I am confident that the situation will change, that is, not only in respect of service, but also in terms of honesty and integrity of the Department.

With these words, I conclude. I thank you for giving me this opportunity. "With your permission, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an authenticated copy of the journal "*Dhristibong*".

CUT MOTIONS

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Department of Posts (Page 11) be reduced by Rs. 100"

6. Need to increase substantially the postal facilities in the Malappuram district of Kerala in view of its special features and growing need.

"THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS (PAGE 35-36) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100"

7. Need to expedite and complete delayed telephone exchanges and expansion programme in the Ponnani Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala.

"The paper sought to be laid on the Table by Shri Santosh Mohan Dev, M.P. was not treated as paper laid on the Table.

8. Need to expedite removal of cable and equipment shortages delaying telephone exchanges expansion programmes in the Ponnani Parliamentary constituency of Kerala.

9. Need to set up a separate Secondary Switching Area (telecommunications) for the district Malappuram with its headquarters in Tirur in Kerala.

"That the demand under the Head Department of Telecom Services (Page 13) be Reduced by Rs. 100"

10. Need to increase substantially the telegraph facilities in the Malappuram district of Kerala in view of its special features and growing need.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue of telecommunication is being debated. Telecommunication consists of Postal Department, telecommunication and telecommunication services. Lately, there has been an evident progress in the field of telecommunication and in view of this progress we can say that we are not lagging behind in providing public services but there is need for improvement in it. Though improvements are made constantly and latest technology is being used in this field. We are giving stress on numbers and lacking in quality, so attention should be paid towards it. At the time of partition, there were only 65-70 thousand telephones in the country whereas now this number has increased up to 2.5 crore. A vast network of telephone lines has been laid and there is need for more resources to maintain it properly. Implements required for this purpose are not available in sufficient quantity and such shortcoming should be removed.

Time-schedule should be adhered to while formulating policies. Programmes should be time-bound. As just now Sontosh Mohan Dev was saying that while formulating this policy, it was decided that these achievements will be made by 1997 and later on this period was extended up to 2000 and again extended upto 2002. As the programmes are not time bound and it gives rise to apprehensions in minds of people. Every programme should be time-bound. If any change is brought in a programme, reasons for it should be mentioned essentially. Recently expansion of telecommunication has been done, and for it the work undertaken in rural areas plays an important role. The technology used in rural areas has proved unsuccessful. I would like to tell that report of Standing Committee on Telecommunications has been

presented here. It has been written on page 27 of this report that—

"New technology will be used for providing village PCO and purchase of equipments based on MARR technology has been suspended since August 1997. This year also the same plea has been given by the Department. It has been stated that after estimating suitability of technology, three technologies, namely wireless, local loop W.S.L. C-DoT TDMA/PMP and Satellite systems will be set up for providing village PCOs."

The Department is not certain about the functioning of such an important sector. While expressing its views on it the Committee has recommended to bring certainty in this field.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are well aware of the position of Communication equipments in rural areas. New towers have been erected at various places but these are lying idle for last 2 or 3 years. Through questions and other means I have raised this issue in the Parliament time and again. Network of telecommunication has been laid but these services could not be provided properly, then how according to your proposal it will be possible to provide those services in rural areas. I would like to make a submission that we are lagging behind in our target of providing telephone per 100 persons. In comparison to Japan, England and other countries, our ratio of telephone per hundred person is quite less, it comes to 2 or 2.5 per cent. We wish to bring it to 7 and the Department has proposed to bring it to 15 per cent by 2010 and by 2005 it will be brought to 7 per cent. I would like to say that work in this field is being executed expeditiously, it should be accelerated further and capacity should also be increased. Shortage of equipments is the reason for low capacity in this field. I would like to know whether by the end of year 2000 we would be able to link all the districts with Internet.

I would like to cite an example. Hon'ble Minister is not present here at the moment. Just now, I have told him that micro towers have been erected and due to non-availability of a small equipment, these could not be made operational for the last 1.5 or 2 years. Crores of rupees have been spent on erection of these towers but no facilities could be provided through these. What is the reason for delay in it? Secondly, I would like to say that there are 7 factories under telecom Department and these are functioning efficiently and producing the equipments as per their capacity. The Department is purchasing equipments from outside instead of purchasing from their own factories. Capacity of these factories can be increased and utilized properly. But in place of doing so, crores of rupees are being spent for purchasing these

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

equipments from outside. Our factories have produced goods worth crores and these should be given more orders. Workers of these factories should get work as they are capable of increasing their production. These factories produce C.T. Cabinet, C.T. boxes, line jack units and accessories for micro towers. In spite of it, these equipments are purchased from outside. Quotations should be invited and certain system should be followed for executing the work. I would like to say that it is not being done. I would like to say that functioning of the Department should be made rational and transparency be maintained in this regard.

The Committee on Telecommunications has expressed its unhappiness over this. I would not like to quote the same here. But he was very clear about it. Not providing work to our own factories and giving work to others instead is not proper. This was raised on page 23. It has clearly been mentioned there in that instead of giving work to our own factories it is being given to others. It has been stated that "Committee notes it with concern that Budgetary provisions for (1999-2000) was estimated at Rs. 12.92 crores for Telecommunication factories which has been reduced to Rs. 7.00 crores in (1999-2000). It has been fixed at Rs. 9.84 crores for the year 2000-2001. The Department has given the reasons for reduction in budgetary allocations for these two years (1999-2000) (2000-2001) and has stated that these estimates are based on the expenditure on these schemes. The Committee do not find reasons of reduction in budgetary allocations of Telecommunications factories satisfactory."

Therefore, I am requesting you that somewhere there should be some rationalization. There is need to control the net we have spread. There was a discussion on the Telephone Regulatory Authority of India. I do not want to go into that. But autonomy should be given to the Autonomous Corporation so set up, so as to make it capable. Today this is very necessary. According to the TRAI, 12 private operators have been granted licences in 4 metropolis under private partnership. Alongwith that 24 licence circular services were expanded including 18 telecom circles. I would like to make a mention of that also to them. They are also not working properly. Benefit which ought to have accrued to the poor people of the country is not reaching them. But our policies have been evolved to reach the benefits to the poor.

I am quoting this from a newspaper. When its evil effects are very clear then why such policies are being evolved which are not useful. We have to look into its background for the common man. As I have said earlier the Government did not make any provision to provide them assistance in Budget. They make budgetary provisions on the basis of revenue they receive.

In the end the net result that come is that we should not remain in doubt that private parties in whose interest TRAI is being made stronger will ever step into the Telecommunications sector to work some time in rural India without less benefit. Even in rural areas of America there are adequate high quality facilities which we want to see in India also. Along with this the other department comes is the Postal Department. They have their own problems. Disparity in pay structure is also prevalent in the DOT. There are JTOs in the DOT also. One is JTOs (T.F.) and the other is JTOs telecom. They are called factories engineer. Recommendations had been made in these favour in the Fifth Pay Commission. They did not receive any benefit due to which there is great resentment among them and due to that resentment adverse effect is felt on our production.

About telephone system I would like to request that wherever expansion has taken place and new telephone exchanges are being set up to provide facilities to lakhs of people attention should be paid to quality. We want that by the year 2002 high-speed data Multi-media should be developed in cities having a population of more than two lakhs.

There are certain difficulties with the department of posts also. There was a discussion on E.D. employees in the House. But no decision has been taken about their service-conditions. The Minister of Communications has also raised this issue many a time. At the time of partition we had 3344 post-offices which has now increased to 1.75 lakhs. The number of rural post-offices is about 1.67 lakhs. The entire work has been distributed among circles. No attention has been paid to providing facilities to lesser significant people, working in rural areas. A new system in rural areas called the DOORSANCHAR SEWA KENDRA has been started. Though Seva Kendras have been set up, required facilities have not been provided there. If someone asks for tickets he is not able to get even that also. There is no system as to who will remain there and who will not. While there are problems with the E.D. employees, there are problems with the Doorsanchar Sewa Kendras also. The Government may open less number of centers, if more postal facilities are provided to those people, that will largely benefit the rural areas. The people will also appreciate that there is the Railway Mail Service but this service does not work in rail coaches. There is a need to expand this service. Mail lies unattended in them for a long time. A new service called the E-Mail services has been started, but there is not much progress in the work. It is necessary that there is proper progress in the work. There should be rapid progress in E-mail service. The Standing Committee on Ministry of Communication has expressed their unhappiness over it. There should be proper review

on it and the work should be done properly. I would like to make a request about the progress in Telecommunications sector.

[*English*]

The Committee finds that out of 670 Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras set up during the Eighth Plan, 613 are functioning, while 57 PSSKs had to be closed down due to negligible transaction of postal stamps and stationery by "the agents there".

[*Translation*]

If the Government want to provide services in this way and negligence is shown all along, how the benefit of these facilities will reach people? There is a need to do more work in the Telecommunications sector. I would like to make a submission about the sectors where more attention is needed. Expansion of telephone services is taking place. Though new buildings have been constructed for telephone exchanges. They do not have ordinary equipments. Towers have been erected and the cost involved in them is in crores of rupees. I am talking about my own Constituency. Two towers, one in Sigodi and other in Garod have been erected there. They can be started by installing equipments with a simple cost. This will benefit the ordinary areas. Similarly, there are no buildings in many big cities. They are working in rented buildings for years. I requested many a time that when we are earning huge revenue from them and the State Governments are also ready to provide land, we should construct our own buildings there. In far-flung and rural areas wherever possible, buildings should be constructed. Action should be taken in this regard to some up, we can say that though development has taken place yet there is scope for further improvements in it. They will get benefits from TRAI as well as from that of the private sector, which has been entrusted, with the job. I found that private companies in the name of work have dug pit holes at many places and work goes on there for months. People face difficulties. This puts contrary adverse effect on the services. This should be taken care of. There is no mobile service in my Constituency of Mandsaur. Though contract was given yet work has not been done.

Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev was just saying that we are reducing charges on STD and other calls. This is a good thing. Though people will get facilities due to this, the revenue collection will fall down. Under the circumstances how we will be able to construct new buildings and take up new experiments? There has been fast progress in communication service due to use of optical fibre for the past few years. But many other equipments are needed. Without going into details I would

request the hon'ble Minister to pay attention towards this. Besides expansion, quality is also necessary. We need buildings, housing. Disparities found in pay structure needs to be removed. There is a need to set right the Telecommunications services in rural areas otherwise people will prefer no Telecommunication facilities to faulty telephone facilities. Every time it is said that so many telephone connections would be given and so many connections have been provided. Money has been deposited with department for last 2-3 years but telephone connections are not given. If people go and ask for telephone connections they are misbehaved. I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Communications Minister that people who have deposited money should be given telephone connections on time. If the Government have no capacity to give telephone connections why money was taken? I have drawn the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards problems being faced in my area. He should get them removed.

With these words, I would like to say that attention should be paid to all these points so that all are benefited. Though progress has taken place, the country expects a lot from this Government. The Government will definitely make improvements in the services. At least, I am confident that Shri Paswan will surely look into this matter so that there will be further rise in telephone facilities and there will be quality in the services. Then only people will be benefited. I can definitely say that much development has taken place in the telecommunications sector and much progress has taken place in it.

[*English*]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refrain from going into the nitty-gritty of several provisions of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. Rather, at the outset, I shall try to make some observations with regard to policy initiatives. During the Congress regime Telecom Policy 1994 was introduced. One of the objectives of that policy was telephone for all. But if we have a look at the rural scenario, we find that half of the villages of India are yet to get telephone connections. The energetic Minister who was earlier the Railway Minister has assured that by 2002 all the villages, particularly the *panchayats*, will be extended telephone connections. I wish him all success. But I have grave doubts.

We have already got some indications as to how the TRAI is going to function. The TRAI is sought to be taken away from the purview of the scrutiny of the C&AG, just because the C&AG has made some scathing remarks about the misdeeds, in the form of overseas allowances, by the TRAI officials.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

India is being praised for having nearly 40 per cent of the technocrats in the Silicon Valley. Many countries like Germany, the U.K. and the U.S. have complimented India for its success in the IT sector. But we are ignoring our own technology and we are ignoring our own technocrats. The TRAI does not consist of any technocrats. Prof. Jhunjhunwalla of IIT, Chennai, has come out with a cheaper version of the wireless in the local loop technology. But the Ministry of Communications has not given clearance to it. Qualcomm, a US company and Daffault, a French company are having collaborations with our IITs. In such a circuitous way, foreign technology is being brought into our country, while the indigenous technology is being ignored. The Government has not been able to fulfill its assurance because of its preference to serve the richer sections through the cellular phone to providing basic telephone services to the rural people. Although, the Minister has gone ahead saying that in this age of information technology revolution, digital revolution, it is the Internet service that counts. This is when the basic service is not available. We all know about the scam involved in MARR technology, versions 1 and 2. We know how the Sukh Ram syndrome is continuing.

The Telecom reform has been described as synonymous with scam. Once in the places of worship, crore of Rupees were found, behind the DoT, sometimes inside the pillow and the same syndrome is continuing. I am constrained to make this observation that people associated with the highest office in this country are pulling the string. What has the former Chief of the State Bank of India to do about Telecom? What has the former Chief of the CBDT to do about Telecom? I would like to give only one example because of constraint of time. It has happened very recently.

MTNL a profit-making public sector undertaking has been asked by the Income Tax Department to pay Rs. 209 crore as income tax. They contested saying, it is the licence fee and it should be considered as revenue expenditure. There is a Committee of Dispute Settlement which goes into the matter whenever there is a dispute between the Government and the public sector undertaking. They have not given any verdict. The MTNL approached the Chief of CBDT, the same person who has now been taken as a Member of TRAI. He retired on 31st March. It has never happened in this country. How much of an undertaking of the stature of MTNL will be disinvested will be decided by the Government. Everything will be controlled by this Government. Even after that, they are making profit. On 29th and 30th March, all the bank accounts of MTNL were frozen. It has never happened in free India. It only indicates the bias attitude of TRAI. Now, TRAI is not regulating the function but it is only serving the interests of those private operators who are

out to exploit the situation, who have deliberately not paid their due licence fee. They said that they had made wrong projections. Who told them to make wrong projections? They said that they had expected more than what they could reach. Who told you to do that? Suddenly, very rich multi national company who is operating from behind the scene became poor.

I charge this Government, particularly the highest office in this country, that they are involved in this scam and by the process of revenue sharing the country has lost not less than Rs. 2,000 crore. This has come out not only in the newspapers but it is the unanimous report of the Standing Committee. The Committee is not aware as to what were the considerations which persuaded the Department to agree to change over to the revenue sharing regime and how the national interest has been subverted by such migration, especially when even now there is hardly any implementation by the private operators. Was there any proper study made? Has anyone gone into that? The Minister owes it to the House to tell how the calculation of 15 per cent was made. Better than paying the licence fee, it switched over to the revenue sharing regime. What was the loss suffered by the Government? Here is a unanimous report of the Standing Committee.

16.00 hrs.

It says:

"The switch over has cost the exchequer more than Rs. 2000 crore. There is no justification of the change over in view of the loss of revenue to the Department and the uncertainties still prevailing in the participation and performance of the private operators."

So, opening up has not helped.

About the quality, they said it would be the world-class quality. They promised it in the Telecom Policy. Their world-class telecom quality is that wherever telecom had been working are no longer working now. This is the world-class quality!

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH PRANJPE (Thane): Do you provide in Bengal also?

[Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: If it is in Bengal, I would have improved it....(Interruptions) I will show you the position of your region....(Interruptions) You have yourself mentioned the situation of Bihar....(Interruptions)

It is not the legacy of Lalu Yadav or R.J.D. Government....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

They are trying to provoke me and I am losing my time because of them.

Out of 21 telecom circles, for 11 circles no parties have been finalised even today for basic telecom services. Mr. Minister may please note this. You want to go where there is more profit. You want to be an Information Technology super power. I would say that internet service is dependent on good quality, adequate telecom services, adequate power supply and many more things. When you have failed even at the basic telecom service level, how are you promising such high things as internet service?

I do not know why the Telecommunication Ministry is still continuing. Because it was said in the Telecom Policy:

"Create a modern and efficient telecommunication infrastructure, taking into account the convergence of IT, Media, Telecom, Consumer Electronics and there by propel India into becoming an IT super power."

Shri Arun Jaitley is going his own way in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. It is the job of somebody else. You are following the directions of the PMO. You say 'what can I do; PMO has decided it; the Communications Minister is following the IT directives'. So, there is no convergence.

In the States, so many times you are quoting Bill Clinton saying that US has said this regarding the Silicon Valley; our own boys and girls are doing it. Such is the praise. Is there only one authority? There is no such thing. What the Information Technology Department says, the Communications Ministry ignores. What the Communications Ministry says, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has nothing to do with. Therefore, there is no coordination among them. There is only one authority and they are all subservient to that—some influential and important people associated with the highest office; a former bureaucrat and his associates, some people in the Telecom and SBI Chief. There is no technocrat.

There are so many very successful technocrats. Mr. Sam Pitroda had been brought here. Yes, he is there and he continues to do a lot. We might have basic differences with him on many things. But we agree that this. NRI has tried to contribute in the C-DoT technology. What are you doing with this technology? In one reply the Minister has said that there is a Committee headed

by Shri Tapan Sikdar. He says that some new technologies have been identified. We can identify technologies in other countries. We know that in UK, the telecom revolution was brought about by an Indian lady.

You know how Indians are contributing, the NRIs are contributing to the development of various countries throughout the world. Mr. Minister, you say that we shall identify the indigenous technology where as in respect of the Local Loop technology, Dr. Jhunjhunwala was ready to offer it at one-third of the international cost. Why have you not given the frequency spectrum clearance till today? We find that one American Company, the Analogue Devices of the U.S. has already made an arrangement with Dr. Jhunjhunwala of IIT, Chennai to develop the WILL technology which will be marketed by the Analogue Devices. You are saying that you are identifying it. You are going through the circuitous way, through the IIT to Qualcomm and Daffaut. You are ignoring our own technology. I do not know what this Committee is doing. I was thinking of using a very harsh word but I should not do it. I am refraining from it. There is enough potential in our country. I would request you to just use this technology. I am giving you two examples.

The Indian Telephone Industries is one of the best companies in the world. I have myself visited the unit in different capacities. They say that they are the world-class instrument makers. They made profits. What are we doing? Are you helping them? No.

Then, there is the Hindustan Cables Limited which was considered as a deemed subsidiary of DoT. What have you done about that? It was making profits. You are giving all the tenders, orders and everything to others who are having our own products. Our own people are being taken away.

Very briefly, let me make a reference to one thing. Once I had visited a very important C-DoT unit. There, I heard that the foreign multinational companies were poaching with in our own area, our own technocrats. While our companies are making some ordinary claims, they are being ignored. Their technology was ignored. Their services were ignored. Our own people were weaned away by the Telecom majors who are out to just exploit the Indian market. These issues have all been referred to in the Standing Committee Report.

A scam has come up with regard to the Sankhya Vahini Project. The Minister may say that he did not agree to it in the Cabinet meeting. He might say that he did not know what happened in the Cabinet and he was not supposed to know about it. What has come out in the latest *India Today*? They have come out with all the commentaries about Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

special interest. It is stated that he has written to the Prime Minister saying that it should be implemented without any further delay. Who cleared it? How was it cleared? Was there any bidding? What is the sort of technology that is offered? Does it in any way affect our security? Have these questions been raised by the CPM, the Congress or by any other Opposition Party? No. It is the RSS Chief who publicly says this. What does he say? The RSS Chief says that the *Sankhya Vahini* project is a serious threat to our national security....(Interruptions) Mr. Minister, it might have gone beyond your notice. It is being said by a very important journalist and I quote:

"In fact the *Sankhya Vahini* project has an unsavoury smell to it. One of the brains associated with the overseas component of the project is known to have links with the Department of Defence (DoD) of the US Government. He had offered to do a similar project for DARPA, an arm of the Pentagon, set up in the 70s to counter Soviet threats to US networks. Pentagon may well be interested, but since the entity concerned was largely untested in the field of high speed data networks, the project failed to take off. The third world has always been a good testing ground for fledgling entrepreneurs, and India is no exception."

"With the *Sankhya Vahini* project paid for by the Indian tax payer, this entity was preparing the ground to make it an experiment of sorts. If it succeeded, the Pentagon would be the beneficiary. If it did not, what the hell, it's only a bunch of Third worlders. This explains why Thengadi screamed national security!"

Sir, who is this Raj Reddy? How could he come into the picture? Who completed the transaction without any norm, without any bidding? Why is this pressure by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh? It was a part of the recommendation of the Task Force. This was the technology that the Pentagon tried to use against the Soviet Union. They failed and this is the experiment they want to do in India. You do not listen to us, but listen to your mentors, the RSS Chief, the RSS Advisors. They are saying that our national security is in jeopardy.

Sir, the Standing Committee on Communications has also made this observation. The unanimous report of the Standing Committee has expressed its surprise over the provision of a sum of Rs. 24.26 crore in the Budget Estimates for 2000-2001 for Rs. 1,300 crore joint venture project, *Sankhya Vahini* with the IT Net of Carnegie Milan University. The company has not yet taken shape and no legal requirements have been met, but the agreement was completed. Have you ever heard of an agreement being signed even before the company was born? The company was set up only after the agreement has been

completed. You are doing such nice things in your Ministry of Communications!

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): This is the transparency of the NDA Government and their Agenda for National Governance.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: This is true.

Sir, the Standing Committee, in its report, says:

"It appears to the Committee that the technology was selected amongst many similar technologies and a particular concern was chosen to be a partner of DTS without any evaluation of the merits of one of the similar technologies and of also other possible partners. The Committee strongly recommend that the matter should be looked into in depth. It concerns our national security and fullest disclosure should be made as to why a particular technology has been selected without following the usual procedure and why DTS was kept out of the process of evaluation."

Who did it? The Prime Minister's Office determines everything, even though there is a Communications Minister. Even if he does not agree to certain things, the hon. Minister belonging to the same party will have to go. These things have taken place and the telecom scandal in the Indian situation has taken such dimensions that any right thinking citizen of this country cannot remain silent, because extra-constitutional powers are influencing the Prime Minister's Office, they are influencing the tender process and our potential to grow has been curtailed.

Sir, as you are aware, the information technology is very important in this age. Even one per cent increase in telecom density may lead to 13 per cent increase in GDP. In Germany, in less than three years, 300 per cent growth had taken place by using Wireless in Local Loop technology, which our scientist, Dr. Jhunjhunwala can provide at one-third of the international price. What has happened in Argentina? In less than two years, they have covered more areas by using this technology. Our scientists can do wonders. The United Kingdom is looking at us, the United States of America is looking at us and Germany, after a long time, has said that the Green Cards would be given to the Indian scientists, to the Indian software experts. So, this Government is ruining the potential. This Government is hand in glove with the private operators. This Government is not following the correct path. In the name of New Telecom Policy, they are ruining the potential. They are ruining the growth of this country. I oppose the Demands for Grants. I hope that the Minister will reply to the points I have raised during the course of my speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy to participate in this debate of Department of Telecommunication and I am thankful that you have given me time to speak. It is a matter of happiness for me that this Department is being headed by Paswanji. I feel that our country will very shortly make a place for itself as compared to other countries of the world as a result of the plan being framed by Shri Paswanji to bring revolution in this Department. Though this department has made a lot of progress but if we compare our country with other countries of the world, we find that we are still lagging far behind and we should not be complacent in this regard. Since Paswanji is a very dedicated person and also takes interest in the development work, we are hopeful that he will definitely bring about an acceleration in the progress. It appears that in order to bring about telecom revolution in the villages, the DOT is facing many hurdles. One of the main reasons behind this is that there are certain groups of people who have established themselves in this department. As we hear in Delhi that there is some South Indian lobby, Bengali lobby and Punjabi lobby. There are many lobbies like this. When we were in Bihar, we used to hear that certain person is Rajput and the other is Brahmin and so on and here in Delhi we hear a lot about lobby. I am unable to understand these lobbies which are working as pressure group on the Departments and Ministries of Government of India. The people say that if any Minister tries to resist the pressure of these lobbies he has to depart. Paswanji, you must pay some attention to identify this lobby and root it out. We frequently hear that due to the lobby of such people, precious money of the department is also plundered.

Sir, I am a member of PAC also and do not want to dwell on those points which have been mentioned in the report of the PAC regarding Telecom Department. We have very keenly observed them. On observing these points, it seems that the officers of the Department do not work properly. Sometimes the money is not spent under that particular head for which it is allocated and sometimes part of funds remain unutilized for more than 8-9 years. Hence there is a need to pay serious attention towards these lacunae so that no misuse of the Government funds may take place. Now-a-days there is talk of providing telephone connections or opening telephone exchanges in the rural areas and exchanges are being set up also. Paswanji, I will especially draw your attention towards the situation in Bihar about which you are already aware. I do not remember the name of your C.G.M. but the people accused that it is due to him that the progress of Bihar has stopped. He is an unfit person and you must try to find out his misdeeds. As

per the junior level officers, the pace of the development is not picking up due to the indifferent attitude of the CGM. I request that the present CGM should be replaced by a suitable CGM so that Bihar may progress in the field of telecommunication. We have been given this privilege by the Government to recommend 50 telephone connections in rural areas. But when the demand for telephone connection in rural areas exceeds our quota then we approach your Ministry and get further connections sanctioned. But despite the recommendations of the Hon. Minister and also his predecessor, no telephone connections have been provided in Chhapra TDM zone even after five-six months. Why the pace of work is so slow. When we have been given this right, then the telephone connections should be provided on priority basis in rural areas. But even after this if it takes 6-7 months then I can say that there is no such thing as priority. Hence, I would request the Minister to look into it and see that the connections being released from the Ministry installed immediately.

Secondly, a lot of scandal is taking place in Bihar and other states with regard to the funds sent for laying down the cables and digging of soil. There is a system for digging and laying cables. But in reality, tenders are awarded to a few particular contractors who in collusion with the officers concerned indulge in the misuse of large amount of funds due to which development does not take place properly. After some time, the cable develops faults and does not work properly.

There is slow progress in opening new telephone exchanges or replacing the old exchanges with the new one. Once you had said that you will conduct a meeting with us in this regard. I would like to request you to pay more attention towards Bihar. I would not say that you are not interested in the development of Bihar but since Bihar is a backward state and in Parliament also whenever discussion takes place members make sarcastic remark about Bihar's backwardness. Hence, I request you that being a part of Government you should try to bring Bihar back to the place of glory so that it may not remain a subject of criticism.

As per our religious books and history, Bihar has been the guiding state in politics and in education. But today Bihar is a subject of sarcastic remark which gives us pain. Hon'ble Chairman might have also seen that sometimes we also become a subject of controversy. Therefore, I request you to make effort for providing telephone connection in rural areas.

Though the Postal Department has made things available in the remotest areas but Ramvilasji, I would like to say that the work is not being carried on properly

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

as it should have been carried out. I would like to narrate one incident in this regard. Once a labourer working in Punjab wrote a letter to his family. After four years he went back to his home where he died. After 7 years of his death that letter reached. His wife used to cry on seeing that letter. I am unable to understand as to why that letter took so much time reaching to Bihar from Punjab.

You have announced that Post Offices will be opened in rural areas at a distance of 3 Kms. But some regions have their specific geographical conditions hence distance factor should not be given much importance. For instance, I had written a letter to you and the former Minister also in this regard. There is a village called Gamcho which falls under Dastur police station of Seewan District. That village is inhabited by a very backward caste and no person belonging to higher caste is residing there. It is situated on the border of Chhapra and Seewan and river Gohari passes through it. The people of this area do not have any means to communicate. Many a times the people living there have pleaded and we have also written a letter in this regard. Only this much reply was given that the letter has been received and necessary action is being taken. It seems that to reply in negative for everything has become the mentality of the high officers. It would not do. You are a strong Minister. If the process of giving such negative reply continues in the Government then it will not set a good example. You must pay attention towards the remotest areas and try to make arrangement for opening up post offices in those areas where no means of communication are available. I had also written a letter in regard to the Kodaria village of Sarang which is a border district of Gopalganj and Chhapra. It is surrounded by river Gundak from one side and from river Gohari the other side. There is not post office in that village. The people of this area are facing a lot of problem. You should pay attention towards these areas and make adequate arrangement for this most backward areas. New exchanges are being set up and old exchanges are also functioning. Employees who were working on daily wages, their retrenchment has taken place in large number. We have been informed that due to shortage of employees telephone exchanges are not maintained. I have written a letter giving example of one employee to you. I do not remember his name. He worked for seven years at your place. You also passed orders to reinstate him but till now no such orders have been passed. I went there and asked DET also. I asked them why action was not taken against the Government orders. I was told that Ministers orders are not honoured you have to amend the law. He was daily wagger. Your exchanges are neither looked after nor maintained. An employee who worked for you continuously though orders

were passed by you. If such thing has happened then it is tragic incident. Employee who has worked for seven years should be re-instated in service. You sets huge exchange after spending money but that becomes useless due to shortage of employees. This is not in the interest of the country. Ensure proper maintenance of such places. Provide regular employment to person who have rendered services to you.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope that the backward areas especially of Bihar will be received and proper arrangement of telephone and post offices will be made. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K.S. SANGTAM (Nagaland): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. The earlier speakers have spoken a lot about the various policies and tie-ups with multinationals regarding telecommunications. I would just like to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister that in this 21st century, there has been a lot of improvement in the telecom sector. Technologies have been upgraded and all the countries of the world seem to have come closer to one another.

16.31 hrs.

[SHRI P.H. PANDYAN *in the Chair*]

In this country also, because of the improvement and upgradation of the technology, all the States seem to have come closer to one another. But I would like to mention here that telecommunications system in the North-East still seems to be lagging behind and the teledensity today, which is 2.20 for the country as a whole, is only 0.92 for the North-East region, which is very-very negligible. I think, if you compare the population and the area, the North-East region has still got a long way to go, as compared to the rest of the country. I would just like to quote one or two lines from the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Communications. It say:

"The Telecom Policy 1994 had aimed at providing telephone on demand and also covering all the villages in the country with at least one Village Public Telephone by 1997. Subsequently the target date was postponed to 2000 AD and again to 2002 AD."

Further it says:

"Some of the more important objectives of the New Telecom Policy 1999 have been to provide universal service to all uncovered areas, including rural areas, to achieve a teledensity of seven per cent by 2005 and 15 per cent by 2010, to cover all villages by 2002."

Then, I would like to read out another few lines regarding North-East:

"The Committee is highly concerned to note that for the North-East region, the target set for VPTs for the year 1999-2000 was 5000 whereas the achievement up to 29.2.2000 has been only 731."

I think if you look at these figures, there are some very very important aspects which the Ministry of Communications has to look into very carefully. I commit and admit that there has been some disturbance. There is no doubt about that. But taking into consideration that in a State like Nagaland, ever since the telecommunications came to being, out of three posts of SDOs, there is not a single SDO till today; out of 15 sanctioned posts of STEs, only six STEs are there; and out of 33 posts of JTOs, only 19 are in position. With regard to the General Manager's post, which was created in the month of June last year, the officer is yet to report to the post. Till today he has not come to report. Looking at this very picture, I think whichever officer has to be posted, should be posted immediately. The General Manager, who is a responsible officer and who is supposed to be giving orders and looking to the various projects, should also be posted immediately. Right from the beginning, there has been only one Chief General Manager posted in Shillong and he has to cover six States in the North-East, namely, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Meghalaya. As one of the speakers from my party said earlier—he was a Union Minister also—the area was bifurcated and they created one Chief General Manager's post for Assam also.

The Chief General Manager who is stationed in Shillong has to cover wide areas of six States. These States are small States but they are equivalent to any other State category-wise these North-East States are equivalent to bigger States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, U.P., Bihar and so on. The distance to be covered by this Chief General Manager from one end of the other end is more than five to six hundred kilometres. Considering the difficult terrain, I think there needs to be another post of Chief General Manager created for which we can give the nomenclature as Chief General Manager, North-East-I who will have the headquarters, as before, at Shillong and will look after Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. The second Chief General Manager can look after the States of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. His headquarters can be kept at Dimapur as Arunachal Pradesh happens to be on the north of Nagaland and Manipur happens to be on the south of Nagaland.

Shillong, being the old Capital of Assam and Meghalaya, and sometimes we call the Capital of the

North-East also, can still continue to look after Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. That way, whatever we have just read out we can achieve it. Otherwise we cannot achieve the target. Otherwise it will just remain a dream. It is because till today the Chief General Manager is not able to cover, in one year, some of the States which are under him. This is a very pathetic state of affairs there.

I am talking only about one aspect of one State. There are other States like Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh etc. where the road communication is so bad that some officers have to travel for days together to reach a particular spot.

Therefore, I think, we should now look back to this kind of problems which are faced by the Department. We are now talking about the Internet, Video conferencing E-Mail etc. It seems that we do not have such infrastructure in the North-East. Whatever we are now using is taken from Kolkatta through Guwahati. If one is fortunate to browse in the Internet, it takes three to four hours! It is wastage of a lot of time. The channels are very-very few. Therefore, I would request the Minister that when they have so much of money in the non-lapsable ten per cent North-East package of the Prime Minister, I think that money could be utilised to put up one antenna to tap the Internet service through the satellite and give that exclusive service for the entire North-East.

There are few other things which I would like to also point out. Many of the officers who are serving in the North-East, do not have proper accommodation and do not have proper quarters. Sometimes the buildings are not available. Sometimes the exchanges are put up in the rented buildings. I think that with this non-lapsable fund that we have, we should be able to construct more buildings for the staff as well as for the exchanges.

There are a few cases of very serious matters of malpractice which have been brought to the attention of some of the M.Ps. I believe that some M.Ps. have already drawn the attention of the Ministry to this aspect that there is an exchange near Moran in Dibrugarh district, Assam where some of the telecommunication officials are involved in getting connection from even Mumbai, Kolkotta etc. to put to ISD. I think that matter has come to your notice and therefore a proper enquiry should be held. Crores and crores of rupees have been lost. It is a very serious breach of rules. This is a grave concern which the Government should look into very seriously.

There are other aspects also which I want to tell you concerning the six other States. Assam also has an important part to play. Most of our transactions and business are through Assam—whether it is Mizoram,

[Shri K.S. Sangtam]

Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Meghalaya for that matter. So, the telecommunication facilities in Assam need to be backed up properly.

Then, we have the international trade centres which have been now earmarked in various places in Manipur, Nagaland and Meghalaya. These will play a very important role in the near future. Unless we take proper measure right from the beginning, people from across the border like from Myanmar, Bangladesh etc. would not be interested to come because today most of the business is done through telecommunications system and the present system that we have may not suit their taste.

Therefore, I would like to make a suggestion that places like in Manipur where we have the very important trade centre should be well developed. Recently we have three trade centres opened in Nagaland at Pongro, Pangscha and one other centre which is near the border, at Longwa.

I think, these telephone exchanges should be immediately installed to give a boost to the international trade centres because we have a lot of potential just across the international border. They can bring in teak, they can bring in precious stones and for that, they need international connectivity. Unless you provide telephone connections, there is no point in having these international trade centres.

Coming back to our Postal Department, the postal services actually came even before Independence in the North-East. Today, a lot of improvement has been made but much has to be done because most of the buildings, in remote places in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Meghalaya are rented buildings and we do not have the buildings which are owned by the Department.

I am told that last year, there was a surrender of Rs. 3 crore from the Prime Minister's ten per cent non-lapsable fund. I think, the money which has been kept for such North-East projects can be utilised. Not only that, we can also go in for motor van which carries mail and it will enable mail to reach from one to another faster. There are a lot of places where this needs to be done but they have not been covered. So far in Nagaland, recently the motor van was introduced, but there are interior places like Kiphire, Mon, Tuensung, Wokhla, Zunehboto and Tenning which are not accessible and the letter which is posted from Delhi takes nearly two to three weeks to reach. If the Department can introduce these motor vans, it will shorten the time and the mails can be delivered within one week and people can receive their letters and parcels in time.

Another aspect is of computerisation. Many parents, who have their children studying all over the country, send money orders to them from home to the place of study and it takes their children months together to get the amount. So, if computers can be put into these post offices, the EMS can be introduced and money can be delivered within the shortest possible time.

The same thing goes to our postal service regarding the officers posted there. They are working very hard, but since they have an office in Shillong, it is very difficult for the Chief Post Master General to visit all over the six States. Therefore, I would suggest that one more office of Chief Post Master General be opened in Dimapur to cover Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.

Then, it is very sad that during the tenure of Shrimati Sushma Swaraj as the Minister of Communications, the post of the Chief General Manager was transferred to Delhi to accommodate somebody at Delhi and the incumbent has not been posted back till date. Instead of upgrading it and opening more post offices, it seems that the leaders in Delhi seem converging to Delhi. Even if someone wants to accommodate somebody in Delhi, the post should not have been brought to Delhi. So, I think, this is a very serious matter and I would like the hon. Minister to look into it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: From which place has the post of Chief General Manager been brought?

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: It has been brought from Shillong to Delhi.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The orders regarding the post of CGM have been issued.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: But that was there earlier before you assumed office.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Your first point is that you want one post of CGM in Nagaland.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Yes.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Your another point is that the CGM is not working at Shilong.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Yes. The post of Chief General Manager was brought to Delhi and the man who came here was given the rank of Additional Secretary.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: From where was he brought?

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: He was brought from Shillong. The same officer who was brought to Delhi was given the rank of Additional Secretary and was posted in Delhi. But if you have issued the orders reverting it back, I thank you for that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: No, I can tell with full responsibility that the posts both the CGM and PMG are there at Shillong and Shri Chitley has been posted there.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Before you came, this post had been transferred along with the officer holding it, which was not correct.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will look into it.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Therefore, to look after these States, let the Chief Post Master General be in Shillong; for the other three States, let the Chief Post Master General be at Dimapur. This is the suggestion that I would like to make.

The ten per cent amount that has been kept as a non-lapsable fund for the North-East should be utilised for constructing more buildings in the North-East, particularly in the interior places, besides post offices, staff quarters and even boundary walls around the Government land to protect the property because there are reports that there is a lot of encroachment by the public. This money can be used or preventing the encroachments.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE (Ramtek): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I listened four-five speeches here.

[*English*]

They have repeated some points like providing exchanges, post offices corruption in tenders, transfer of officers, contracts being given to a particular lobby, scams, scandals etc. Everywhere, there is corruption right from top to bottom, and that is the universal truth. I do not want to discuss this matter in this august House.

[*Translation*]

Whatever I say

[*English*]

that will be of national interest

[*Translation*]

as we say that

[*English*]

Telecommunications is a huge Department. It is the fourth mode of transportation—the first mode is air, the second is water, and the third is the road.

[*Translation*]

When I am saying that

[*English*]

it is the fastest way of transportation. It is a big subject. I will only talk on three points. My discussion will be very typical and that will be on three points. The first point is about the Indian Telegraph Act; the second point is about the TRAI; the third point is about the revenue sharing policy, and the fourth point is about reduction of cost of mobile telephones.

[*Translation*]

I would like to draw your attention towards a slogan. Whenever I travel in Delhi, I find an advertisement of MTNL which needs.

[*English*]

MTNL is the life-line of Delhi.

[*Translation*]

When we talk of life-line which we call Jewan Rekha in Hindi. Jewan Rekha means once the life ends it cannot be revived. But slogan which is given by MTNL

[*English*]

Is it the ground reality?

[*Translation*]

It is called life-line and is the life-line of MTNL. It is not the ground-reality because these lines are often dead. Therefore the slogan

[*English*]

MTNL is the life-line of Delhi.

[*Translation*]

I am sorry to say, that these lines are often dead whatever I speak, I speak with logic.

[Shri Subodh Mohite]

[English]

I will quote one example from Delhi itself. Telecommunications is a vital supporting system in the Bikaji Cama Place. In the month of March, for fifteen days continuously, nearly 1500 telephones were dead.

[Translation]

I think slogan which is shown and word being used life-line needs some improvement. It is very sad that concerned G.M. of Bikaji Cama did not take cognizance of this. He never tried to listen complaints of people.

[English]

No attempt has been made by the General Manager of Bikaji Cama Place area.

[Translation]

I can well imagine no one can take action against him because he will be there till he is 60 years. I would like to request Shri Paswan that I am having a letter which I sent him in January seeking some information but did not receive reply till date. Even the reply to the effect that it is being examined was not sent. I would like to submit a copy of this letter to him through the House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw attention of the Minister to two-three points through you. Introduction is the first issue. I would like to give some more facts and figures in this regard. It is necessary to take decision in this respect in the interest of the country. India Telegraph Act is there since British era. This Act was enacted in 1885. It was enacted 125 years ago. Though British have gone but this Act is still in vogue.

[English]

Act gives the basic concept to work on. It is the take off point, the starting point.

[Translation]

If runway is not proper take off is difficult. Same is about this Act. The Act which is 125 years old, and if we take into account the Telecom Practice and Telecom policy this Act is outdated. With the enactment of the provisions of this act legal compulsions are not being enforced and hence users are becoming losers.

[English]

This is also due to the inadequate provisions made in the Act which was enacted in 1885.

[Translation]

Many amendments have been brought place in this Act, but only amendments will not serve the purpose. Therefore, I would like to request Shri Paswan to replace the existing Act which was enacted in 1885. Today we are talking about Global Techniques New Act should be enacted on the bases of digital technology. As some people resort to organise rallies give slogan save constitution this will not do. Therefore, Minister should give serious thought to this.

My second point is regarding TRAI. The hon. Member who spoke before me has rightly said that TRAI has become try. The TRAI was set up in 1997. The funny thing is that it split into two parts before starting functioning.

[English]

TRAI was formed in 1997 and within a span of three years it has been splited in two parts-TRAI and the Settlement Tribunal.

[Translation]

My submission is that when TRAI was set up by the Telecom Department in 1997.

[English]

What was the necessity to split TRAI into two within such a short span?

[Translation]

Why it was not thought at that time and why it was not implemented then? Why it was not included in the strategy formed three years ago? Precious time of the House was lost. Funds spent by the Parliament on discussing this strategy was wasted. The major point is that the users did not get the benefits out of it. I do not want to comment it.

[English]

There is no version in the policy of telecommunications. This was a major decision taken three years ago. My third point is on licence fee and revenue sharing fee.

[*Translation*]

It is a very hot and serious issue. First of all, I would like to thank hon. Jagmohanji. He was present in the House and just now he has left. He deserves our congratulations. I have read about his performance. His approach was good.

[*English*]

His approach was a very positive approach and his overall control was a very good control.

[*Translation*]

The claims which have been settled and the revenue receipts which are to be received....

[*English*]

The recovery of revenue receipt was major achievement at the time of Shri Jagmohan. I am very thankful to Shri Jagmohan.

[*Translation*]

I do not want to make a lengthy speech rather I want to put some questions regarding revenue and licencing policy My first question is regarding the norms followed for revenue sharing policy.

[*English*]

What are the norms to accept the revenue sharing policy?

[*Translation*]

My second question is whether the private operators had pressurised the Government to adopt this policy. To what extent it will benefit the private operators and how much loss will the Government suffer? Have any analysis been done in this regard? How will the Government fix guarantee of a fixed revenue in respect of a loss making company?

[*English*]

How is the Government controlling the schemes, like the pre-paid card scheme?

[*Translation*]

No account is kept in respect of pre-paid cards. What are the chances of fair revenue declaration? Auditing is being done in this regard but what measures have been

taken for changing private operators from time to time for their monitoring and for controlling revenue from them.

[*English*]

What measures have you taken for monitoring and controlling revenue from the private operators?

[*Translation*]

What steps have been taken to recover the dues alongwith interest from 2000-2500 defaulters?

[*English*]

What steps in the Government taking to recover the dues with interest?

[*Translation*]

My eighth point is that as stated in committee report, licence of all the defaulters have been cancelled. If there are two operators and if one operator's licence is cancelled, what steps have been taken by the Government to stop the monopoly of the other one.

[*English*]

This means, there is only one operator.

[*Translation*]

We are talking about national level issues and about Kargil war, we spend money but we are lowering our prestige by doing so. We should think about this also.

[*English*]

I am talking of the three Ps—the popular public perception.

[*Translation*]

It is also essential to know about public perception. I would like to request that a policy should not be adopted by denying the public interest. Therefore, Department of Telecommunications should issue white paper on it so that a fair policy on communication could be formulated. The MTNL has provided mobile facility.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You finish your speech. You have already taken much time.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: He is making very good points....(*Interruptions*)

7.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Recently, a scheme has been launched by the MTNL which we called as MTNL Loop Mobile. It does not have Sim Card and its rate is Rs. 1.40/- for three minutes.

[English]

However, the rate of the parallel instrument that we are having, that is of BPL-AT & T is Rs. 4.

[Translation]

My question to Shri Paswan is as to why different rates are being charged for the same facility. It is because of the system of the service.

[English]

That is divided into two parts. One is fixed asset, what we call the network system and the second is the services.

[Translation]

That is why the MTNL is providing it at Rs. 1.40/-.

[English]

They are having the existing asset and they are having the network. They are only giving additional services to the consumers. On the contrary, private mobile owners have to fix the assets; and that is why, the rates are higher.

[Translation]

I am not promoting private owners rather I am only suggesting that rates of MTNL and private operators be brought at par. Two operators working in Delhi are charging at the rate of Rs. 4/-. They are laying their own Optical Fiber Cable. The Government should take steps to equalise the rates by forging a joint venture. They should have only one cable i.e. capacity utilisation of both the operators should be clubbed.

[English]

The rate, for what we call the Inter-city cable, would be reduced to 50 per cent.

There is one more suggestion from any side. Whatever bandwidth we are providing to private operators

is 900 GSM, which has to be increased to 1800. It would be wider than what we are providing now.

I will conclude within a minute.

We are talking loudly of information technology. But I will say that communication is the fourth mode of transportation.

[Translation]

It is Faster than aeroplane. If a message is delivered from Mumbai, it will reach the destination before the aeroplane reaches.

[English]

It is the prime mode of transportation. The success of the Indian economy is determined by Telecommunication Department only. This is the theme. If we want to improve our economy, then, Telecommunication Department is the only Department, which can do that. But to do that, we have to develop certain ideas.

[Translation]

I am thankful to Shri Paswan for initiating this scheme but I would also like to request him that it should reach the rural areas also. You are providing facility to the poor people but there is no one to listen to them. If a daughter calls her mother just to know how she is,

[English]

That is not the proper use of telephone we are having utility of telephone to connect villages, to the urban areas by way of Internet. I am from rural area.

[Translation]

I can cite examples. Telephone connections are provided in villages but it is not the proper use of telephones if a father whose son is studying in city, calls his son just to know how he was. Suppose oranges are produced in my field and I sell it at the rate Rs. 50/- per 100 pieces. If my village is connected through internet, I will be able to know that in Delhi it is being sold at the rate of Rs. 1000/- pieces.

[English]

That will be the proper use of Telecommunication Department. To do all these things, the Government has to have some ideas and some technologies.

[*Translation*]

I am expecting so much from Shri Paswan ji. He is a very Dynamic Person. I am very hopeful of the results. I pay my respects to him and conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, the hon. Minister for Communications has given me a letter, I think it has been given to all the hon. Members to purchase cellular phone. A form has also been given along with that. I was happy as I have seen that people talk on cellular phone at any time from any place. Then I came to know that it would cost a sum of Rs. 10,000 for it. How I will pay this amount? As per the norms, telephones are provided to us free of cost. This norm came into effect since telephone connections were given. Therefore, cellular phones should also be provided to us free of cost....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi): When salaries are paid to you, why are you demanding it free of cost.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: That is sufficient only to cater to the basic needs. Those who can afford can buy it but those members who can not afford, should be provided free of cost. It is a very useful thing. Suppose a poor person comes to me with his problem, I can ask the collector or the concerned Minister about the matters and it would be solved at once. Therefore, norms should be revised so that we are not asked to pay a sum of Rs. 10,000....(*Interruptions*) Earlier, villagers were not interested for it. But now they are also aware of its uses. Therefore, it is very much in demand. People are demanding to install telephone from members quota. They have deposited money for last 4-5 years. Complaints have been received from Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali and Araria. Telephones have not been provided till now to the people of Araria who have deposited the amount since 1993. Telephones have not been provided to Vaishali since 1994. There are 8 such places out of which 6 belong to the my parliamentary constituency of the hon. Minister for Communication and 2 belong to my Parliamentary constituency. Installation of new telephones is being delayed in Muzaffarpur district since 1995. I do not remember the exact number but it runs into several hundreds. Hon. Minister for Communication has stated in his reply that telephones will be immediately installed in the villages but problems arised at the time of implementation. When we enquired, we were told that instrumc.it and other related equipment are not available. How the work will progress in the absence of the equipment?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I want to tell the House that our friends from Maharashtra had also come with the same problem. They had the same complaint. I took

them to the concerned officer. Please tell us the name of the officer who says that instrument, material or funds are not available, I will take stringent action against him.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It means officers misiead the people. Earlier the deposit money for the telephone was Rs. 1000/- but at some places it has been enhanced to Rs. 2500 to 3000.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Waiting list depends upon the registration rates prevalling in an area as is the case of Andhra Pradesh. Earlier there were 20 thousand people in the waiting list but now the number has reduced to 6 thousand. On the occasions of festivals, we cut the registration fee by half due to which the number of people in the waiting list increases. It shot up to 6 lakh. On the occasion of Bihu we reduced it by 50%. Similarly on the occasion of Good Friday, we reduced the registration fee in the whole of North-East, we did it in Banaras, Calcutta and Andhra Pradesh. On some occasions we reduced the registration fee by 50% or some time we even enhance it.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: What about urban and rural areas?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is applicable for the entire area. It is not the question of urban area or rural area. Sometimes different provisions are made for different areas.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bihar is backward in the matter of telephone connection. I do not think it has any significant place at the national level regarding telephone connections. I have visited many areas of Bihar. I found there is a long waiting list for telephone.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Nowadays you are seldom going to Bihar.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I had gone to Bihar to attend a marriage on 21st, 22nd and 23rd instant. During those days I visited 33 villages of Bihar. You might have attended that marriage. We have seen the situation there. "Tu kehta key kagaz ki lekhi, Main kehta akhan ki dekhi." I am relating my experiences I had after I visited the villages. I am talking of the grand realities.

AN HON. MEMBER: He never stepped out of Chief Minister's residence.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It is your misconception. Whenever the issue regarding the people or grand realities is raised, they cannot hear it. Telephone exchanges are opened there but these are not functioning.

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

I made enquiries and come to know as to why one can not talk on telephone during night. I found that staff is available but it is due to electricity shortage that the telephones remain out of order. This is the situation there.

We suggest that it should be ensured that telephone system remains functional there. Sahibganj and Deoria are in Muzaffarpur district. Sahibganj is an important place because the block headquarter is situated there. Similarly, Deoria is also an important place. There, one cannot get connected telephonically even after trying for two to three hours. When we try from Delhi or Patna to connect with these places telephonically, we do not succeed. I had asked a question on this issue also. I got the reply that after laying of optical fibre cable, things would improve. Why this step has not been taken so far. Sometimes we notice damaged roads. When we enquired as to why these roads are damaged, it was said that roads were damaged because optical fibre was being laid there. At that time it looked as if we have progressed but even today one cannot get connected telephonically from Deoria and Sahibganj even after trying for hours. Earlier there was a provision that if some people apply for telephone, a telephone exchange had to be opened in that place. But I would like to say that people of villages don't know about this provision? In my area, 20-25 people applied for telephone but telephone exchange was not opened there. From this it seems as if that provision no more exists. Wherever 10 persons apply for telephone, a telephone exchange should be opened there immediately and if an exchange is opened, it should remain functional. It should not stop its functioning due to the non-availability of battery. When enquired it was told that there is a fault in the exchange, battery has gone down or there is some technical fault.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: It may be stolen.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: After being stolen, it may have gone to your area.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Bihar the theft of electricity is common.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you get your turn, you speak, or you can tell some of your Members to speak. This is not the way.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of India is responsible for non-availability of electricity in Bihar. When discussion on electricity takes place at that time I will tell this thing.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Bihar the condition is such that electricity is available only for two hours and here members speak so much of Bihar. There the life and property is not safe whereas they are holding Government of India responsible for this.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly resume your seat. There should not be cross-talk.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, technology has developed. The people are not aware that telephone can function without electricity. But I would like to say that we have developed such technology and now we can provide telephone facility in villages. Towers have been erected in village after village but 90-95 percent of them are not functioning. It may be because of technical failure, lack of maintenance or inefficiency of person employed there. When tower was erected people were very happy that they may be able to telephone anywhere but the tower is not functioning. Therefore, I say that the technology should be improved, otherwise this system should be removed and another technology should be inducted.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, his time is over. Please ask him to resume his seat.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is the demand of people and particularly it is the need of rural people because in cities people are having cellular phones whereas in villages there is not even a telephone facility. Therefore, I say that emphasis should be given for providing telephones in villages. Until and unless villages do not progress, India cannot become strong. As compared to other countries we cannot march forward. Hence whichever policy is framed, its basis should be poor people so that India could progress. I support cellular phones, hon'ble MPs should get cellular phone free so that when they go to rural areas and interact with people, then, they could immediately talk to the collector or the Minister about their problems. It will impress the people. In Bihar, there are 6 assembly seats in one Parliamentary Segment and Rs. one crore is given for one assembly segment whereas here a total of Rs. 2 crore is given for the entire Parliamentary constituency and in this way it amounts to Rs. 32 Lakhs per assembly segment.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Such issues are raised in the State Legislature, not here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: Should all villages of the country be treated like villages of Bihar?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Your constituency is Buxar where the system is a total failure and where the law and order has also failed during last 50 years. Hence you have no right to speak here?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope that the hon'ble Minister will pay attention towards those issues which I have raised. The way the means of communication have expanded, the village folk will forget the bitter past and will be able to speak on telephone with anyone while sitting at home. Since new technology has developed therefore the villages will also develop.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in support of Demands for Grants related to Telecommunication. There is no doubt that there was a time when telephone was considered a luxury but now-a-days, it has become a necessity for common people. First of all, I congratulate the hon. Minister for this resolution that telephone would be provided in every village by the year 2002. I am happy that hon'ble member hails from rural area and loves villages. I believe that he will succeed in his resolution. But it is also a fact that today it is not easy to achieve the aim because according to the geographical condition of our country there are many inaccessible regions. Perhaps hon'ble member Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev was sleeping and now he has waken up. When he was speaking it seemed that as if he was praising all the good works done during his tenure. While speaking, hon'ble member Shri Rupchandji went to the extent of saying that the telephone which were installed have stopped functioning i.e. the hon'ble Minister is responsible for this bad situation. He wanted to convey that the previous Governments had worked wonders. If that was so the country would not have lagged behind so much in the field of telecommunication.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to quote the example of Himachal Pradesh. The total area of Himachal Pradesh is 55000 sq. km. and only four members of Parliament are elected from the state....(*Interruptions*) Please listen, your turn will also come, how many times will you remember Sukhram. Sir, the Mandi constituency is spread over 32,000 sq. k.m. and from remaining area of 23,000 Sq. k.m., three members of Parliament are elected. But from an area of 32,000 Sq. k.m. only one member of Parliament is elected. All tribal regions—Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur, Bharmaur and Pangti come under my constituency. I would like to express my gratitude towards former Minister of Communication Shri Jagmohanji because last year I had made one special request to him due to which not one but eleven M.C.P.Cs. were installed in one year. Today in that inaccessible tribal

region there are all telephone exchanges and you are saying that no work is being done. Sir, as far as Himachal Pradesh is concerned, today there are 710 Exchanges in that circle in which most of the exchanges were set up during last 3-4 years and there are 2 Lakh 85,000 telephone lines. The number of MARR system, about which you were mentioning is 2840. It is a fact that MARR system is a total failure. The hon. Minister himself has admitted this fact. At present more than 90% of MARR systems are lying non-functional besides other goods in the store. Therefore, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble minister that the facility which has been given under MARR is only for name sake. It would be better if this system is withdrawn and replaced at the earliest.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as the question of telephone exchanges are concerned I had already mentioned as to how much progress Himachal Pradesh has made in the field of telecommunication. Besides this, I would also like to draw your attention towards M.C.P.C.. As I had said earlier, there is a need for satellite system and M.C.P.C. You all know that in my Parliamentary Constituency Rohtang Pass is one such pass which remains closed for around 6 months. The working season is very short particularly in Lahaul-spiti and Pangti tribal areas. If M.C.P.C. is not made available there, then it is not possible to achieve this year's target. Therefore I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that for this tribal area and for all those areas where there is heavy snowfall, the materials should be supplied well in time during summer season because only then we can achieve the target otherwise we will lag behind in this field. I hope that you will pay special attention towards this thing.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as the will system is concerned, it is very suitable particularly for those areas where there is heavy snowfall. But, so far, will system has been installed at Thanedhar in Himachal Pradesh on trial basis. After this, no equipment has been installed in Himachal Pradesh. This system should be installed and the required equipments should be provided immediately for the places in Himachal Pradesh as demanded by Chief General Manager (Telecom) of Himachal Pradesh so that progress may take place in that region.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far INMAR system is concerned, I have seen that set: It can also be used in the form of village public telephone. It can be carried in a small briefcase and it is very handy but its rate is very high. Earlier we were told that its charges are Rs. 100/- per minute but after your intervention, the Ministry has said that in inaccessible areas they will charge Rs. 25/- per minutes. You will agree with me that even this rate is very high and it is not possible for the poor people living in remote and backward regions to pay this much

[Shri Maheshwar Singh]

amount. Therefore unless its rates are brought at par with the rate of local PCO till then the poor and backward people living in remote and hilly areas and caves will not be able to make its proper use. Hence I request that the rates of INMAR set should be brought at par with the rate of P.C.O. particularly in hilly and backward and border areas. Further, I request that INMAR system at PCO rates should be provided in Mandi, which is my parliamentary constituency and it includes Lahaul-spiti, Pangji, Bharmaur of Chamba district and whole tribal belt of Kannaur district.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of hon'ble Minister that so far two sets of INMAR system have been installed in our state—one is installed at tribal area called Khoksar and the other at Marhi but its rates are so high that common people not in a position to use it. The common people will be able to make its proper use only when its rates are brought at par with the rates of PCO. If the rates equal to P.C.O. are not charged from the people who are making calls from those telephone sets which are installed under INMAR system then its use in the rural areas will not only become difficult but also impossible.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as Prabhunath Singhji has said, the contract system is prevailing in the work of laying cables. The contract is given from the project site and the C.G.M.T. or the G.M. has no control over it. It is the duty of the Director of Project site to call tenders for laying cable. The office of the G.M. who calls tenders for Himachal Pradesh is located in Jalandhar. The official at project site give contracts and they get the work done through the contractors. The local telecommunication officers have no control over the contractors and thus the contractors act arbitrarily and take much time in laying cables. At present the work of laying optical fibre cable is going on. In that there is one condition that the contract will be given only to that contractor who possesses some experience of this work.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to inform hon'ble Maheshwar Singhji that I have abolished that system.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Those who have taken contracts, does not work. The C.G.M.T., G.M. or T.D.M. have been made responsible for not achieving the targets and attempt is made to put the blame upon them though the fault lies with the contractors.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude towards hon'ble minister because he has made it clear that now this system has been abolished. As regards telephone connections people of rural areas are very much enthusiastic. There the people are themselves

doing the work of digging and laying cables in the form of "Shramdan". Therefore, I believe that it will accelerate the pace of work and will also provide employment to local people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as the question of shortage of staff is concerned and as Shri Prabhunath Singhji has also said the hon'ble Minister will also agree with me that in Himachal Pradesh only one person is provided for three telephone exchange and there is a distance of 30 Kms between two exchanges and it is just impossible to rectify faults in the three exchanges during on day. Therefore, I request that permission should be granted for recruitment of casual employees so that at least presence of one employee could be ensured in every telephone exchange and he must be a local resident so that telephone exchanges are maintained properly and they can function efficiently.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the issue of depositing the telephone bills is concerned, great inconvenience is being faced in rural areas in this regard because there is no provision to deposit them in branch post offices and people of rural areas have to cover long distances for depositing their telephone bills. An average bill of telephone is Rs. 300/- while it takes more than Rs. 100/- in travel expense for depositing this Bill. Hence, the situation is such that the customer ends up paying more amount than the actual bill as travel expenses.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there may not be more than 100 telephone subscribers in one village and if we take up the average bill of a telephone as Rs. 300/- then it does not amount more than Rs. 30,000/- per month and in my view the Postmaster in the Branch post office will not face problem in handling Rs. 30,000/- of cash amount. The arrangement for depositing the cash in the bank within 48 hrs. of its receipts or fixing a particular day of the month for depositing the telephone bills in the post office can be made. As this kind of arrangement has not been made so far, the demand for upgrading the post offices has been growing. Whenever we write anything to Post Master General about the Post Office.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: How far do the people have to go?

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: They have to go 30 to 40 Kms. away from their places as sub-post office is not there.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We would consider upon the matter of making one single system. As there are problems in keeping money, so identify one branch post office out of four branch post offices. Even if it does

not serve the purpose, then we would deliberate upon some other alternative.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Thank you, Sir. There is a lot of difficulty in getting the bills deposited. One thing can be done, wherever there are banks, this money can be deposited in banks situated in the rural areas by giving them handling charges for this.

So far as the question of opening the post offices is concerned, the Government should take policy decisions in this regard. Whenever there is a demand we write to the PMG. And we get the oft-repeated reply that as per the departmental norms, post offices cannot be opened there. The Government must take some policy decision as to whether post offices are to be opened in each Panchayat or not. Government should take this decision. And then only we shall write letter accordingly, otherwise we get the same answer by the department the Finance department would never let you open post office in villages.

Sir, in Sunder Nagar area of Himachal Pradesh, there is a grand building. Even during the tenure of Shri Jagmohanji, I had written a letter that this grand building has been constructed for the reason that training of JTO etc. could be imparted there. Presently, the whole building is lying vacant except for two rooms which are being used for a small exchange. I received a letter from Jagmohanji also in which he had given consent that training for JTOs and other officers would be done there.

At the end, I would like to draw your attention towards the E.D. employees. I am fully confident that the problems of these employees would be solved by your goodness. Talwar Committee had given its report and the Government had also given assurance that it shall be implemented soon. They have again given an ultimatum for going on strike from 2nd of May. I am confident that you would solve their problems after having requisite dialogues with them, because now-a-days, they are not considered to be an employees, but are called surplus employees. I believe that you would definitely solve their problems also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude for giving me an opportunity to speak. With this I conclude.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Respected Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to associate myself with the observations made in this august House on the Demands for Grants for Communications. At the outset, let me come out with a request on behalf of all the parliamentarians here. The

out-of-turn quota for the Members of Parliament may be increased from 50 per year to 100 per year because it is not sufficient to cater to the demands in their respective constituencies....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will reply.

DR. V. SAROJA: I hope there will be a positive reply from the hon. Minister. There should be a clear and comprehensive policy for communications. There has been a National Telecom Policy, 1994 and also in 1999. There are also many modifications which have been adopted by the Ministry, that is, a separate Department for Telecom Services (DTS) and another Department for Telecommunications and also the Telecom Commission. To handle the matters relating to the coordination between DOT and DTS.

What is the net result? Seventy-four per cent of the rural population in India are not getting telephone facilities.

What is the achievement today? In the rural area, the Tele-density is two per thousand and it is 34 per thousand in the urban area.

It is said that during the Ninth Five Year Plan, the given target will be completed. I want to know from the hon. Minister the strategy adopted to achieve the target.

As far as the National Policy is concerned, what is the impact on the rural tariff subsidy? We have given thrust to the computer education in the school level also. But what is the achievement? How far have we moved towards the modern technology that will be associated with the school children?

Sir, in the Nordic countries, number of community Tele-services are available in the rural centres. These are multiple purpose centres, providing computer and telecommunication facilities for local communities to assess the distant education, giving computer training, village hall facilities and to help local small entrepreneurs by providing business information, information on office facilities and giving them professional training. Sir, it is high time that we thought on these lines instead of carrying over the outmoded Telecom Policy and the Indian Telegraphs Act. It should be substituted by a new law keeping in view the economic globalisation in the country.

Sir, it is my observation that the telephone exchanges should be modernised and updated with technical exchanges. In this context, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the Telecom Policy of 1994 where one of the objectives was to ensure that India emerges as major manufacturing base and a major exporter of telecom equipment. The second objective was

[Dr. V. Saroja]

to give active universal service, covering villages, as early as possible. I want to underline the words, the quality of telecom services should be of world standard.

Sir, where do we stand today as far as recruitment in the Telecom Department is concerned? According to the information available with me, the last recruitment was done in the year 1984 and after that no recruitment was done in the Telecom Department. I do agree that there is development to the tune of 200 per cent, but where is the maintenance? If there is no maintenance and if there is no manpower how can we expect the Department to deliver 100 per cent world standard service to the rural people. I want to have a pointed reply in this regard from the hon. Minister.

In my area, setting up MTNL at Chennai, Chennai Telephones earns about Rs. 960 crore per year. But what is the amount spent for the Telecom Circle, Tamil Nadu? It is a very meager amount. I would request the hon. Minister to earmark a sizable amount for the maintenance and the quality of service to be delivered to the people of my State.

As far as optical fibre system usage is concerned, it is my observation that we have not yet understood the mechanism.

We have not understood thoroughly about the usage and also the cost benefit ratio. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the fibre optic usage in this Department and also the cost benefit ratio.

Sir, in my State, the target for the year 1999-2000 is 5.5 lakh telephone connections. But today in the year 2000, the waiting list is to the tune of six lakhs but the target given is 5.5 lakhs. I would like to request the hon. Minister to complete the target by the year 2001. I also request him to give more funds. The Tamil Nadu Circle has sent a proposal to achieve the target of Rs. 1,300 crore. I request the hon. Minister of Communications to allot more funds in this regard.

Sir, as far as the post office is concerned, in my area, there is Mullu Kurichi Branch Post Office in Senthamangalam Assembly Constituency. I would request the hon. Minister to upgrade that post office. Nearby that post office, there is Uzhipuram sub-post office. One sub-post master some clerks is working there for more than 10 years without incurring extra expenditure to the Government. May I request the Minister to upgrade this post office? Also promotion can be given through redeployment and the same person can look after the post office. They can cater to the needs of the local people. Matching saving is also available with us.

Sir, in Authur Assembly Constituency, we need head post office building and also a staff quarters building. The land is available. I would request the hon. Minister to allot more funds. Fund may be allotted for Veeragalnur post office and quarter building for the post-master. It is in Thaivasal Assembly Constituency.

Before I conclude, it is given to understand that during 1999-2000, it is proposed to modernise 60 post offices by installing 100 multipurpose counter machines. May I request the hon. Minister to upgrade both Salem and Namakkal head post offices so that my constituency people will be benefitted?

As far as the Internet services are concerned, they have been given through VSNL by a public sector. May I request the hon. Minister that it can be done through the DoT so that a separate gateway can be provided and Internet facilities can be provided for the rural people at a lesser cost?

As far as the cellular system is concerned, Namakkal and Salem areas are industrially and educationally well-developed areas. The DoT can think of providing cellular system in my area. Sir, I associate myself with my hon. colleague. In the telephone exchange itself we can have a counter on part time basis for paying the telephone bills so that the rural people can avoid waiting on the queue for four or five hours every time.

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE (Vijayawada): Respected Sir. I wish humbly to bring to your notice the following points for public utility in the Vijayawada constituency.

Vijayawada Telecommunications is making rapid strides in providing reliable state-of-the-art communications services in Krishna district. The *Talukas* covered in the constituency are: Vijayawada, Jaggalahpet, Tiruvur, Mulavaram and Nandigama.

Cellular Phone Services are going to be started in Vijayawada city, but only 1000-line equipment has been allotted. Vijayawada being the second biggest commercial centre in the State, at least 5000-line exchange may be allotted in place of 1000-line.

The area of coverage for the above mentioned Cellular Phone Service is very much limited to the Vijayawada city limits. The Department of Telecommunications must give services throughout the district and the equipment must be installed accordingly. This is of utmost importance for smooth development of the district. Machilipatnam being the district headquarters of Krishna district, 1000-line exchange for Cellular Services must be earmarked for Machilipatnam. The town has tremendous potential for Cellular phones. Private operators, namely, M/s Tata Cellular and JTM are already

operating their services partly in the district. In order to have business edge over these private operators, DoT services must cover the entire district in the first phase itself. So, the equipment may be allotted accordingly.

Tariff must be lower than that of the private operators such that the objective of the New Telecom Policy, 1999 to make the services affordable and available throughout the district, is fulfilled. The tariff should be on par with the tariff of the cellular services of MTNL, which is of utmost importance for smooth development of the district.

Internet services have been introduced in Vijayawada only. This facility must be extended shamelessly in the district so that the services can become more popular.

Presently, the coin-collecting boxes installed in Vijayawada city are not sufficient. I request that these should be allotted in good number to the district. In the first place, 500 boxes may be allotted.

Wireless-in-Local-Loop (WLL) telephones are being given in two SDCAs of the district. Keeping in view the inaccessible areas in the district, 5000-line equipment may be given so that all the ten SDCAs are covered by Wireless phones.

Appropriate equipment may be supplied to achieve the objectives of the New Telecom Policy and to achieve a tele-density of seven per cent by the year 2005.

Voice Mail facility is essential to be given for the customers of Vijayawada. It was proposed one and a half year back to supply the equipment, but so far the equipment is not made available. Had the equipment been installed one and a half year back, we would have recovered the cost of the equipment by now.

Vijayawada is a fast growing city and there is an urgent need to have own buildings to instal exchanges. Sites are required at Singhnagar, Gunadala, Chittinagar, Krishna Lanka and Gandhinagar.

Lastly, full-fledged CGHS facility should be extended for the benefit of the Central Government employees in Vijayawada, as recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission.

With these points, I thank you once again.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SAGAR RAWAT (Barabanki): Sir, I am happy that the Department of Telecommunication is under a skillful and experienced Minister. Sir, this department had become defamed in the entire country due to its

poor technology, this department has really improved a lot since it has come in the hands of Shri Beni Prasad Verma and Paswanji and its development in rural areas is proving to be quite beneficial. But what should we do of the MRR installed in every village, which has abruptly become defective. But they are not to be held guilty for that. No decision by the telecommunications department to the effect that the MRR should be made beneficial by lying lines of new technology, was taken. So, I request hon'ble Minister of telecommunications that in the rural areas of Barabanki, where this demand is becoming prominent and where even funds were raised as per the norms, there also the telephone lines have not been laid. I therefore request that people of this area should get telephone connections. In our district, numerous buildings for telecommunication have been constructed at various places including Kothi, Subaha and Bhelwal, but they have not become fully operative. If you would make a little efforts the people of these areas would be benefitted a lot.

Sir, Asunder and Hydergarh exchanges, which are in my Lok Sabha constituency, always remain out of order. The officers there do not come to rectify them. Their machines stop working and they give the ground that machine has become inoperational. We have been requesting the Government as also the department to rectify them but on one has rectified it. I would request hon. Minister that we shall be highly grateful if machines of these important exchanges may be rectified. Sir, at the end, I would make a request to you regarding my personal problem. I have been an M.P. from 9th Lok Sabha to 11th Lok Sabha. Now this is for the fourth time that I have become a Member of Lok Sabha. I have never used the telephone more than the facility provided to me nor have I ever received any bill of excessive amount. But in 12th Lok Sabha, when I was defeated, a bill of more than Rs. one lakh for four months was sent to me. Many other MPs have also been receiving such kinds of bills. I have also written a letter to you. When you will conduct an investigation in this matter, then you would come to know that during these four periods of Lok Sabha, neither I have received any such fake bill, nor have I ever misused the telephone. This is a fake bill. Kindly get this matter investigated and do justice with us and please do away with this fake bill.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would get all the grievances of hon'ble Members investigated by Vigilance department whosoever member complaints for that. Perhaps I have given directions also regarding this, we would trace out the error and would get such matters investigated by Vigilance department. The concerned officer would come to you and would take the report only after talking to you.

SHRI RAM SAGAR RAWAT: I would like to extend my thanks to the hon'ble Minister. I received a letter from him. Same thing is written in the letter, which he has stated here right now, that he would rectify this error after conducting an investigation in this matter.

At the end, I would make one more request that in my area, there is an area in between the rivers Gomati, Rari, Kalyani, Ghaghra and Naiyya comprising of 300 villages. In the big Panchayats of these villages, 20, 25 and even 50 people from each Panchayat have given application for this.

17.56 hrs.

[Dr. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

Telephone facility may kindly be provided in our area. It was said that there was no shortage of material for this purpose as also extension of telephone, but the matter is held up somewhere. I urge upon you for the expansion of telephone facility in that backward area.

With these suggestions, I conclude and extend my thanks for giving me an opportunity to speak. And I would also extend my thanks to hon'ble Minister that he listened to me very carefully and also for his intervention.

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA (Jammu): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the present Government have fixed new targets and efforts are being made to achieve those targets. I am glad that the hon'ble Minister visited Jammu and Kashmir and he himself saw the miserable situation prevailing over there. Jammu and Kashmir is affected by terrorism, Particularly my constituency Poonch and Rajouri where large number of people have been killed. Sir, this is a hilly area. There is no telephone facility in remote areas of this region. It is true that solar system operated telephone cables were laid in some Panchayats areas. There are total three hundred fifty Panchayats in this area and this system was installed only in twenty percent Panchayats and that too has not been proved successful. In this region, the telephone service is the only means of contact. In far-flung and hilly areas, when any person is killed by the militants, it takes two months to report his killing. In absence of telephone facility, any incident that has taken place in village comes to the notice after two months. During the last twenty years, districts and Tehsils of the area have been re-bifurcated. Post Offices operational in that region are according to the bifurcation of the old districts and Tehsils. Today there is a need to start new system. Due to creation of new districts and Tehsils, old postal system has become useless. It takes

two months for a letter to reach its destination. In this region, postal system should be reorganised. New post offices should be opened in that area. Telephone facility should be provided in each Panchayat of this area so that information could reach expeditiously from one place to other place in this area

18.00 hrs.

and people could be protected. There is a shortage of staff in the major telephone exchanges of the area. In this connection, complaints have been filed in Jammu. It is true that there is slight improvement in the system but still there are a number of telephone exchanges which are not operating. For the last several years private operators are not operating in this field because the people have obtained stay order from the courts due to prevalence of corruption amongst the employees engaged in this sector and as a result people are jobless. Now that stay has been vacated. I demand that the applications pending for S.T.D. and P.C.O.'s should be cleared so that people could get employment. If private operators starts operating this facility can be made available to the people in remote areas. In Jammu, solar system tower has become useless and telephone facility can be restored by providing new operation cables there.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I request that telephone facility should be provided to the village Panchayats at the earliest. In this regard, the hon'ble Minister had also announced that telephone connections will be provided to each Panchayat but it has not been provided so far. Work is being done in this regard in some Panchayats. Today the population of Jammu and Srinagar Municipality is about twelve lakh but cellular phone service is not available there. If private operators are permitted to function in this field, it will be beneficial for the people. Due to this, revenue of the Government will also increase. Similarly work is needed to be done in respect of areas which generally remains snow covered. In that area work can be undertaken for two-three months from now and if the Government intends this facility can be provided in those areas.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, upto what time, proceedings of the House will continue today? Whether time of House is being extended?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Business Advisory Committee has decided to extend the time of the House till discussion is over on these demands. In total, six hours were allotted for debate, out of which three hours have lapsed and three hours are left.

SHRI KIRTI SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, how many Members are yet to speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 12 members are yet to speak. If the House agrees to extend the time then this discussion may be continued. As the House agrees to extend the time so this discussion will go on.

[*English*]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): We will sit provided the Minister gives one more mobile telephone.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister is listening to problem of different zones. The speeches of Members who are yet to speak should be considered delivered in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaidyaji, to continue his speech.

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, Municipalities are existing both in Jammu and Srinagar. It has been decided that the Municipalities provide fund to the Department of telecommunication for laying of cables and for repairing of roads. The municipality there does not undertake repair of the roads which remain dug for months altogether. I am of the view that it would be far better if the repairing work is done by the department of telecommunications. With this request I conclude my speech.

SHRI LAXMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I extend my many-many thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on demands on grants of the department of telecommunication. When the question of telecommunication system arises, we can not forget the fact that the real improvement in and extension of telecommunication infrastructure took place during the reign of two stable Government lasting ten years and both of these were the congress Government. We have to follow the path they have made for and shown to us and I think that the present Government will also try to continue to expand it. But in the race of modernisation we have also to take account of the fact that today our postal network is in an incoherent state while not forgetting that there are 153000 post offices in our country out of which 137000 are in rural areas. There is an apprehension in the minds of three lakhs regular and three lakh extra departmental, totalling six lakh postal employees whose life is connected to the postal departments that their future is not secure. The telephone system has not been established firmly in rural areas, hence even today, common men depend on postal

department. No clear policy has yet been framed for the employees of the postal department. They are apprehensive that their future may be jeopardised by the arrival of multinational companies here which would be welcome in the wake of modernisation and liberalisation of the country, though it is necessary to be a part of the race for modernisation for if we do not do so, we would lag behind. But the postal employees are apprehensive that the democle's sword has been hanging over their head. Hence it is very necessary on the part of hon. Minister to dispel this apprehension and fear from their mind for some employees are bent upon disrupting the postal and telecommunication services. We may do as much modernisation and however hard we may try, our system cannot be established properly until our employees are satisfied. Hence I would urge upon you to pay attention to the expectation of the postal department which are being neglected presently as in case of postal staff college, Ghaziabad which has not been provided expected allocation in the budget. Your training centres also have not been provided adequate funds. It is the grievance on the part of those institutes and centres which I am conveying to you.

Sir, you have started C-Dot facility and also expanded it and you have done it in the past also as also you intend to do now. So far we have laid six million C-Dot exchange lines in our country. Even then the telecommunication system functioning in our rural areas is not that sound as it should be, it is necessary to go into depth to find out the reasons thereof. Now an MP from Bihar had expressed his concern, while Rudiji was also lamenting that there is no regular electricity supply there. It is a fact that many areas are facing problem of electricity supply. There are also several such places where the power supply remains cut off for more than two days. In such a situation it has become imperative that we should pay attention towards solar telephones and production of solar energy. No attention has been paid towards the solar energy in your budget and the appropriate funds have not been allocated for this sector, instead no mention has been made about it in the entire budget. We can run many telecommunication centres with the help of solar energy.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have bright sun light for 200 days out of 365 days in our country. If we take advantage of it by converting it into solar energy, then we can spread the network of telecommunication to many areas besides linking them with each other.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit to hon. Minister that he has made an action plan on information technology. It is a very good thing. Shri Jaswant Singh ji is the Chairman of this task force and it is your objective to make India a super power in the field of information

[Shri Laxman Singh]

technology. Your objective is a noble one and we are with you on this account. India is a great country, a great power of the world and will always be so and will become even stronger but it is easier said than done. We will have to take firm steps to realise this aim and you have to seek the support to those persons also who are outside your Government. One more thing you have to keep in mind is that if you want to convert India into a super power in the field of information technology, then you will have to expand the Research and Development facilities in the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today America holds an apex position in regard to the information technology but if one goes there and see, he will find that all the engineers and scientists working these belong to India. When the American President Bill Clinton came to India he also visited Hyderabad to see the progress of information technology in Hyderabad and seek the assistance of the technical experts who are working there. If we could expend over R&D base, we would not have to import the material from outside which we do at a very high cost of foreign currency. We can prepare the same things on our own at a very cheap rate making them easily available throughout the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say to the hon. Minister that he has provided the internet facility at several places. We want that this facility may be made available in each block of the country. Though internet is a very effective modern means of communication but it also poses a lot of problems. I would like to tell about my home state Madhya Pradesh. We could hardly print one or two pages throughout night. It is very necessary to improve it on this account what are the reasons behind it, whether technical or something else, this only your department would tell for it can be explained better by the employees of your department because I am not a technical expert. But I am of the view that while expanding network, we will have to take steps to ensure that the security of the country is not endangered. This aspect of security of the country should be given top priority while expanding the interest.

Mr. Chairman, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that in this budget, he has mentioned about D.O.T. and has bifurcated it into two parts. One is DTO and the other is QTS. Satisfactory results are not coming from DTS i.e. the Department of Telecom Services. There is a need to make it more efficient. There are many complaints on which no cognizance is being taken by the Department and there is a need to pay attention to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a good thing that both foreign direct investment and private domestic investment have been accepted by the Ministry of Telecommunication. A total of Rs. 27399 crore of private domestic investment and FDI of Rs. 36108 crore has been made. While accepting these investments, one thing which have to take care of is that we should encourage our domestic investors also. There is no dearth of talented people in our country and our industrialists are not inferior to anyone. Hence you will have to pay more attention towards private domestic investors and give them priority over foreign investors.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is good thing that hon. Minister has said that by 2002 all the villages of India will be connected through telephone network. But the targets fixed are never realised. You have fixed a target that under VPTs, 45136 villages will be connected in village PCO's.

I am afraid that you would not be able to realise this target because the method of working of the employees of your Ministry does not reflect it. You have developed WLL technology but it is not giving satisfactory results. I suggest that you should bring about improvement in the telephone services in small districts and rural areas. For achieving this purpose we should train the educated unemployed youth as the technology has been changing fast and new technology is coming day in and out.

Today, the ITI's have been opened in almost all the states of the country. We have opened ITI at block level in Madhya Pradesh. You should include telecom related courses in ITI's so that the unemployed educated youth could get training there and help in improving the sagging system.

You have also framed a new telecom policy in 1999. In it, you have mentioned that 15 per cent of tele density will be achieved by the year 2010 but you will also have to pay attention towards those states also which have been mentioned by the committee on telecommunications. These states are Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir. The level of tele density in these states is extremely low. It has been referred as 'abysmally low' by the Committee on Telecommunications. You should pay special attention towards these states and considerable progress should be done in these states while increasing tele density.

So far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, I was a bit dejected to go through the budget in which no adequate attention has been paid toward. The naxalite activities in my state and several programmes are going on to bring these areas back into the mainstream. We have started a watershed programme there. Unless the means of

telecommunication are improved there, it will not be possible to control the problem of naxalism. The efforts to misguide the simple and unscrupulous tribals to adopt wrong notions has been going on for many years and it will go on also. Hence I want that you should make special allocation for the naxalite prone areas as in Andhra Pradesh to improve the system of communication in those areas.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We do not provide money we undertake developmental work.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Budget provision has not been made.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Budget provision will be made and when I am saying that telephone will be installed in each village then it will be installed there also. All right I will speak later on.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: I am saying that Bilaspur division is not included in the divisions you have taken up for this purpose. Baster district where most of the activities take place and where some work was to be performed has not been mentioned in it.

When I was leaving my home to come here in the morning I received a phone call. There are several complaints from constituency which can be termed as telephone scandals. Several people have sent complaints in this connection. One subscriber Shrimati Rajani Parashar who had not applied for a telephone connection with STD facility been provided with this facility on her phone and bogus bill has been sent to her. There are several such examples. I would like request you to kindly order investigation in this regard as this has happened in the native place of the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. I have received many complaints just now and due to paucity of time I would not go into details but the guilty officer should be punished so that the schemes and programmes prepared by you could be implemented smoothly and there could be control over the telephone mafia. Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH (Machilipatnam): Respected Chairman, thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this subject.

Telecommunication has to play a vital role in view of the emergence of Information Technology. In this competitive environment, we should provide telephone facilities to all the villages, especially to those which are in the remote corners. But as per the information made available, out of six lakh villages, only four lakh villages

have been provided with telephone connections and the remaining two lakh villages have not been connected with telephones. In Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister, Shri Chandrababu Naidu, wants to connect every *panchayat* with Internet.

In my State, i.e. Andhra Pradesh, DWACRA groups are given a lot of importance. Nearly three lakh DWACRA groups are working in our State. By using Internet, they get information about the marketing facilities available in different parts of the country and thereby they are getting better prices for their products. In order to encourage the women involved in DWACRA groups, the State Government has given more funds to them. So, telecommunication facilities must reach each and every village and each and every *panchayat*. A number of villages do not have telephone facilities even now. Without telephone facilities, especially without STD facilities, progress cannot be achieved. This Government wants to provide telephone facilities to all the people by 2002. Telephone facilities should be given to all the villages. If we give telephone facilities to farmers, DWACRA groups and some other voluntary organisations, they would be able to get more prices for their products by getting more information. Our State is organising DWACRA bazars for the benefit of these people. Under the able leadership of Shri Chandrababu Naidu, in our State, Information Technology is fast developing.

My constituency is Machilipatnam and it is the district headquarters. It has a glorious past. There was a fort in this place. During the British regime, it used to do business with other countries.

From here, the Britishers did a lot of business to other countries. Now, the position of Machilipatnam, which is the Headquarters of Krishna district and where a number of educational institutions and offices are there is, we have no cellular phone facility as yet. During my meeting with the General Manager of Telecommunications, I raised this point. He asked me to bring this matter to the knowledge of the Hon. Minister, Shri Paswan. I have already submitted one representation to him. We are now passing through an era of rapid development. We require quick information from all parts of the world. It is the computer age.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: I have got this opportunity to speak in this august House for the first time. So, please give me two or three minutes more.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, there is a tradition in this House. Whenever a Member is making his maiden speech, the House should know about it. But, we generally do not come to know about it. If the Member

[Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy]

could kindly inform the House about the maiden speech, it will be appreciated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is saying that this is his maiden speech.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: It is the tradition of the House to appreciate them and it is the duty of the Members to inform the House about the maiden speeches. This could be circulated.

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: So, I would appeal to the Minister that our district Headquarters Machilipatnam should get the cellular phone facility as early as possible. Private organisations like Escotal, Koshika and Tata Cellular are providing telephone facilities even to rural areas but because of inadequate infrastructure facility and financial stringency, DoT is not in a position to face the competition arising from private telecom organisations.

In Bangladesh, Village banks are providing loans to the villagers to get the telephone facility. Similarly, if in our country also the village banks provide loan to the villagers, they can use the telephone facility. This is an important point which I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister.

I would now like to highlight some of the problems that people of my State are facing. As per the new policy of the Telecom Department, our State Government has announced concessions and subsidies. Nearly seven to eight months back, thousand of people have paid some initial money amounting to Rs. 500 or Rs. 1000 in order to get the telephone connections. Not a single connection has been given so far. When I approached the concerned authority, I was told that they had no cable or some other instrument. I request the hon. Minister to give priority to supply cable and other instrument of the Andhra Pradesh Government so that the rural people could get telephone connections.

I would like to bring to your kind notice another important matter regarding the postal department. Hanuman Junction is the centre of two constituencies, Nuzvid and Gannavaram. Though it is a big building, it is in a collapsed condition. The Department has shifted to some other building which is very far away. I have also represented this matter to the hon. Minister. In Machilipatnam also the building has collapsed and they are running their office in some private building. Through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister to allocate sufficient funds for the reconstruction of buildings at Hanuman Junction and Machilipatnam Headquarters.

Another issue to which I wish to draw your attention is with regard to a Sub Post-Office building at Anandapuram. Whenever students have to go to examinations, they suffer a lot due to the lack of postal facilities. So, a Sub Post-Office may be opened there.

Lastly, a word about coin-box phone. There is a heavy demand for this from the public. The information we got from the authorities concerned is that there is a short supply of the same and therefore people are not getting it. I would request the hon. Minister to look into it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity you have given me. I thank my colleagues and also the hon. Minister.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Chairman Sir, in the Business Advisory Committee meeting it has been decided that this debate will continue for six hours. Accordingly the time has been allotted to the respective parties. I would like to inform you about this because I should not misguide my Members. Each party has been allotted the time and we have given a commitment that we would not exceed the same. Our party has got one hour and ten minutes. Accordingly, in that ratio, I have fielded our speakers. My only appeal to you is that they should be given their chance within the allotted time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing the demands for grants of the Ministry of Communications and this is a matter of pride for our country. The departments of Posts and Telecommunications have made commendable progress. The Minister of Communications Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji is making efforts to solve all the problems by holding discussions with all the members of Parliament but there is a problem in it he is not getting the desired co-operation from the officers due to which several schemes are lying pending. I request you that telephone can be provided in each village when capable officers are posted at such places and it will be possible to provide telephone in every village by 2002 after removing the corrupt officer from such places. But telephone facility should be provided in every village.

There is a need to expand the telephone exchange functioning in my constituency Pandharpur. More staff should be posted there. There is a need to consider the proposal for sanctioning a post of General Manager in our Pandharpur region. If there are two constituencies under one district, the office of the General Manager should be located at Pandharpur. In my constituency more

than two hundred people have applied for more than 10-25 telephone connections but they are not getting telephone connections. You can also decide to provide telephone connections to them. Besides this an inquiry should be conducted in regard to delay in delivery of letters as sometimes a letter is delivered after two years of its date of posting.

The telephone bill of poor person for one month should not exceed Rs. 500 but he is receiving exaggerated bills i.e. for Rs. 10,000 to 15,000. Its main reason is that a racket is operating in the telephone exchanges which is surreptitiously connecting phone connections of poor people with STD. On receiving the bills of hefty amount, poor people are asked to pay a certain amount with the assurance that rest of the amount of the bill will be waived off but how the poor people will manage? Therefore, there is a need to take action against the group which is misusing the telephone connections of the poor people. The poor people should not be put in any inconvenience. The hon. Minister has done a good thing by providing mobile phones to the Members of Parliament for which I am grateful to him.

I have been there and I have filled up the form. At the time of depositing the form they asked me to deposit Rs. 10,000 which I did not have. In respect of mobile telephone service I have a suggestion that there are 543 Members in the Lok Sabha and 238 Members in the Rajya Sabha and thus total strength of Members of the both Houses comes to 781. The Government will have to incur an amount of Rs. 78 lakh 10 thousand on providing mobile phone facility to all the 781 Members and I think it is not a huge amount to be born by the Government. Therefore, you should announce in the House today itself that free mobile telephone will be provided to all the Members of Parliament....(*Interruptions*). 50,000 free phone calls are allowed to a Member of Parliament in his constituency. I suggest that there should also be STD facility alongwith these 50,000 free calls and STD call should be of three minutes duration. When I make a call to Mumbai several phone calls are utilised at once and this quota of 50,000 free calls gets exhausted within two-three months. All my calls have been exhausted and still there is a month left. Therefore, I suggest that the number of phone calls should be increased by one lakh and out of that 50,000 should be exclusively for STD calls. An announcement to this effect should also be made. So many people come to see me. Since my election to this House I have written three thousand letters. Every day people are coming to me and they demand telephone connections. I am writing letters which are dumped in the office. Persons who tender my letter in the Ministry of Communications are asked to see Shri Paswanji. He has also said that allotting more and more

phone connections to an M.P. should be considered. I demand that hundred phone connection every month should be sanctioned on recommendations of an M.P. Moreover, these phone connections are not provided free of cost, the allottee have to pay for that. I have talked to them and you should authorized them to do so. Your department is ready to give quota of hundred phone connection to an M.P. every month. Only your permission is needed for this. Therefore, you should give your consent today for this. Permission of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha secretariats is also required in this regard. If the House permit so, your department is ready for it. Therefore you should permit it. I think your department is functioning very well. If telephone connections are provided to all by 2002 it would be good work. If phone connections are provided to all your Government will also rule upto five years otherwise it will not continue....(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA:
This Government will complete its five years tenure.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: This Government remaining in the office for five years depends on you. By saying this I mean that Shri Paswanji is capable to fulfill the assurance given by your Ministry. Shri Paswanji is also a good friend of mine. I do not want to raise other political issue but one of our friends is with them.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA:
You should also cross over to this side.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: No I will not cross over, instead we would bring you to this side. We have not come here to switch over to that side. We have come here to make you switch over to this side. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Paswanji to make some announcement in respect of the demands we have made.

[*English*]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications.

Sir, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaigal has written a letter to the Central Government requesting it to convert the Chennai Telephones into Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, just as in Delhi and Mumbai. This is a long-felt need of the people of Chennai, because they want good service like in Delhi. So, I would request the hon. Minister to convert the Chennai Telephones into MTNL. I expect that the hon. Minister would make this announcement during the course of his reply.

[Shri S.S. Palanimavickam]

Then, I would request the hon. Minister to introduce a cellular service in Chennai also. Now, we are giving a lot of concessions to the cellular service companies, but their tariff is not uniform and they change their tariffs every three months and say that this the new system. So, I would request the hon. Minister to regulate the tariffs of all the cellular service companies. Then, I would request the hon. Minister to properly monitor the quality of the cellular service. In Trichy, which is near my constituency, there is a cellular phone company run by BPL and that company's cellular service is not even covering the whole of Trichy town. So, what is the use of paying a lot of money for the cellular service?

Sir, whenever new Telephone Directory is issued, it should include all the numbers of new connections as well as the changed ones. We are having a lot of modern facilities and through computer we can issue new numbers to the subscribers within a day. But everywhere, we are receiving complaints from various people that they could not contact us. They say that they have tried our numbers, but could not contact us due to the change in the number and they could not find the new number in the Telephone Directory. This is a common complaint that we receive from the people. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that all the new numbers and the changed numbers are included when a Telephone Directory is issued. Then only, we can improve the service.

Sir, there is a Committee for allotment of PCOs and STD Booths now. But this Committee consists of only officials. I do not want to go into the details about the previous Committee. We have received a lot of complaints about the Committee.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to clarify that we have not constituted the PCO and STD Committees with officers. There was a Committee earlier. PCO's are now allotted liberally to educated youths and now, I have created four priority categories. The first category is for the war widows/dependents, belonging to all the castes, the second category is for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the third category is for the handicapped persons and the fourth category is for the Ex-servicemen. So, whoever falls into these four categories, they will get the 50% of the STD Booths to be allotted and there is no Exchange restriction for them. If the hon. Member has any complaints in this regard, he can write to me and I will look into it. But unfortunately, Members come to me and request me for out-of-turn allotment. Therefore, I have reserved the allotment of 50% of PCOs to these four categories of people and there is no question of constituting a Committee only with officers. If some officers are indulging in mischief or

they are not doing justice, then the hon. Member can report the matter to me and I will look into it.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: I accept the explanation given by the hon. Minister. Actually, I contacted the concerned people in my constituency and requested them to allot the PCOs and STD Booths to all the eligible applicants, at one go so that it will clear the doubts, which are raised about the Department. But they have not done that. That is why, I made this complaint on the floor of the House.

Then, I would request the hon. Minister to transfer all the top officials who are staying for more than three years in the headquarters. There is a lobby of officials. Sometimes, they are not obeying the elected representatives and they are more powerful than the elected representatives. So, I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister that if he transfers the top officials after every three years, it will only help to improve the quality of service and also the image of the Government. I hope that the hon. Minister would accept my request.

My constituency, Thanjavur, is a district headquarters. For more than 21 days, the billing machine was faulty. Nobody found its fault. After about three weeks, they noticed it. They have not taken any action against the officials who were in charge of that machine. Rather they divided the total amount of the bills manually after referring to the old bills and sent these out. One of the employees is from the Telecom Department. He made a reference to his high officials saying, "Sir, I regularly pay about Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 quickly. I openly admit that I made all my local calls from the office telephone only. I have made one or two trunk calls only. So, I cannot pay this amount." This amount may be very meager. So, you please look into it. Then, the officials accepted the payment made by that employee. But immediately thereafter, for some other reason, they have disconnected his telephone because he lodged this report with the Department.

I have sent a representation from the affected people. But they have not honoured it. I will give the particulars to the Minister later on. So, I want that necessary action should be taken into the matter. Why have these people not monitored it for more than 21 days? Nowadays, it is a very huge amount which has been paid by the consumers. So, I would request the Minister to look into these things.

Most of the Members have requested the Minister that payment in the exchanges is very convenient for the consumers because they receive some money from somewhere. They expect a message from that exchange. Sometimes there is a time gap between the message

received from the exchange and the receiving place. They immediately disconnect the telephone. Then, we enquire that we have not received the message from that place. So, if the payment could be made in the exchange, it will be helpful to the consumers.

I want to bring one more thing to the notice of the Minister. The underground cables are being laid throughout the country. Most of the roadside accidents occur due to this kind of laying of cables because the contractors do not fill in the ground properly. They are also not using good quality bricks for maintenance. So, I would request the Minister to settle their bills only after the underground cables have been laid properly.

Nowadays, we are providing very sophisticated instruments. Almost all are electronic instruments. But these should be protected properly. Even in the MPs' quarters, I have not seen any connection which has been properly connected with the box. Loose wires are lying there. I do not know why this is happening everywhere. We have not seen any box which is covered by a door. Initially, I would request the Department that MPs' quarters in Delhi should be properly connected to the telephone boxes. For most of the time, the MPs are not in the city. Somebody may go and take an illegal connection from that box.

In Delhi, we have one of the facilities. The user can receive a waiting call. But the ring system is not good. The person who dials to get connected to a particular number thinks that the phone is not engaged. Generally, he feels that the people are there but they are not picking up the telephone. I would request the Minister to change the sound system. That is very important. Most of the people are saying, "Sir, I have tried a number of times. Rather I tried it for one hour but you have not picked up the handset." I tell them that I have been near the telephone. But they would not agree with me. So, please change the ringing system. It is for the Department to decide what type of system could be there.

Please reorganise the telephone exchanges. In those days, one exchange could give a telephone connection 12-13 kilometers away. Now, there are exchanges nearby. But the Department has not reorganised the exchanges so far. The connection should be on the basis of minimum distance from the exchanges as was in the old exchanges system.

Sir, in villages we have put up lot of tower telephone system. If the tower system fails, they take minimum six months to one year to repair the fault. The Department people say that the same company which has installed the system will repair the fault. It is causing a lot of difficulties in the villages. This should be taken up by the Department to see that this problem is solved as early as possible.

Sir, there is a very good system of 91 Services. The radius fixed as of now for that is about 50 kms. Some of the major towns are at a distance of slightly more than 50 kms. say 51 kms or 52 kms. I would request the hon. Minister to give a grace of, at least, five kms. so that more and more people can take benefit of this services. The distance between Thanjavur and Puddukoti is 51 kms. We have a lot of telephone connections in Puddukoti, but the people of that area cannot take the benefit of this services. I would request the hon. Minister to give a grace of, at least, two to three kms. for that area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): I am concluding, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am calling Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar to speak.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, he is from my neighbouring constituency.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I give him two minutes from my time.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Thank you.

I would like to say something about postal services. Today, the Speed Post and other services like that are dominating the postal services. In Chennai, if the number of employees is increased then it will further improve these services. I would request the hon. Minister to employ more people there to give better services. If we provide additional facilities, like two-wheelers and other things like that, we can expect good service from the Department. So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider this also.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I begin, may I enquire how many minutes I have so that I tailor my remarks to the time available.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ten minutes.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Thank you Sir.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Report of the Standing Committee. It is not normally necessary to do so because the whole of that report is addressed to the Minister but I think, we need to go back a few years to the Tenth Lok Sabha when the system of Standing Committees was established. At that time it was stated that instead of the whole of Parliament discussing each of the Demands for Grants, these Standing Committees would be established with the primary objective of examining, in depth, the Demands for Grants during the Budget Session. Accordingly, an entire month of the Budget Session would set aside from having plenary sessions of Parliament to having sessions of the Standing Committees.

The Standing Committee is thus a microcosm of this Parliament and in the specific case of the Standing Committee on Communications, every single major political formation in the House is represented. As is to be expected, a majority of the Members of the Standing Committee on Communications are those who belong to the National Democratic Alliance. Therefore, the report that they have produced is a non-partisan or preferably, I would like to call it, a multi-partisan approach. Every word that has been written in the report of the Standing Committee on Communications has the approval of every significant political formation in this House. I suspect that since those who are not represented in the Standing Committee have not expressed any kind of dissent, we might take it that the Report of the Standing Committee is the Report of the Parliament.

If we take it in this light, then probably never before in the history of the Standing Committees has there been such a total condemnation of not only the practices of the Ministry, but, more importantly, the non-fulfilment by the Ministry itself of its own objectives as set out in the National Telecom Policy of 1999.

When we are faced with such a universal condemnation of the way in which this Ministry has been operating, I refer to matters of policy, rather than to matters of individual phone connections or whether an exchange is extended beyond 50 kilometres or 51 kilometres. I am talking about the larger issues, then, I think it is the duty of this House when it meets in plenary to endorse the views of this House as expressed in microcosm and to expect from the Minister concerned not merely a routine reply but an explanation as to why he has let down not only the expectations of the Opposition but much more importantly the expectations of his own supporters in this House. Sir, never before, I submit, has a microcosm of Parliament taken apart virtually every element of Telecom Policy as set out as

recently as last year. Whether it is a matter of the *shankhya Vahini*, whether it is a matter of the migration from the licence fee arrangement to the revenue sharing arrangement, whether it is a matter of fulfilling the fundamental obligation of the NTP, 1999 which is universal services provision, whether it is a matter of the method by which the universal services fund is being collected and whether it is a matter of rising to the importance of telecom in the economic development of the country, in every single sphere, the Committee has in very strong and very specific terms condemned the manner in which this Ministry is being run. I hasten to add, Sir, that Shri Paswan personally is not responsible because most of the ills that have been attributed to this Ministry by the Standing Committee are ills that were committed during the period of the Interim Government which was not responsible to any Parliament because Parliament did not exist, and advantage was taken of this to subvert the objectives that Parliament had set for itself in respect of each of these areas. They have all been mentioned there. I think we are entitled in this House to get a detailed answer from the Minister, and not the kind of routine replies that we got when we discussed the TRAI (Amendment) Act.

On that occasion, I had the opportunity of bringing to the Minister's attention several of our concerns which are very well reflected now in the Standing Committee. But he chose to give a reply which was showed, which was based upon this overwhelming majority that he has in the House, rather than address the concerns of the nation. At that stage, my speech was only my speech and he did not really need to respond to it. But what I am now talking about is not my speech but the Report of the Standing Committee. We have here, starting with paragraph 13 and ending with paragraph 238, approximately 50 paragraphs of the most condemnatory references to the way in which, I stress, this Ministry has been run not under Shri Paswan, but under this immediate predecessors, especially during the period of the Interim Government.

When this country incidentally was fighting a war, it seems to just flag one point, that we have suffered a total loss of Rs. 4,000 crore during the course of the year in which we fought the Kargil war. Today, they are saying that Rs. 8,000 crore food subsidy is unsustainable. They have just given away Rs. 4,000 crore which could have easily gone into the food subsidy, easily gone into the fertiliser subsidy, and easily gone into the question of what happens to kerosene or diesel. Instead of that, when it comes to the rich, there is an immediate bending of the knee. When it comes to the poor, they are asked to bear the burden of development. This is really unacceptable. I do not wish to reiterate, Sir, because I do not have the time. If I had, I would love to read out

every word of this or possibly give it to Shri Raj Babbar to do since he is better able to express himself than I am. But these pages need to be inscribed in black letters of gold in the hearts of the Communications Minister and his colleagues so that we get answers from them and then to explain to us why the Ministry of Communications is betraying the objectives that the same Ministry brought before this Parliament and which this Parliament endorsed.

Sir, I would like to conclude by posing thirteen questions to the Minister. Since they are very short questions, there will be time enough to ask them in the six or seven minutes that are left to me. With respect to migration from the licence fee system to the revenue sharing system, does the Government accept that it has lost over Rs. 1.5 lakh crore? It has lost over Rs. 1.5 lakh crore due to migration as has been alleged by people who have studied the subject. If you do not accept that figure, what is the Government's estimate of the revenue foregone over the next 10 to 20 years?

My second question is that since it is stated in paragraph 3.11 of the National Telecom Policy, 1999 that whatever is done has to be "consistent with contractual obligations", does relieving the private operators of their contractual obligations under the licence fee not amount to contravening the National Telecom Policy of 1999?

Now I come to my third question. Did not TRAI take into account the licence fee in fixing the revised tariff which became effective from the 1st of May, 1999? The new telecom tariff came into operation on the 1st of May, 1999. On the 22nd of July—just two and a half months later—they said that these licence fees are unbearable burden and within one week they migrated to an alternative system. I want to know whether the TRAI did not take into account the fixed licence fee in fixing the tariff.

My next question is this. Why has this Government not rejected the CAPEX cost calculation of the private operators? All of them are five to six times higher than the DoT's own procurement prices. They procured the same items for one rupee. The private operators have said that they cost Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 and the Department has accepted them. How have they done so? How is it that they accepted as reasonable the private operators' cost per equipment which are five to six times higher than the procurement prices actually paid by his own Department?

Sir, my next set of questions refer to the revenue sharing. Firstly, when they shifted from the licence fee system to the revenue sharing system why did they not have a fresh tender? Why did DoT not fix what is the

share of revenue to be given? They could have easily said that people could tender for what share of revenue they will give to the Government. Somebody would have said 15 per cent and somebody would have said 50 per cent. Now they did not do that. When it came to the licence fee system, it was tendered and the people who offered to pay the highest licence fee were given the contract. But when they migrated to the revenue-sharing system, it was the very people who had won the licence fee tender who were given alternative system with no other operator permitted to come into the new revenue-sharing system. I want to know, therefore, why they did not have this tender.

My next question is this. Has the Government accepted the TRAI calculation of the internal rate of return? The internal rate of return, as calculated by TRAI is that it is very much higher. It is something like 40 per cent compared to 15 per cent that they are taking as revenue-sharing. Have they accepted the TRAI calculation? If not why have they rejected the TRAI calculation? Thirdly, did or did not the Department of Telecom apply its own mind to determine the basis of revenue sharing? It is because what they have explained to the Committee is that some private operators told them that they can bear 15 per cent and they said that all right, let it be 15 per cent. Did the Department apply its own mind? And if it did apply its own mind, did not that mind show that it is possible to raise the share of Government revenue from 15 per cent to 20 per cent or 25 per cent or even, according to a calculation which I have in my hand, it would have gone up to 50 percent? Did you or did you not apply your mind? If you did not apply your mind, why did you not apply your mind? If you did apply your mind, what was the figure you came out with? Why in that case ask the private operator what he can bear instead of yourself determining what is the share that this poor country should get from the richest multinationals in the world in association with the richest Indian businessmen? Instead of asking this question, did you just succumb to whatever it was that this cartel of the richest exploiters in the world demanded over?

Sir, I also want to know from the Minister what has happened to the surpluses that used to be earned by the Department of Telecom. According to the information given to us on this, last year the surplus earned by DoT had dropped from Rs. 11,000 crore to Rs. 9,000 crore. Two thousand crores of rupees have been lost. Why has DoT surplus been eroded? Is this not because the private operators are skimming the upper end of the market while leaving it entirely to DoT to fulfil the USP obligations? USP does not mean Unique Selling Proposition in the normal marketing, USP means Universal Service Provision. All the Universal Service Provision is only being done by

[Shri Manishankar Aiyar]

the DoT, outstandingly, well, may I add? The private operators are not fulfilling their contractual obligations in this regard. Instead of punishing them for it, the Department is allowing the private operators to get away with whatever they want. The USP obligations are being placed entirely upon the DoT themselves.

With regard to the Universal Service Obligation Fund, they have said that 5 per cent of the gross revenue of the private operators is going as a payment into that. That will amount to such a small proportion of the total funds required to meet the USP obligation—not the United States obligations—Universal Service obligation that I do not know where the rest of the money is going to come from. Here is a system which is reducing the revenues of the DoT, reducing the surplus that it is capable of generating, reducing its ability to invest and relying so little upon the private contractor to meet these Universal Service Obligations that I cannot see how—unless the Minister explains his methods to me—we are going to fulfil the fundamental objectives of NTO, 1999 which is not to make the rich richer but to reach telecom to the poorest of Indian.

Finally, with respect to *Sankhya Vahini*, my last three questions and then I am done. Firstly, with respect to *Sankhya Vahini* given that there are similar technologies to the one which IUNET is bringing to this country why did they not go in for global tendering? Why was there no global tendering for *Sankhya Vahini*? My second question is this. Why is it that the DoT's equity contribution is going to be evaluated by IUNET not by DoT whereas, IUNET equity contribution is going to be evaluated only by IUNET itself? It is shocking that 52 years after Independence, we are telling the Carnegie Mellon University of the United States of America that they can evaluate whether Shri Paswan is telling the truth or not when he felt that the optical fibre will cost so much, whereas whether the IUNET is telling the truth or not will be determined by the IUNET and Shri Paswan cannot tell them that they are loads of cheats. My third question is this. Are any NRAPs (Non-Resident Andhra Pradeshis) involved in this?

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Than you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. While taking part in this discussion, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he is very much sure about achieving the target as enunciated in the National Telecom Policy of 1999. I am asking this question because there was a National Telecom Policy in 1994 wherein it had been stated that telephone on demand will be given by 1998. Now, in 1999, there is a new Policy which says that this will be met and completed by targeting 2002. I do not know whether the same Minister will come here in this House with a new telecom policy, again extending

the target to another date. This is all because of the wrong assessment that the Department is making in respect of the people's demand and necessity, so far as telephone are concerned.

My dear colleague, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has made a mention of the Standing Committee's Report. I do not want to take much of the valuable time of this House by mentioning from the Report of the Standing Committee. But that Standing Committee is of this House and, therefore, that Committee is responsible to this House. I just quote one sentence from para 32 of the Standing Committee's Report wherein it is stated:

"The Committee feels that the Department owes an explanation as to why the Department should only look after making the private sector viable and should not discharge its function in providing requisite facilities to the people either through themselves or through private operators by making them accountable under enforceable terms and conditions."

It is with respect to the profit-sharing. Profit-sharing was decided as 15 per cent and in the Report it is mentioned.

"The Committee asked, on what basis 15 per cent revenue sharing was arrived at and whether any study was made in this regard. The Secretary replied that the Department obtained figures from some of the operators to make a sensitive analysis as to whether they would be comfortably placed if the Department recovered 15 per cent of gross revenue as the licence fee."

The way the things are going on in the Department, is it not ridiculous? They say that because they expected the profit to be between 20 and 25 per cent, so they fixed it at 15 per cent. Is it not an arbitrary way in which it has been fixed? The Committee also mentioned, and I am constrained to mention this portion from the Committee's Report.

"The Committee is surprised that in these essential matters, a totally *ad hoc* approach has been adopted and the Department, as it were, is only concerned to see that the private operators feel comfortable and make whatever profits they earn, irrespective of their performance and not on what national interest demands."

We are here to ask the Government. We want to know the reaction of the Government. We have a right to ask and the Government owes a responsibility to reply. So, we want a reply from the Government. The Committee said that the Telecom Department owes an explanation. Who is to explain to this House? We know Shri Paswan very well. He is a very capable Minister, a dynamic Minister, a Minister running fast trains. But I do not think

he will be able to run the Telecom Department as efficiently as he has been running the Railways. At least, people are having a lot of misunderstanding. Is it not the duty of this Government to remove that misunderstanding? Please do remove it. I do not want to say much more than that.

Another point which I would like to mention in this respect is that all these achievements, targets and other things are being fixed by the Department on the basis of the assessment made by some management information system. But whatever they did, everything was a failure. Some time I do feel that the Department, by making such statements, is befooling the people and many a time I find that the management information system has become a misinformation system, so far as telecom is concerned. This is, unfortunately, the experience of the people of this country.

Now I would like to advert to some of the problems in my own State, Kerala.

Sir, Kerala is having a waiting list of 6.86 lakh for telephones. If the present policy continues, I do not think that it will be able to complete this list within the next two or even five years. Every time they say that it will be completed in the next year. But every time the list is increasing. Tamil Nadu is the State which is having the largest waiting list of customers with 7.75 lakh followed by Andhra Pradesh with 5.9 lakh and Uttar Pradesh 3.6 lakh. But Kerala is having a waiting list of 6.86 lakh. It is true that the teledensity, so far as Kerala is concerned, is 4.20 per thousand people whereas it is 4.24 in Punjab and 4.19 in Maharashtra.

Kerala is the State which is giving really a very substantial amount of foreign exchange to this country by sending the manpower to the Gulf countries. Therefore, a very special care should be taken by the Department of Telecommunications as far as Kerala is concerned. But, unfortunately, what is the position? Many a time the requests from many places in Kerala for new telephone exchanges have not been met with. Even if the telephone exchanges are given, the old equipment which is being shifted from some other areas is being installed there. This is really a matter of regret for the people of Kerala.

There is again a lot of statistics given by the Department justifying that achievements have been made in Kerala. I would say that it is not so in my own constituency. A majority of the Malappuram district is within my constituency, making, perhaps, the largest revenue after Cochin in Kerala circle. But what is the position? There is not even a Telephone Advisory Committee for the Malappuram district. Kozhikode, Wynad and Maleppuram districts constitute one area which is a

fast-growing place. But there is no Telephone Advisory Committee.

Some of my requests for establishment of telephone exchanges taking into account the people's demand have not been acceded to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I will take only one minute. I was also waiting as to why you were not ringing the bell as that is the system. Whenever I speak you are in the Chair and you ring the bell....(*Interruptions*)

Sir, some additional centres for the payment and other things are necessary in Kalapuram district. Now they are only in Malappuram, Tiru, Kottakkal, Manjeri and Ponnani in the entire region, even in these centres the people will have to wait in a one-and-a-half or two kilometres long queue. The people who pay money to the Department of Telecommunications will have no facility unlike many other areas. We need more centres for payment. This may please be considered.

We would like to request the hon. Minister one more thing. I do not have the time to go through it in detail. Therefore, I will say in short. There is a ban for the allocation of funds from the M.P. Local Area Development Scheme for the construction of the buildings for post offices. In many rural areas the Department of Posts is not in a position to construct the post offices. The hon. Minister may move with the hon. Speaker for permission so that Members of Parliament can also allocate funds from this scheme for construction of post offices in rural areas. It will be very much beneficial.

There is another point. Now there is a restriction for construction as well as sanctioning of post offices that there should be a distance of minimum four kilometres between two post offices. There is a growing demand from the people. I request the hon. Minister to reduce this condition to two kilometres from four kilometres.

I have another request to make to the hon. Minister. Now the Members of Parliament have been given the privilege to sanction 50 telephone connections. But I find that these are not being given in time.

We will have to go from pillar to post. In my district as well as in Kerala, the growing difficulty is that the Department would say that the materials are not available, the cables are not available and it cannot be given. They would say this for telephones recommended by us, just like other telephones. So, I would request my friend, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to just take some interest in this matter so far as Kerala is concerned because it is bringing

[Shri E. Ahamed]

foreign exchange into the country. I hope, the whole House is with me in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful that you gave me an opportunity to speak. I am also grateful to the hon. Minister. I am proud to say that Nasik district is No. 1 in India in the field of telecommunication, even then I am not satisfied with it. Telecommunication and Postal Department is closely linked to joys and sorrows of the people. It often happens with Post and Telegraph Department that people get the news of the death of their kith and kin as late as 10 or 15 days and by that time 'kriya' etc. have already taken place. Similarly, the news of marriage is also received after 10-15 days. It is, therefore, necessary to improve the situation. In my own constituency, there is Changor, and Dugaon. Dugaon is demanding for a sub-post. Telecom policy has been formulated. Several new policies have also been announced. The future challenges include the setting up of Indian Telecom Authority, liberalisation, licence-free policy, network and telephone in the rural areas. I give priority to the telephones in rural areas. As per the new policy, the fund allocation for private sector has been raised. While that of the original Telecom department has been reduced. It is not a good policy. USA is the biggest country of the world, even then they have provided most of the funds to the private sector. Rural areas do not have proper telephone facilities, therefore, I request hon. Minister that real India lives in the villages. A proper telephone facility lacks in my electoral constituency. Telecom and forest departments should be closely associated and they should be considered jointly and there should be no restriction on them. With these words, I conclude.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude and thanks for the opportunity you have provided to me to participate in the discussions on demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Communications. I want to say and about which everyone is aware of the country has made rapid progress in terms of telecommunications. Earlier, telephone was regarded as a luxury. It was a status symbol, but now it has become a necessity. We have now entered the 21st century and everyone is aware of the need to communicate one's ideas forward in the shortest possible time. We have also entered the age of cellular phones. Considering the importance of this department, it is a matter of regret that telephone department is showing its laxity. Whenever I visit the villages of my constituency the most of the applications relate to the telephone

department in which it is complaint that telephone connection has not been provided even when security money has been deposited 3 to 4 years. People are asking for their rights. Will the hon. Minister tell us whether those who have paid the security money 3 to 4 years ago, want to get it back since the money in FD gets doubled in this period will get double their money. I get such complaints. Most of the complaints relate to the employees of the telephone department who behave rudely with the consumers. People write their problems to us and we forward it to the hon. Minister. According to the records kept with myself largest number of applications have been forwarded to the Minister of Communications-be it to Shrimati Sushma Swaraj or to anybody else.

Sir, I have heard about Shri Paswanji, his method of working and also about his to the point orders. I had hoped that improvements will come but I am again sorry to say I wrote him so many letters and on all of them one or two sentences are written that the matter is being looked into. I submit to the hon. Minister that a public representative write letters only to express feelings of the people....(Interruptions) Yes, on those letters, it is written that the matter is being looked into but so far not a single case has been disposed of. I am giving you an instance. There is an SDO, phones in my town, Tohana. He behaves rudely with the people. I wrote the hon. Minister to get him transferred, but so far he has not been transferred. He says that he hardly bothers what an MP says, he can teach an MP a lesson. Situation have deteriorated to such an extent. Unions have formed Transfers or its stopping are done at the behest of the unions. Unions can get anything done or undone. About 5 to 7 days ago a telephone set was set on fire in my city Sirsa. The news was also published in the newspapers. Traders went on strike. People went to the extent of saying that they would publicly beat the telephone department employees. Telephone was set on fire and the telephone department employees disconnected the telephones of those traders. Sir, to what an extent a common man can go on fighting. If they show their anger, their telephones are disconnected. In the same connection I would say that demand to constitute Sirsa into an SSA district telephone is pending for years. Though Sirsa is a district but still people have been demanding for years to make it a telephone district. I would like to make special request to Shri Paswanji to fulfill this long standing demand of the people of Sirsa. If an erroneous bill is received in Chautala village people have to go to Hissar which is located at a distance of 170 kms. to make necessary corrections. Even if the error is of Rs. 50 people still have to travel 170 kms. to Hissar. It will be good for the people is Sirsa itself if made SSA.

Whenever I go in my constituency, people say that I do not go to meet the hon. Minister. If the matter is raised in the PAC meeting, we are told that there are no instruments and if I raise the matter as an M.P. I am told that it is not feasible. I can quote many such incidents but the worst thing is the rude behaviour of the telephone staff. Their behaviour with the people is not good, they do not speak in a proper manner. Even the submissions of public representatives go unresponded. Now, that the department is under Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, we are hoping for some improvements.

19.32 hrs.

[Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Contractors are awarded contracts for laying down of cables. The roads are dug for it but it is not repaired once the work is over. The resultant pot holes greatly cause inconvenience to the people. Haryana is one of the more prosperous states of the country but even there every village has its own share of problems. People there wish to pay their bills on time but we are not providing them facilities for doing so. I request you to make Sirsa an SSA district. The demands of the people should be fulfilled. Many villages in Haryana and Rajasthan now have better facilities. If such facilities are provided at every nook and corner then I will not be having any need to raise the matter.

Sir, for a poor man writing letters through post offices is the cheapest means of communication. With the increase in the population, number of villages has also increased in the country. But still there are many villages for the address of which people have to write—village (A), post office (B). My request to the hon. Minister is that in every village with a population between 500 to 1000, a branch office or sub post office be opened. Also we hear from the officers of the rank of CGM that they have shortage of staff. If they do not get staff, how will they be able to do work? Sir, they may also have some compulsions. They say that they have shortage of men and material. Hon. Minister has said that there is no shortage of material but that he will try to alleviate the problem of staff shortage. I request him to solve the problem of Haryana and other States as soon as possible.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM RAGHUNATH CHAUDHARY (Nagpur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are considering the demands of the department of telecommunication. I would like to thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak and without taking much time. I would like to draw your attention towards the problem of my constituency. There should be a provision for opening of post-offices in the bigger villages having a more than prescribed population. Even today, the postal service is not in order. Earlier, an

hon. Member was telling that the information of the death or a marriage ceremony is received in a village only after the ceremony has been performed since the postal service is not working properly. On the basis of population, a norm should be laid down that the villages having a population of one thousand or five hundred should be provided with a post office and the existing criteria of 3-4 Kms. should be relaxed and post offices should be set up by relaxing that criterion. Now, I would like to draw your attention towards the cell-phone facility. During the last several years money is being deposited to set up telephone exchanges. I have seen the list of my village. There are approximately 100 big villages and 40 to 100 to 150 people have deposited money for telephone connection. 3-4 years have passed since they deposited money and they are waiting in the hope of opening up a telephone exchange in their area. The efforts are being made to install such lines but it is said that cable is not available. Some strip of land is rocky and it is passing a great problem to dig it and the work is either taking place at a very slow pace or it has come to stand still. I hail from Nagpur district of Rajasthan. We can not make contact at Nagaur from Delhi or any other place. One has either to send the message through the wireless or a person has to carry the messages. It is not feasible to talk through a telephone there. There is long waiting list of people who have deposited money for getting telephone connections. The work on OFC lines which were to be installed a long back, has not taken place yet. There is no trace of those which are to be laid in future. Hence, it is submitted to speedily complete the job of laying down the lines. Priority on the basis of a definite policy should be adopted in case of telephone exchanges. The district officers use their own discretion to open new telephone exchange and they do so at their own will. When we ask them, they do handover the list to us but don't follow it is matter of opening the exchanges. It has been brought to my notice that the exchanges which should have been opened in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 itself have not been opened so far and at some places even those which were scheduled to open later have been opened. It causes pain and anguish to the people. It causes irregularity and gives rise to corruption. We have seen it many times that a exchange which should have been opened quite earlier is not opened. Many a times the people in big villages keep on waiting. When it is asked from the concerned department as to why this delay has taken place, it is replied that we don't possess enough cable to undertake further work besides giving many other excuses like not having a particular machine to fetch more connection etc. They misguide the people by making so many excuses and thus closing them in the process. I am of the view that a clear and explicit policy should be framed for it and a priority list of the villages to be given telephone connections should be

[Shri Ram Raghunath Chaudhary]

prepared and telephone connections should be provided within 6 months of their registration in the priority list.

At many exchanges there is no facility of generators. Many hon. Members have told that due to non-availability of electricity, telephone do not function. Generators have been provided in the big exchanges but at these places operators are missing. Many new generators have gone out of order due to lack of operators. Operators should be posted at those exchanges where the generator machine facility has been provided to look after the maintenance related job of the generators. Such a huge amount is spent on purchasing the generators etc. and when it goes out of order owing to the lack of an expert operator, it is indeed a cause of great distress. It not only adds to the expenditure of your department but also causes a problem to the public.

In our region, the work of telecommunication is looked after by a JTO or SDOT or District Collector at the district or tehsil level. They have been assigned the job to look after a particular area. If the telephone line has been provided in a particular house or building which falls in their area, they charge at reasonable rates from them but if a nearby village which is 2 Kms. away is also covered by the same telephone line, they do not cross it with the same line, instead a separate 6-8 Kms. line has to be laid down for connecting the same with the telephone. If they start crossing it will add to their monthly rentals. It is a big problem. A village is separated from another by a Km. only but as they do not fall in the domain of each other they cannot be connected with the same line while at the same time they try to connect the other villages even while they are situated 10-12 Kms. away. And we asked them as to why don't you connect a village only 1 Km. away with the cable line, but comes the reply that it does not fall in our territory. If we provide connections, then we have to monthly give an extra amount of 6-7 hundred as rental. Hence, it is my submission that you must make amends in your present policy of charging extra rental for providing connection to a village which though situated nearby, does not fall in a particular area.

Mr. Deputy, Speaker, Sir, the cable which is laid in villages is laid for only 15-20 lines. Initially, only 10-15 people fills up the form for getting telephone connections but once the cable is laid, the number goes up. So much money is spent to lay down the cable but when more people ask for providing connections, it is denied to them. Telephone has become a thing of daily use now as against the belief of earlier times when it was all symbol of luxury. It is my submission that the cable should be laid for at least 50-60 lines. I have seen many villages where only 10-15 people demand for telephone but once

the cable was laid their number rose to 50-60 and resultantly question mark comes over laying down a new cable and ultimately a demand for telephone connection is denied.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many thefts take place in telecommunication department. S.P. and D.S.P. of Balaji Police Station of my Constituency Nagaur had brought to the fore a case of telephone theft involving the illegal telephone talks to the foreign countries. It was a case of theft under Nagaur line. The direct telephone talks even took place from Ladnoo and Sujangarh. It involved a scandal of lakhs of rupees and this matter was also reported in newspapers a few days back. Hence, it is my submission that attention to check this kind of scandals in my Constituency should be paid and guilty must be punished besides bringing a all round reform in the system. Police is still taking action under the section 457,420 and 23,25,27 of the Indian Penal Code and under Indian Telegram Act and PPT.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, arrangement is made for removing the pillars used for laying down OBC. Miles and miles of line has been laid and when it is asked to remove the property worth lakhs of rupees but comes the reply that we don't have provision to do so, neither we have the contractors nor the man power. People carry these wires with them. The humble farmers take them as additional bonus and carry it with them. The copper wires have been stolen upto 3 Kms. in these areas and FIR has been registered in this regard. Line was restored after six days but once again the theft took place. Not a single case of theft has been solved and property worth lakhs of rupees has been stolen. Hence attention should be paid towards it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at last I would like to make one more submission that the cellular phones provided to the MPs should be made free in the public interest and the present system of charging Rs. 600 per month should be done away with. There is also a provision that a MP can allot 50 connections from his quota but when we recommend for this, the DOT gives the reply that it is not possible to provide these connections owing to their distant location. When we visit our Constituency, many applications are received on the behalf of people to provide them the telephone connections out of MP quota. Hence the quota limit should be increased to 200 from present level of 50 so that more people could avail of this facility. Cellular phones should be made free and a facility for 50,000 free calls should be provided. With this provision made, we can talk to the officers from our own Constituency and it will lead to more work in public interest. I hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention towards it.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): Thank you very much. I urge upon the hon. Minister to open the Subhanpura delivery post office at Subhanpura in my constituency, Vadodara City. This was already sanctioned and there is a long pending recommendation to open it.

The delivery post office which was working for the last 26 years for the people and other offices at Subhanpura area was closed in 1995 without proper arrangements in this area. There is not a single post office for the last five years for the population of one and a half lakhs to two lakhs people to fulfil their postal requirements. The closed post office was shifted to another area where it has already three post offices within a distance of 1.3 kilometres.

It has been shifted to three or four kilometres far away from the entire Subhanpura area.

A request was made to the then Post Master General, Vadodara region, that one of the post offices out of the three in the Sorting Office Building working separately in Subhanpura area, be shifted to some other place in the interest of the people. The possession of it remained with the Department for so many months even after closing. The Post Office as also the building were handed over to the landlord against the public interest.

After writing a number of letters to the higher authorities and finally to the hon. Minister on 10.09.97, the Department of Posts sanctioned a new delivery post office for Subhanpura area in March, 1998.

The Post Master General, Vadodara region does not show any interest in finalising the offer received both by way of advertisement and without advertisement, except to harass the people by only inviting offers on rent for housing a post office. He also enjoys himself by giving false excuses though the offer of housing a Post Office in the building found suitable, as per requirements and rent offered less than market rent as per Department guidelines circular No. 31-27/89 Bldg. Dt. 29.5.92 para (2) & para (3). He is not finalising any recommendation. People are very annoyed about this. So, I urge upon the hon. Minister to sanction the sanctioned post offices.

Another request for locating the post office in Nizampur area is also with the Department. For that, land has also been sanctioned by the Corporation. I urge upon the Minister to sanction both the post offices.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to express many thanks to all the hon. Members for participating in the discussion. I want to congratulate all those hon. Members who have participated in this discussion which took place after the gap of five years. Earlier the discussion on demands of Communication had taken place in 1995. We have started discussion a bit late. Had it been started at 12 O'Clock many more hon. Members could have taken part in it. It was my desire to have discussion on this subject, at least once and had there been more members of Parliament present in the House, I would have better opportunity to know their grievances.

But I would like to assure them that I am doing my best to talk to the MPs of every State separately and when this discussion takes place the officers of their States as well as officers of my department should be present there. You have rightly pointed out that we have to look after various things and there is a lot of work to do by we people and we, whether we belong to the government or the opposition, have at some point of time, the experience of being a part of the Government. No Minister can look into each demand or complain personally and when delay takes place over a certain thing, people naturally complain about it. It is because of this delay we normally sign the files sent by our officers and then it is sent back. There are no two views in this regard, it is a complaint which we also used to make and you are also marking it quite genuine. When I was the Minister of Railway, I had tried to improve the things and now also, I am doing the same. One of my colleague from Maharashtra shri Mahale came to me once and offered a letter to me. I asked him to go back if you only want my signature on the file. If you want to resolve some of your problems, kindly give it in writing, be it pertains to your constituency or a common problem, we will summon our officers and discuss the matter with them. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have discussed merely the entire day which helped us to know a many facts. Officers also knew that Members of Parliament will be present in the meeting, hence casual approach won't pay off. I felt that barring 2 to 4 per cent, there was no dissatisfaction and we tried to resolve whatever of it was there. I have decided to resolve the problem by conducting meetings with the Member of Parliament of various states to avoid any delay arising of correspondence.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, because of paucity of time I am unable to answer the queries of hon. Members which I really wanted to answer. It took me two days to reply the question of the debate on railway budget. One

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

day I spoke for four and half hours and on other day I have spoken for three and a half hour. The job in the communication Ministry is much more difficult than the Railways. Hence, the replies to the queries or question related to this department are bound to take even more time. Hence, I would only concentrate on major points.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, firstly, I have to look after two departments—one is postal department and the other telecom department. The postal department is extremely extensive. So far the telecom department is concerned then I had already said that we do not have any dearth of equipment in department of telecommunication and for the first time in the history of 50 years of independence that a meeting of SSA level officers has been conducted to know the ground realities which alone they know.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hold a separate meeting of the officers from North-East one in Shilong and other in Assam. A meeting of the officers of North-East was convened there only in order to obviate the difficulties faced by them coming to Delhi had fixed the date of 15th August to start the Internet Gateway of VSNL from Guwahati, the capital of Assam. Until now, all our activities were to be performed through Calcutta which was a major cause of long delays. I tried to make direct negotiations and resolve the problems immediately. For it, I held a meeting on 11th and 12th and identified the areas of weaknesses and measures to overcome them. We also took the view points of both junior level as well as senior level officers. The Complaints of Junior officers were that they do not get goods and equipment while the senior officers maintained the opposite and said that there is no lack of equipment in stores. I tried to go into these problems and tried to resolve all these things. I also tried to do away the problem of equipment in the part of some private operations and ordered the constitution of a task force to resolve their problems and streamline the system as this department was completely under Government control till 1991-92 and a new policy was brought in 1991-92. Right now, Mani Shanker Aiyarji and Santosh Mohan Deb were telling about private sector and revenue sharing etc. I was trying to emphasise that we are only carrying forward a policy adopted by you because at that time (where you took the decision of bringing in privatisation in the sector). We used to sit in the opposition and opposed it but once you have opened the floodgates it is not possible to reverse the entire process. You opened the flood gate and brought both DoT and private operation under the same umbrella....(Interruptions)

SHRI LAXMAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether or not will he order a probe into the scandal involving an amount of Rs. 153000 crore?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am coming to each question separately. I am talking about policy. All right and I am also conveying this point that had telephones been installed in each and every village during these fifty years, we would not have to go for privatisation of the department. It only shows that the public sector or those under the direct control of Government did not fulfil their responsibility. Consequently the Government did not fulfil their responsibility. Consequently the Government had to change its policy. Today, it is the age of free competition i.e. to provide equal opportunities to all. It has both merits and demerits in it.

You have mentioned about ITL. I know that ITI is one of our prestigious institution. But even three years back the same ITI's were running in losses. When the apprehension of opening up the field to other competitors and retrenchment was felt, they started working efficiently and with full dedication and are earning profit for the last three years. Though they can be said to be running in profit in terms of earning more as compared to earlier income but looking at the over all expenditure, they are still running in losses. Recently, I want to inspect the ITI in Naini, Raibareilly and Bangalore....(Interruptions)

It is true that we are fully exploiting the capacity potential of ITI. We place orders for them. Though there are restrictions before us, still we give 30 per cent to it is. If we try to give more than that of private companies then they complaint of putting undue check and restriction against us by saying that though you claim to provide equal opportunity to all, still reservation is being provided by your department to it and other government undertakings.

Therefore, I said that these are some of the problems. But there is no difference of opinion regarding the fact that the streamlining of communication which was supposed to be done between the continuing old trend and the new trend has not been done. We also admit this fact.

I have said that we have two departments, one of those is the postal department. Our postal department has no funds at all. About 87 per cent of its money goes towards distribution of salary. You would be surprised to know that the land of Postal Department is there in every district and the department has been getting around Rs. 17 to 25 crore annually for constructing houses on this land, whereas Rs. 30 to 35 crore are spent on rented accommodation.

In the same manner, we have 1,54,149 Post Offices. We are struggling for our E.D. We have come from the villages. We very well know that no one works as

diligently as a village Postman. Each postman has to go 5 to 7 kilometers for dispersing the post. During our childhood we used to observe how he used to tie ghunghroo, (jingling bells) hold a spear and run throughout the area in order to accomplish his work. Postman is working since the British times. I have been Labour Minister. According to Law, we cannot make adhoc appointment for a work which is of a permanent nature. You cannot keep men on daily wages and so you will have to make them permanent. But, even then they are not permanent. Persently, they have only given a notice to the effect that they would start a movement on the second. We are aware that their demands are just, but it is not the problem as to what is their demand!

When I was Railway Minister, in one stroke I had made 57 thousand casual labourers permanent and had also directed that after 31st of December, if any casual labourer who is working from 1st January, is not made permanent, then I would suspend the General Manager himself. Roopchand Pal ji is here with us. Earlier, people used to get provident fund after 30 days, 60 days, or 6 months, I said why it should be given after 60 days and so we brought a legislation in this regard that the labourer would get provident fund for even one day of work done by him. My officer asked as to how will it be possible Sir, please keep the time limit for 30 days at least. I said why even 30 days! You maintain the register. And that work is still going on. Labourers have got provident fund even for one day work. We have done this for the bidi workers.

20.00 hrs.

The problem of our E.D. Employees is also genuine, we have forwarded the file in this regard and have written to the Finance Minister also, but we know that the Government is also helpless.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajan), U.P.): If sincere effort is made the problem may be solved.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am saying that I would be the happiest Minister, if it is implemented. I would be the happiest person. We are doing it, as I said but the open policy which the Government has formulated is a policy of competition. Now, if an e-mail comes, then letters would also go through the e-mail in villages. So, it is very natural that Government looks into future prospects, its job is to see the future proportion. You have asked about the criteria for opening a post office. Earlier three criteria were prescribed for opening a post office, viz. there should be a distance of three kilometres, population of 3000 persons should be there and the economic criteria should be fulfilled i.e. at least 33-1/2 percent of revenue must be received from that area. I have asked that the criteria regarding revenue should be reviewed. Only two

criteria i.e. three kilometre distance and 3000 population, should be retained. However, I issued directions to install a letter box in all the villages, where there is a population of 300 persons. I have also said that requisite number of letter boxes would be provided for this work. If the population is more than 300 then a postman would be appointed in the villages, who would distribute letters everywhere. A scheme should be evolved that the postman may be given some stamps, some envelopes and may also be given commission of 10 per cent or five percent, as the department deems fit because if we take extra work from him, then we shall also have to give extra money for that and with this, people would be prevented from going across the river etc. to other places. One of my friends was very right in saying that we shall have to look into the criteria of three kilometres and a special provision shall have to be made in this regard. In fact three kilometres distance can be in any area viz. three rivers can come in a stretch of three kilometres, in the area of Kosi or three kilometres can be in a desert area also and if distance of three kilometres is in a mountainous region, then it is possible that the village is in the valley and post office is at the higher altitude of the hills, then in such a case, it will take three days to walk from the valley to the mountain to cover the distance of three kilometres. So all these are the problems but on the other hand, it is also a fact that we cannot eradicate a permanent disease in just a minute. Unfortunately when we have come to power, the competitive age of the Government has come into existence. Now everything in this competitive period is being viewed from the point of view of profit and our concept of welfare state has lagged behind. Now we have entered the age of competition. The Indian Airlines, Sahara Airlines and Jet Airlines have a strong competition amongst themselves. And the Indian Airlines has improved due to competition because it shall come to an end if there is no improvement in it. So, we are virtually down in the competition age. So far as the matter of postal department is concerned, we are monitoring the postal department and the matter regarding letters is also involved in this. Three-four bundles of bill of our own telecom department of the postal department were handed over in Delhi by some courier service. It was not of the department but of the courier service. I asked the personnels of my department as to what amount does the courier service get for this work. They told me that the courier service gets 3 times or four times more of the normal amount. I said you are giving an extra amount of three times or four times more, then why do not you give this amount to your own department. We should sometimes think about this aspect also. We have our own car industry i.e. Maruti Car industry. But we do not utilize this car, rather we use the private car. So, I want to say that this is our own department and in order to encourage this department, I have stated that

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

we are trying to make every possible effort in this regard....(Interruptions). We have still not come to his main point i.e., the matter regarding M.P. Fund. He said that the money of M.P. Fund should be given in this. I have also thought about this. I would request the hon. Speaker that M.P. Fund may be used wherever there is post office, branch post office, sub-post office or Head Post Office of our department as also the Government servants. Moreover the land is also available there.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It is provided in the guidelines that at any cost a Government office shall not be constructed there.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I said that we shall have to change that e.g. school building is a Government premises but it is also given for certain purposes. So, when even school buildings are given then what is the problem!

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Work of level crossing has started in the railways.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Guidelines have not been made in any court. They are made here only. They can be changed with the permission and consent of hon. Mr. Speaker. I have talked about the villages with more than 300 people that letter boxes would be installed there. So far as telecom department is concerned, it is a fact that the last financial year has already passed. We are now in the new financial year. We are satisfied in one sense but somewhat sad too. Satisfied in the sense that for the village people except for the telephone facility we have done all of the work and achieved the target. I had become minister on 13th of October and telephone had been installed in 3000 villages uptill that every day. Our target was that we would install telephone in 45000 villages in the year 1999-2000. I was very much worried regarding this matter. We have installed telephones in 33900 villages within five months. Similarly, the target of switching capacity was 5870000, instead we have achieved a target of 6717317. In the same way our target for providing telephone connections was 45,50,000 and against that we have achieved a target of providing 49,17,659 telephone connections. So in this way you must have seen how we have achieved even more than the prescribed target. Question of telephone density was raised. It is too less at present. It is only 2.6, but we have improved as compared to the last year. Its average in the rural areas is 0.6 per cent. If you look into the average of telephone connections in England, you would find that 56 out of 100 people have telephone there. In our country, the density has reached 2.6. We have ascertained the target that by 2005, we would provide telephone to 4 percent out of 100 persons at an average

and by 2005, we would make the general average to 7 persons out of 100. By 2010, the target is to provide telephones to 15 persons out of 100. I agree that this is out of the hands of the Government. We shall have to take the help of private sector also. So, in this regard, we are trying to make all possible efforts. You are right that we are trying to give to the private persons, question regarding revenue sharing was also raised. It was pointed out that we have suffered a loss of Rs. 1.8 lakh crore. Who was giving this money, no one was giving. We evolved a new policy. There was a backlog of 35 per cent, but now the people have paid that 35 per cent. In regard to the earlier cases everyone was going for litigation. The people who were given a licence for one year, were going for litigation after paying one year licence fee. As a result, to development was taking place. We would come on that later on....(Interruptions). The waiting list is 36 lakh 80 thousand, and it is also a fact that maximum waiting list is in Kerala. Santosh Mohan ji who was a Minister himself in the past and held high offices, is present here. Everyone knows the position of Kerala. The position of Unions there is quite different to that of Bihar. I admit that in Bihar, if a tender of Chhapra is to be floated, then out of fear tenders would be floated in Delhi or Patna, otherwise firing would start taking place. Suppose there are four persons. They would only make it sure that either the tender be given to them or to none. So, the case there is different.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bihar's case is different.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am saying the same thing. You are talking about Contract Myself or your goodself are not firing shots. Similar is the case of Kerala. In our new technology, WLL and MARR system, we had kept a target of 45000, earlier it was 70000. This time, the target is one lakh and we relate this target with the number of days. There are 365 days in a year and so there would be 730 days in two years. So, how many villages would be covered in one day, we are monitoring this. We have constituted separate task force for villages and urban areas. We have also made a separate arrangement for a Grievance cell in our own Ministry, and I am myself the incharge of this cell and I fully assert that its advertisement is published every now and then. Around four to five hundred letters are received in our grievance cell. Not one but twenty five lines are in operation in twenty four hours and we consider the case on the basis of these lines and thus take action. Sometimes we also receive work from the Minister. A grievance from Patna had come that a telephone was out of order for the last three months and when the case was referred to our cell, the fault in the telephone was rectified within ten minutes. We suspended the concerned person on the spot. Fact behind this was that when the

telephone could be rectified in ten minutes, then why it was out of order for the last three months. You are well aware of the matter regarding cable. As per the rule cable has to be laid three feet deep in the earth, but it is laid only at one foot. We have sent so many cases to CBI. We have also suspended so many people in this regard. Now you see action would definitely be taken upon this.

One of the hon. Members has said a very good thing. When an officer lives at one place for more than three years, he makes a strong base there and when he is transferred, he either goes to the Union or seeks help from an M.P. so it is done in this way. I would like to say to you all that uptill now, we have stopped the cases all of transfer and postings. I have told to all the Members that in March and April we would hold a meeting from the rank of SSA level to CGM level and information regarding work as also progress made by them would be taken, as the SSA level is constituted separately from top to bottom. Presently, we have seen that very little progress has been made in Muzaffarpur, only 39 percent progress has been done there. Whole area left unattended. We have not achieved our target in Hazipur and in eastern Uttar Pradesh, a hundred percent achievement in all the things has been made, e.g. If 5000 telephones are to be installed, then 5000 have been installed there. Where they feel that DEL is there, the work has been accomplished at such places also.

I am saying that we are concentrating more on the villages. This time, we have ascertained a target to one lakh villages. You have raised a matter of MARR. Our department says that only 10 to 15 percent of the telephones are out of order in MARR. 3 lakh are installed in villages, out of which, telephone in 2 lakh 11 thousand villages are under the MARR system. We have decided to change all this, this year we are going to change this in one lakh ten thousand villages which would be done through WLL (Wireless and Loop Line). The best and latest equipment in this field uptill now is the WLL, if it is installed at one place then there is no need to lay lines up to a stretch of 25 kilometres in any direction either north, or east or west or south. If you install this equipment in flood areas or in mountainous regions or even in deserts then the whole area around would be covered. This system would start operating in the month of December. Uptill now, it was under testing in the pilot project, but now its testing has been completed. Now, its tender would be floated and its work would start in November, December. This work uptill now, was going to a pace of passenger train, but now we shall have to make it run at the speed of Rajdhani train. We also have to change the MARR system and have to install new telephones in one lakh villages. So, we wish that we may install telephones in these villages by this year

itself. We may, thus increase the front load to such an extent that the target for the next year may become less. We are making provisions for this and have taken decisions according to that only.

Recently, one of my friends was talking about the internet. We have taken decision for internet. Internet would be provided to all the SSA offices in the country by 15th May, which are present in all the districts in country. No district headquarter would be left by 15th August without internet. No block headquarter would be left by 15th of August. Shri Jha, perhaps you would not be aware that there are 211 block headquarter in Bihar, where we do not have telephones or exchange offices. I am once again saying that we would complete this work by 15th August in all the block head offices. Moreover, we would definitely install internet at the block offices from where we would receive a demand to this effect....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Nicnet is not available, it is the decision of Planning Commission. They have taken the decision. This decision has taken long time back that the office of the Collector of every district of our country will be connected through Internet Service. This has been done. They have decided to provide Internet service at block level. Secondly, VSNL is a public undertaking and the other one is a private Internet provider. Which one you would like to use to spread internet services-VSNL, Nicnet or operator....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I tell you that so far as target is concerned, there are number of options....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: This is very important because the Standing Committee has made a scathing comment on the opening of the gateway.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Shri Rupchand Pal, I tell you about it. You have raised the matter regarding tariff and some other colleagues have raised the matter regarding TRAI. They stated that first and foremost the TRAI was not at all constituted, you constituted the same but withdrawn it later.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I had one thing about the Internet service. Which service are you going to provide? Will it be VSNL, Nicnet or a private operator?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. Pal, you know before you speak, the hon. Minister has to yield. He has not yielded.

SHRI ROOPCHAND PAL: He has yielded, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You would like to know that who will provide the Internet service? DTS will do this job. I hope you will be satisfied now. DTS will provide the Internet. We are equally concerned about the security as you are.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please address the Chair. There are no bilateral dealings here.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We have decided to fulfill the target of providing telephone connections in every village of 5 states of South-Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar including two other states till 15th August. Likewise we are also providing telephone on demand in 13 states. We hope to achieve that target also.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about Lakshadweep?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Likewise we are providing telephone on demand in 13 states. We hope to achieve that target also.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I think, the hon'ble Minister has not heard the hon. Deputy Speaker.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will collect the information regarding Lakshadweep. If it is short of the target by a small margin, I will include Lakshadweep also. Let the W.L.L. be introduced. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will provide this facility to Lakshadweep first of all.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Ladakh are the far flung areas where you have to take special care.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): We are thankful to the hon. Minister on behalf of our State Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Not only that we have also fixed a target to provide telephone connections to every village to South States till 2001. All backward areas will be identified and telephone connections will be provided there. We are also concerned about the long waiting list. We got worried if the waiting list is pending for 2-3 years. As one of the members have stated that the interest is paid on the deposit made but we are not satisfied by it. When the telephone cannot be provided why is the deposit accepted. As regards Delhi, it is stated that the area is not feasible on technical grounds. We are making efforts in this regard to know why such and such area is not feasible. There are several instances when telephones have not been provided even on the recommendation of an MP or Minister.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: May I ask one question?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is not yielding.

...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) B.C. KHANDURI: May I request the hon. Member to kindly look at the watch....*(Interruptions)* We are getting late.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ahamed, he is not yielding, how can you ask a question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is an established convention that whenever any Member wants to seek clarifications, the Minister should yield first.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, the hon. Minister is not yielding, what can I do?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Then what can I do here?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two things. One is regarding the migration package and the other is related to Sankhayvahini. I will not go into the details and present only main points before you. So far as migration package is concerned all of us and especially those, who have raised this issue are aware that hon'ble Prime Minister has declared it in the meeting held in FICCI on 24th October, 1998. On 20th November, 1998 GOT group on Telecom was constituted whose Deputy Chairman was the then Deputy Chairman

of Planning Commission. On the recommendations of GOT new Telecom Policy was formulated on 16th March, 1999. The Cabinet approved it on 26th March, 1999. It came into force from 1st April 1999 but it was for the new operators. Old operators were having financial problems. The matter was taken to Court. Government wanted to have a permanent solution to this problem. Attorney General's opinion was sought in this regard in April, 1999. He gave his opinion on 16.6.99. Thereafter, Cabinet approved it on 6th July, 1999. On 22 July, 1999, the department offered a package to cellular operators and basic operators by writing them letters. The cut off date to accept the package was started w.e.f. 1st August, 1999 and revenue sharing system was introduced in place of licence fee. The outstanding amount upto 31st July, 1999 was considered as one time entry fee. 35% of the entry fee was to be paid up by 15th August, 1999 from the outstanding amount. Rest of 65% was to be paid along with interest by 31st January, 2000. Later it was extended upto 15th March. Earlier the bank guarantee was to be submitted upto 30th November, 1999 which was extended initially upto 31st December, 1999 and then upto 29th February, 2000. The decision of 15% revenue sharing was ad hoc. You are raising the issue of revenue sharing but all of us are aware that it is not my responsibility. The issue of revenue sharing is pending with TRAI. We will take the decision on the recommendations made by TRAI. The old TRAI was replaced by the Government because earlier it was handling both jobs i.e. making recommendation as well as acting as a Judge. At the one side he used to make recommendations which nobody followed but later on the same issue was taken to the Court and place before him. That is why TRAI was bifurcated and the old one was replaced by TRAI and other one has been made an Appellate Tribunal. The Chief Justice of Supreme Court is the judge of Appellate Tribunal, we have talked to him and told him that we do not want to put the sincerity of the DOT into doubts and the decision of the impartial Chief Justice should be followed. It's Chairman would be the Chief Justice of High Court or the retired Judge of Supreme Court or other Judges. This matter is going to be finalized within few days. TRAI has been constituted. All the matters regarding traffic will be under its disposal. It has to recommend whether the revenue sharing would be 15% or something else.

So far as universal obligation is concerned, we want to change its name by Backward Area Development so that a common man could understand it. As one of our friends have stated that in villages today nobody want to go for the installation of telephones. You have rightly stated that private operators have provided connections only in 5 villages during the last three years. Till now they have provided connections only in 12 villages because they are not considering it as a profit-earning job. A Committee

was set up under the Chairmanship of my friend Shri Sikdar. We have talked to private operators twice and they have stated that they will try to accelerate the progress of the work in this April. It is right that the concept of revenue sharing has boosted their moral and they are doing their job. There are two opinions regarding the work assigned to TIAI. Some are of the opinion including Congress that regulatory authority should be an independent body. Communist party has different views. As I have stated that we have inherited several things from them....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: You are still sharing it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We can not stop it. That is why I have stated that the amount of bank guarantee withdrawn by the operators should be made alive again, it was included in the terms and conditions.

It was one of the terms and conditions of new telecom policy that in this service sector if an operator follow the old licencing system, the other operator has to follow him. Multi-poly licencing system will be initiated in place of due-poly. Earlier only two operators were working, now there will be more competitors. Earlier the licencing period of basic operators was fixed at 15 years, now it has been extended to 20-25 years. The licencing period of former cellular operators has been extended from 10 years to 20 years so as to bring them at par. Besides, the effective date of outstanding licencing fee has been extended for six more months w.e.f. 31.7.1999. There are so many points to be raised but I do not want to go into details. As I have stated and you are raising the point repeatedly that Government might have earned a revenue of Rs. one lakh crore or 25 thousand crore, but who is going to provide us that much of amount. We have full facts and figures that how much was to be given in first year and subsequently in second, third and fourth years. Regarding licence receipt problem from Metro cellular Licences, Mumbai will initially get Rs. 3 crores, Rs. 6 and Rs. 12 crores during second and third year respectively and from fourth year onwards, licence fee will be 6.023 lakh per 100 consumers. Similarly in Delhi it would be 2,4,8 crore.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: How have you made this account? I have also prepared one.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Now you can make an estimate for the 7 years.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I have told you regarding these accounts, if you have not done it, I can present it to you.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am saying the same thing. The problem was that no operator would be able to work under this method after three years. For

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

one year he adopted licence fee circle but after one year also he did not pay the licence fee. That's why the Government had to change its policy otherwise it would not get Rs. 2 what to talk of Rs. 2 crores. The matter was to be taken to the court....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is a very important matter and he is saying that the Government would not get even Rs. 2. When the contract was signed, it was affirmed to pay within 20 years, then how this could happen?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is not yielding.

.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, the Minister's job is to answer our questions. If he does not answer our questions, it is our duty to remind him about the questions we raised.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: They have also raised the matter of Sankhayvahini Cabinet had approved it on 19.1.2000. We have received some points from individuals....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is not yielding.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this scam has been started during congress party's regime.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the scam took place during congress party's regime...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would like to present only main points. Cabinet has cleared the proposal of a joint venture company set up under the IU Net Carnegie Mellon University on 19.1.2000. They stated that the company was set up in consultation with both the parties.

It was decided to finalise the business of the company on the basis of its name. The department of electronics and the educational institutions will be its shareholders. The department of a communications will have a share of 45 per cent, the educational institutions, 4 per cent, the department of electronics will have a share of 2 per cent and the IU Net will command a share of 49 per cent. This way the Government will have a share of 51 per cent in the company. The Defence Department will also be included as its Members....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: He was in your department.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Shri Arunachalam, who was Advisor to Union Government in the Ministry of Defence for 7 years, has not been included....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is not yielding.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The company will set up a high speed data network in the country which will be used by the educational institutions, the Government and by the private Enterprises, various people and for training and research purposes. The establishment of this company will promote the research and development work in high speed data network. You have stated that Indian Telegraph Act has been violated in this project. Its licence will be brought under Telegraph Act....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please let there not be a running commentary....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is not yielding.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Company Act has not been violated in this project. I am stating all this with full responsibilities....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: The fund belongs to the country....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, he is not replying to the points raised by the hon. Members....*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please hear the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, the hon. Minister is not answering the questions raised by me....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please listen to the reply for the question you have raised....(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It is a bogus company....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, I have noted each and every point raised by him. I am going to reply all those. He has a right to correct me in case I say something wrong....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: If you do not yield, then we will walk out....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members may please wait.

...(Interruptions)

2038. hrs.

At this stage Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, we are not satisfied with the reply we are walking out.

2038. hrs.

At this stage Shri Rupchand Pal and some other hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: We are not satisfied with his reply; therefore, we walk out from the House.

20.39 hrs.

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

MAJ. GEN. (RET.) B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are not having courage to listen to the reply, that's why they are leaving....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on records except the speech of hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: They remain present in the House or not but I would like to put it on records. They have raised the question whether with the implementation of this scheme the public facilities like telephone, e-mail and fax etc. will come under confidentiality, the answer is no because the permission has not been granted to use voice telephone and VSNL's rule is only applicable upon it. Beside, they should not state misleading statements regarding Dr. Arunachalam and Dr. Raja Reddy. Both of them are not ordinary persons, Dr. Arunachalam was the scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence not for one or two years but for seven year. A person sitting in America works in the national interest and thinks in favour of India, new technology is transferred from there, the people will also follow and sell their merchandise and the remaining optical fibre in our possession will also be sold. Our market is turning to be an open market. I have full details of rules, regulations and Acts etc. Right from the Arbitration Act, other Acts will also be implemented according to the rules of Union Government.

Where does the question of national security arise here. The joint venture has not yet been set up. Three months time has been wasted. Therefore, we have made up our mind and sent the draft of joint venture to the Law Ministry a week ago. After its approval, detailed feasibility and estimate approval would be obtained from Telecom Commission. Thereafter joint venture agreement would be signed. After signing of joint venture agreement of Sanjhya Vahini India Ltd. its registration would be done under Company Act. As I told you that I.U. Net, DTS, MIT and educational institutions would be its shareholders and companies total cost would be Rs. 1407 crores. Till now its proposed equity share capital is Rs. 1000 crores. Their Board of Directors would comprise eight Members out of which three will be from the Government, three from the I.U. NET and one from the educational institutions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, amongst them one will be an expert who would become its M.D. Therefore, those hon'ble Members who have raised doubts about Shankya

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

Vahini's revenue sharing have no base and people of the country know that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there were many points which I wanted to reply. But I will try to reply them in writing on the local matters raised by each and every hon'ble Member in respect of their concerned areas because very less time has been left. An hon'ble Member raised the issue of C.P.M.G. of the most offices. That has been changed. C.G.M. of Patna has also been transferred. I do not want to go into the details. I would like to thank all those hon'ble Members who participated in the debate on Budget of the Ministry of Telecommunication.

I am grateful to Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya, Shri Rupchand Pal and all other hon. Members who spoke. I wanted to mention names of all but there is no time. Shri Prabhu Nath spoke against the G.M. and said that telephones of MPs are not installed in time. It has been alleged that there is fraud in contract system, there is a nexus between the official issuing tenders and the officers. The question of casual labour was also raised. There were also charges that one does not receive letter sent through post even after seven years of his death in far flung areas. Suggestions have been made that in far-flung areas distance of post-office should not be taken as criteria. We had discussion here on many other things. I would like to say that all these issues do not relate to my Ministry alone. The Finance Ministry is also involved in it. Government's job is to downsize...*(Interruptions)* Our colleague from Nagaland spoke about the officer who has been transferred to Delhi from his place. I told at that time itself and would like to repeat it again. That though he was removed earlier but now I have sent him back. Now he has been posted in Nagaland. Because was know North-East and Udhampur areas are very sensitive areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the pois of SSA and TDM have been upgraded to that of G.M. in Udhampur and a G.M. has been posted there. Our colleague Shri Sushil Mohite said that 1500 lines are dead since March in Bikaji Cama area. I will try to check at random some day and wherever I find some official or worker doing any mischief or found to be not doing his duty properly, strict action will be taken against him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has left. He said that telephone exchanges are not working properly in his area. I would like to tell him that Government is there there and he should tell the Government to improve the law and order situation there so that we can get the work done by employees in

telephone exchange at night. Condition should improve to such an extent that employees of Communication department can work day and night in telephone exchanges and make telephone exchanges run efficiently.

Our Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Himachal Pradesh Shri Maheshwar Singh wanted to change 'MRR' telephone. I would like to tell him that we are going to replace 'MRR'. Telephones numbering about one lakh 10 thousand this year and one lakh will be replaced next year. In this way all 'MRR' telephones would be replaced in two years. He also said about laying of cables and functioning of post offices, replies of which I have already given.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Dr. V. Saroja asked about increasing of telephone quota from 50 to 100 for Members of Parliament. She was sitting just a while ago and I requested the hon. Speaker to increase this quota from 50 to 100. I have no objection to it. If I get permission I will do that. But she wanted to increase the number without taking the name of the hon. Speaker that number will be increased. If it is I who will make an announcement in this regard, I have no objection or problem in it. I will do that. One hon'ble Member wanted to make mobile phone free. For that our boss, hon'ble Parliamentary Minister is sitting here. If he says I have no objection in doing that.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): First of all the Members of Parliament give in writing that they would not bring mobile telephones to House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Yes, it is a right thing. One thing happens here. At the time of availing a benefit, every hon. Member avails it. When some charge is leveled, everyone because a Sadhu and names others to be at the receiving end. Let the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs say I have no problem. Now we are in the Government, till yesterday we were in the opposition. After all we are public representatives and know the problems and sufferings of people. When I said, I shall provide telephones by the year 2000 and an MP gives telephone connections, what is wrong in it. So I said I have no objection I brought to the knowledge of hon. Speaker. At that time he was sitting there. I said that I have no objection and I think the hon. Speaker also has no objection to it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to make a suggestion in this regard.

.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Many complaints of Members of Parliament have come to me. The High Court has also passed a judgement about over-billing and arrears.

.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members say that due to over-billing it could not be settled and due to that payment of bill was not made. Besides surcharge is also charged. This runs for many years. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is also sitting here. I have a suggestion to make that a dispute centre for Members telephone bills be set up here.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I have no objection in it. I will do according to your directions. I want that not only the Members of Parliament but also the common man should not have any complaint. But Members of Parliament shoulder bigger responsibilities. One Member of Parliament receives telephone bills worth Rs. 3-4 lakhs. It is a fact also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Somebody has received a bill for Rs. 4.5 lakhs.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I do not have a right to write off the bill of any person. At the most I can only get the matter investigated by the vigilance or by any higher Officer. If I had the power to write off.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not talking of writing off.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: That is why you suggest that a committee should be constituted to settle all these issues.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I said that a counter be opened here for settlement of disputes.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will discuss this with the Secretariat and the hon. Speaker and whatever directions I get I will act accordingly.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I would like to draw your attention for a minute. Please make the call local for a distance of 100 Kms.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will do all those things which are under me as per various suggestions made by the hon. Members. There is a demand for 100 connections from 50. I will do that because it is within my powers. Neither the hon. Speaker nor anyone has any problem in it. So far as making cellular phone of Rs.

10,000 free the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is sitting here. I have no objection in this. If he gives in writing I will do that.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I said that calls up to a distance of 100 Kms. should be made local.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is happening?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Shri Pramod Mahajan wants to say something.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I want to say that let us complete it.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: He is saying that if in the capacity of Parliamentary Minister, the Minister says something, it will end in a yes or a no. Some will say we will take while others will say we don't. I simply take his name. Shri Ram Sagar spoke in this regard. Our colleague from Jammu-Kashmir.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All Members have participated therefore you conclude.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I thank very much Shri Lakshmanji, Shri A. Brahmaniah, Shri Ramdas Athawale, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Shri E. Ahamed, Shri Pandeyji and all other colleagues. I thank Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar and also thank Ushaji very much.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: What about MTNL, Chennai?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I have full details of Delhi and Chennai MTNL Chennai work will be better than Delhi.

[*English*]

That much I can say.

[*Translation*]

Therefore do not bring MTNL and VSNL in everything. We see performance of work and Chennai's performance as a Minister I should not say that

[*English*]

it is better than MTNL, Delhi.

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

[*Translation*]

With these words, I would like to thank all my colleagues very much. I hope you will oblige in passing the demands.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Newspapers and magazines which are registered with Government of India are facing a lot of problems....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rawat, he has already answered that. You are a senior Member. Please sit down.

.....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Minister, Sir, you said you will give a reply.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and engatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2001, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 11 to 13 relating to the Ministry of Communications."

The motion was adopted.

20.53 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 26, 2000/ Vaisakha 6, 1922 (Saka).

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Friday, April 25, 2000/Vaisakha 5, 1922 (Saka)

...

<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
24/2	SHRI RAMSHE .H THAKUR	SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR.
53/16	THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)	THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY,HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)
54/3	THE MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN)	THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN)
65/2	4854	4584
69/1 (from below)	52725000/-44500000	527250000/-4450,00000
192/7 281/18	SHRI MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN	MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN
389/9	MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)	THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)