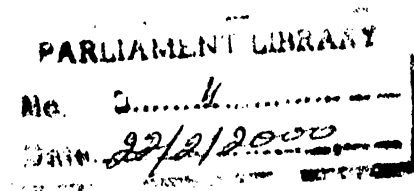


# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

**Fourth Session**  
**(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. IX contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

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

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

**Shri S. Gopalan**  
**Secretary-General**  
**Lok Sabha**

**Dr. A.K. Pandey**  
**Additional Secretary**  
**Lok Sabha Secretariat**

**Shri Hamam Singh**  
**Joint Secretary**  
**Lok Sabha Secretariat**

**Shri P.C. Bhatt**  
**Chief Editor**  
**Lok Sabha Secretariat**

**Shri Nathu Singh**  
**Senior Editor**

**Shri O.P. Vaish**  
**Editor**

---

[ORIGINAL ENGLISH PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN ENGLISH VERSION AND ORIGINAL HINDI PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN HINDI VERSION WILL BE TREATED AS AUTHORITATIVE AND NOT THE TRANSLATION THEREOF.]

## CONTENTS

[Twelfth Series, Vol. IX, Fourth Session 1999/1921 (Saka)]

No. 19, Thursday, April 15, 1999/Chaitra 25, 1921 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
REFERENCE RE: EARTHQUAKE IN SEVERAL PARTS OF NORTH INDIA, ESPECIALLY GARHWAL REGION. . . . .	1
MOTION RE: SUSPENSION OF QUESTION HOUR. . . . .	1—2
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS. . . . .	2—181
Starred Questions Nos. 341 — 360 . . . . .	2—27
Unstarred Questions Nos. 3491 — 3672 . . . . .	27—181
MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. . . . .	182—276
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. . . . .	182
Shri Sharad Pawar. . . . .	182—194
Shri L.K. Advani. . . . .	194—208
Shri Lalu Prasad. . . . .	209—219
Shri Yashwant Sinha. . . . .	220—236
Shri Purno A. Sangma. . . . .	236—244
Shri R. Muthiah. . . . .	244—248
Shri Vaiko. . . . .	248—257
Shri N.K. Premchandran. . . . .	257—263
Shri Mukhtar Naqvi. . . . .	263—269
Shri S. Sudhakar Reddy. . . . .	270—274
Shri Prabhunath Singh. . . . .	274—276

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Thursday, April 15, 1999/Chaitra 25,  
1921 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

REFERENCE RE : EARTHQUAKE IN  
SEVERAL PARTS OF NORTH INDIA,  
ESPECIALLY GARHWAL REGION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to make a reference to a recent traedy which affected several parts of North India, especially the Garhwal region.

As the House is aware, a major earthquake that hit the Garhwal hills on the 29th March, 1999, left a trail of death and destruction in its wake. A large number of people including women and children were reported to have been killed, injured and rendered homeless. Chamoli, Gopeshwar, Rudraprayag, Joshimath and Ukhimath were badly hit. Relief work is already going on.

The House may join me in expressing our deep sorrow and sympathies to the affected families; and may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.01 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while.*

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL (Jalandhar) : I join this feeling that you have expressed about the earthquake victims. May I suggest that this House unanimously decides that we donate our one day's salary and allowances to the relief fund for the Garhwal region...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamir Pur) (U.P.) : One month's salary should be given. Our party is ready for this.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : I support Shri Gujral.

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : We have no problem. One day's salary and allowance is all right. We have agreed to donate one month's salary from our side.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL (Jalandhar) : If you have agreed to donate one month's salary, I endorse that also.

11.02 hrs.

MOTION RE : SUSPENSION OF  
QUESTION HOUR

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : Sir, may I request through you to suspend the Question Hour under rule 388 so that this House may take up the discussion on the Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers, notice of which is already given by the hon. Prime Minister.

I beg to move :

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it provides for the first hour of sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up the Motion of Confidence.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it provides for the first hour of sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up the Motion of Confidence.

*The motion was adopted...*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### 2-3 Persons Engaged in Beedi Industry

\*341. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of persons engaged in the beedi industry at present State-wise;

(b) whether most of the persons in this industry belong to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and backward classes and women;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether permission has been granted by the Government for manufacturing of small cigarettes in competition with beedis;

(e) if so, whether beedi producers have suffered losses due to manufacturing of small cigarettes; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to see the interests of beedi industries and the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) There are about 44-lakh beedi workers in the country.

(b) and (c) According to a recent sample survey conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour, the percentage of persons belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and OBC categories engaged in beedi making is 15.2%, 3.3% and 43.3% respectively. As per the same survey, the women in the factory worker category and home worker category constitute about 50% and 68% respectively, of the total workers engaged in beedi making.

(d) to (f) The cigarette manufacture requires Industrial Licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The licence so issued under this provision does not, however, specify the length of cigarette. Industrial licences for the manufacture of cigarettes are granted in terms of number and not lengthwise. The differentiation on the basis of length of cigarette is relevant for the purpose of excise duty.

The Government have received representations from beedi manufacturers and beedi workers suggesting increase in the rate of excise duty on the non-filter cigarettes of length not exceeding 60 mm on the ground that the level of excise on such cigarettes is having adverse impact on beedi industry. The rate of excise duty on such cigarettes has been increased from Rs. 60/- per thousand in 1994-95 to Rs. 75/- per thousand in 1996-97, to Rs. 90/- per thousand in 1997-98, and to Rs. 100/- per thousand in 1998-99. In the budget for the year 1999-2000, the rate of excise duty on such cigarettes has been fixed at Rs. 110/- per thousand sticks.

### Railway Reservation Terminals to Private Agencies

\*342. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to grant

Railway Reservation Terminal to private agencies; and

(b) if so, the reasons and advantages thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) There is a proposal to provide Passenger Reservation System (PRS) terminals on an experimental basis to travel agents authorised under Rail Tourist Agents Scheme and Rail Travellers Service Agents Scheme of the railways at the party's cost and with suitable safeguards etc. in order to facilitate rail reservation to common man. The provision of this facility would result in availability of more reservation counters, reduced waiting time for purchasing tickets, etc.

### 4-9 *Railways* Summer special trains

\*343. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Summer Special trains to meet the extra rush of passengers during Summer seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with their starting and terminating place, zone-wise;

(c) whether coaches of all categories are likely to be provided in long distance trains, specially South bound trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether catering arrangements including pantry cars are likely to be provided with all the long distance trains; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the alternative catering arrangements made for long distance passengers on board?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Around 2270 Summer Special trains will run on 40 popular routes from 10th April to end of June 1999 having the following classes of accommodation. viz. Ordinary 11nd class, Sleeper Class, Chair car, 1st class, AC. Chair Car, Executive Chair Car and AC 2-tier. Further augmentation of coaches in at least 68 popular trains is also being done during the summer season. As is evident from the data below, highest number of Summer Specials so far will be run during the current year.

Year	Number of special trains
1995	1155
1996	1214
1997	1347
1998	1959
1999	2270

A list of summer Specials zone-wise which have been planned is placed at the Statement attached.

(e) and (f) 8 Summer Special trains are being provided with Pantry Services. Instructions have already been issued to the Railways to monitor the arrangements of catering services in Summer Special trains by strengthening the existing Catering/Vending arrangements for Static Units by ensuring proper supervision of conveyance of Meal Messages from the trains, execution of orders from base kitchens/ Refreshment Rooms and prompt supply to the passengers, selling good quality Economy Meals, Janata Khana, Fast Food items etc. at the stations and in the trains.

### Statement

#### List of Summer Specials zone-wise

S.No.	Zone	Route	Frequency	Composition
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Central	Mumbai-Madgaon	Triweekly	Chair car ordinary, A.C. Chair Car, Pantry Car, second class cum luggage
2.		Kurla-Varanasi	Daily	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, chair car ordinary, second class cum luggage
3.		Kurla-Varanasi	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, chair car ordinary, second class cum luggage
4.		Pune-Gorakhpur	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, chair car ordinary, second class cum luggage
5.		Kurla-Patna-Darbhanga	Bi-Weekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
6.		Mumbai-Ernakulam	Weekly	Sleeper class, A.C.2-Tier, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
7.	Western	Ahmadabad-Varanasi via Lucknow	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
8.		Ahmadabad-Varanasi Via Allahabad	Weekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
9.		Mumbai-Porbandar	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
10.		Mumbai-Gandhidham	Triweekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
11.		Ajmer-Mumbai	Triweekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
12.		Ahmadabad-Chennai	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage

1	2	3	4	5
13.		Jaipur-Bangalore	Weekly	A.C.2-tier, ordinary second class, sleeper class, second class cum luggage
14.		Gandhidham-Delhi	BI-Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
15.	Eastern	Howrah-New Delhi	4 Days	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
16.		Howrah-Dehradun	Weekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
17.	Southern	Chennai-Quilon	Daily	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, First class, second class cum luggage
18.		Bangalore-Kottayam	Alternate Day	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, First class, second class cum luggage
19.		Chennai-Egmore-Tirunelveli	Daily	Chair car ordinary, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
20.		Nagercoil-Dadar	Weekly	Sleeper Class, A.C.2-tier, first class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
21.		Chennai-Coimbatore	BI-Weekly	Sleeper Class, A.C.2-tier, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
22.		Chennai-Dadar	BI-Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, Second class cum luggage
23.		Virudnagar-Sengottai	Daily	Ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
24.	North-Eastern	Darbhanga-Delhi	BI-Weekly	Second class cum luggage, sleeper class, ordinary second class
25.		Kurla-Gorakhpur	Daily	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
26.	Northern	Nizamuddin-Jammu Tawi	5 Days	Ordinary Second class, sleeper class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage
27.		New Delhi-Dehradun	BI-Weekly	Ordinary second class, sleeper class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage
28.		Kalka-Mumbai	4 Days	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage
29.		Lucknow-Kathgodam	Triweekly	A.C. Chair car, first class chair car, second class cum luggage
30.		Nizamuddin-Chennai	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage

1	2	3	4	5
31.		Bangalore-Nazamuddin	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
32.	South-Eastern	Howrah-Chennai	BI-Weekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage
33.		Howrah-Mumbai	BI-Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, second class cum luggage
34.		Visakhapatnam-Chennai	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage, pantry car,
35.	North-Frontier	Dadar-Guwahati	Fortnightly	Sleeper, first class, ordinary second, A.C.2-tier, second cum luggage, pantry car
36.		Guwahati-Chennai	Fortnightly	Sleeper class, first class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-Tier, Second Class cum luggage, pantry car
37.	South Central	Nizamuddin-Secunderabad	Weekly	Sleeper class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage
38.		Secunderabad-Dadar	Weekly	Ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, sleeper class, second class cum luggage
39.		Secunderabad-Ahmadabad	Weekly	A.C.2-tier, ordinary second class, sleeper class, second class cum luggage
40.		Vasco-Chennai	BI-Weekly	Sleeper Class, ordinary second class, A.C.2-tier, second class cum luggage

9-10

*Television*  
T.V. Serial Shaktimaan

\*344. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prasar Bharati Corporation has backtracked its decision to take Shaktimaan off the air from Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Keeping in view the complaints/suggestions received from various quarters, Prasar Bharati had decided to discontinue the telecast of the serial 'Shaktimaan'. A notice to this effect was accordingly sent to the producers of the serial asking them to wind it up with effect from 23-03-99. However, the producers approached the High Court of Delhi against this decision of Prasar Bharati. The Hon'ble High Court vide its order dated

19-03-99 constituted a committee of 3 eminent persons to examine the matter in its entirety. The Hon'ble High Court has further ordered that the telecast of the serial on Doordarshan will continue till the report of the said committee is received. The serial is thus being telecast at present as per High Court orders.

[Translation]

10-11

*Railways*

**Separate Fund for Manning Unmanned Level Crossings**

\*345. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create a separate fund to man all the unmanned railway crossings in the country;



(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this fund is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :  
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. This fund will be for manning of unmanned level crossing in a phased programme basis, for construction of Road over bridges/Under bridges at busy level crossings and other safety related works at level crossings. Finance Minister, in his Budget Speech of 1999-2000, has announced that Railways will be provided funds out of Central Road Fund, being created by levying of duty @ Rs.1/- per litre on diesel alongwith the duty already levied on petrol with effect from 2.6.98. Ministry of Railways have accordingly, requested Finance Minister, for allocating adequate money out of this fund, to the Railways.

[English]

#### Duty Free Shops at International Airports

\*346. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are planning to offer duty free shops to private companies at the international airports;

(b) if so, whether any bids have been invited and offers evaluated;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation has sought the intervention of the Government to retain duty free shops at the international airports; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Global tenders were invited for the space at five international airports for running duty free shops in December, 1998. Four parties sent their tenders, out of which only two parties qualified for the opening of financial bids. The offers of both these parties have been rejected, since the offers were well below the Minimum reserve licence fee stipulated by Airports Authority of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

12

Television

#### Norms for Selection of Children's Serials

\*347. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan have laid down any norms for the selection of Children's serials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Children's serials selected by the Doordarshan during the past some years have caused adverse effects on the children; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made to have a fresh look in the matter and to select good quality serials for children?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) It has been reported by Prasar Bharati that as per their guidelines, all programmes, including those meant for children, are required to conform to the provisions of the Broadcast Code. No programmes which promote superstitious beliefs, or involve/incite children in any act of violence, either as victims or as perpetrators, are telecast on Doordarshan.

(c) and (d) In general, there have been no complaints about the adverse effects on children of the serials telecast on Doordarshan. A recent exception has been of the serial 'Shaktimaan' which has been tremendously popular with the children but at the same time has attracted criticism from various quarters. While Prasar Bharati had decided to discontinue telecast of this serial it is still being telecast under the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

The planning and production of children's programmes/serials is done in such a way so as to ensure a judicious mix of healthy entertainment and education for the children. No change in this approach is considered necessary.

12-13

Television

#### Advertisement and Programme Code for TV Channels

\*348. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a

bill relating to national advertisement and programme code for all the television channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above bill is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have initiated action to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 with a view to bringing the programmes of all satellite channels, including foreign channels, within the ambit of the Programme/Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

(c) No time frame can be indicated as yet.

13-14 Pension Reference  
**Pensionary Benefits to Commissioned Officers**

\*349. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether sometime in the past the Supreme Court has held that a non-commissioned army personnel is not entitled for any pensionary benefits if he is dismissed under the Army Act;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why the commissioned officers dismissed under the Army, Navy and Air Force Acts are being given pensionary benefits;

(c) the number of officers, rank-wise and service-wise, who have been given benefits during the last five years till date; and

(d) the corrective steps, the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court have upheld the provisions of Regulation 113(a) of the Pension Regulations for the Army personnel which inter alia provide that Junior Commissioned Officers or an Army personnel of Other Ranks (ORs) dismissed under the Army Act are not entitled to pensionary benefits.

The Commissioned Officers dismissed, cashiered or removed from the service under the respective Acts of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force are granted pensionary benefits under the discretion of the President as provided in the respective Pension Regulations of the three Services.

The information regarding the number of officers who were dismissed or cashiered from service and who were granted pensionary benefits during the

last 5 years is not readily available and will be laid on the Table of the House.

The case for removing the disparity in respect of their entitlement of pensionary benefits between the Commissioned Officers and the Other Ranks who are dismissed or cashiered from service is under consideration.

[Translation]

14-15

Railways

**Loss Suffered by Konkan Railway Corporation**

\*350. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) is the first Indian Railway experiment under BOT scheme;

(b) if so, the viability of this scheme after completing one year of KRC;

(c) whether as per the original projection, 40% of the freight traffic was to be diverted from the normal grant trunk route on the Konkan railways;

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

(e) whether freight traffic on KRC is below the capacity;

(f) whether the KRC is incurring heavy losses;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :  
 (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is difficult to assess the viability of any infrastructure project after only one year of its operation. Such projects have long gestation periods and their viability depends on development of economic activities which normally follow the availability of a railway network. As such it would be difficult to judge the viability of Konkan Railway at this stage.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the RITES report of 1996, around 43% of freight traffic on Konkan Railway was to come by diversion from Indian Railways. However, such projections are forecasts and cannot form and basis of actual diversion.

(d) Freight traffic is being diverted as per the total traffic offering, operational convenience and

capacity of all the North South lines including the Konkan Railway. Further efforts are being made to get additional traffic as under :

- (i) Iron ore from Bellary/Hospet with 35% distance inflation which can give 2 rakes per day to Roha, earning Rs. 25 crs., for which M/s Nippon and Vikram Ispat are being approached to agree.
  - (ii) Developing POL traffic from HPCL - MRPL - Thokur to North.
  - (iii) 'Roll on - Roll of' traffic has been introduced recently which is proving to be popular.
- (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) As per the projection of the revenues and expenditure for the year 1998-99, it is stated that the Corporation is by and large likely to meet with the operating expenditure from the earnings generated. Thus the Corporation will not suffer any major operating losses. However, due to financing cost on market borrowing, which is approx. around Rs. 300 crores per year and depreciation of around Rs. 60 crores, the Corporation is likely to incur an over all loss of about Rs. 360 crores at the end of the financial year. The main reason for the loss is the burden of interest and the fact that goods traffic is yet to build up on this line which is mainly because the industries along the line have not kept pace with the commissioning of the Railway line.

(h) The following steps have been taken :-

- (i) Strengthen Konkan Railway in offering customers friendly services to wean away traffic from other modes.
- (ii) Launch new products - Konkan Star Services (a high class Super Fast Express).
- (iii) Iron ore from Bellary/Hospet with 35% distance inflation can give 2 rakes per day to Roha area, if both Nippon and Vikram Ispat agree.
- (iv) Developing POL traffic from HPCL-MRPL Thokur to North.

[English]

*Railways*

**Upgradation of Technology for Diesel Loco**

\*351. SHRI MADAN PATIL :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Electric Loco is costlier than Diesel Loco;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of loss suffered by the Indian Railways during 1998-99 as on date on account of electric locos;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make the railways more commercially viable by running trains with diesel engines;

(e) whether the Government propose to upgrade ALCO (US) technology of diesel loco;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) The cost of diesel and electric locos is as given below.

	Passenger	Freight
Diesel	Rs. 2.64 cr. (2300 HP)	Rs. 3.11 cr. (3100 HP)
Electric	Rs. 3.17 cr. (5000 HP)	Rs. 3.32 cr. (5000HP)

(c) In the overall economics in choosing traction, cost of loco is not the only parameter. Other parameters like, cost of energy, repair and maintenance, productivity of locomotives, operating expenses etc. come into play. Taking all these factors into consideration, Indian Railways have suffered no loss.

(d) In view of (c) above no such steps are considered necessary.

(e) to (g) A proposal for upgradation of ALCO design locomotives through global tender is under consideration. A decision shall be taken in due course on the basis of economic viability and operational benefits.

16-18 *Strike/ Lock Out*  
**Air Traffic Controllers Strike**

\*352. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the News item captioned "Flight schedules go haywire" appearing in the Times of India, dated February 13, 1999;

(b) if so, for how long the go-slow and other agitations by the Air Traffic Controllers, lasted indicating the number and details of delays that have

taken place in take off and landing on this account and the steps taken to resolve the issue;

(c) whether the Government have probed into the reasons due to which all the airlines, public as well as private have gone deep into the red and most of the private sector airlines which entered the Indian skies under the open skies policy have either closed down or are on the brink of closure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to save them?

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

(b) Air Traffic Controllers have resorted to "Go slow" and "Work-to-Rule" agitation from 1.2.1999 which resulted in disruption of flights till 18.2.1999. A total of 361 flight delays and 6 cancellations in respect of Indian Airlines, 1076 flights delays in respect of Jet Airways, 438 flight delays in respect of Sahara Airlines and 608 flight delays in respect of Air India were reported. To deal with the situation, a Contingency Plan was prepared by the Airports Authority of Indian or (AAI). A notification under ESMA (Essential Services Maintenance Act) has been issued by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi on 15.2.1999 declaring air traffic services as essential services. A notification has also been issued for conferring on certain Central Government officers the power of arrest, investigation and prosecution under the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against Safety of Civil Aviation Act. Air Traffic Controllers Guild has given an assurance to Delhi High Court on 19.2.1999 that there shall be no disruption of flight schedules. AAI has also taken strict disciplinary action by dismissing six delinquent air traffic controllers.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir, Government of India had Constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P.K. Brahma, Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Civil Aviation in June, 1997 to examine and make recommendations on the reasons for sickness in the private domestic airline industry. The Committee made a thorough examination of all factors which have been responsible for causing sickness in the aviation industry and came to the following conclusions-

- (a) Financial Mismanagement.
- (b) Lack of aviation experience and professionalism.
- (c) Lack of Infrastructural facilities for maintenance and repairs of aircraft.
- (d) Scarcity of trained human resources particularly pilots and engineers.

(e) Non-availability of finances to stimulate growth.

The Committee made several recommendations covering entry, growth and orderly development of the airline industry. The report of the Committee is under consideration of the government.

18-23

#### Electrification of Railway Lines

\*353. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :  
DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the railway lines electrified during the 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, Zone/State-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon during each year, Zone/State-wise;

(c) whether the estimate of quantum of electricity required to operate trains on these rail lines has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the sources through which it is proposed to be obtained;

(e) the details of on-going electrification projects alongwith their estimated cost and time by which these are likely to be completed;

(f) the details of railway lines proposed for electrification during the remaining period of the Ninth Five Year, Zone/State-wise; and

(g) the estimated expenditure likely to incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) Since Indian Railways are divided into different Zones, the information is maintained Zone-wise. The details of the railway lines electrified during the year 96-97, 97-98 and 98-99 Zone-wise are as under :-

Zone/Section	Route Kilometre	States covered
1	2	3

Year 1996-97 :

#### Eastern Railway

Tori-Patratu-Danea 119 Bihar

Jamtara-Madhupur-Jasidih-  
Baidyanath Dham 77 Bihar

1	2	3
<b>Northern Railway</b>		
Mandigovindgarh-Ludhiana	56	Punjab
Ambala-Jagadhri workshop	43	Haryana
<b>Southern Railway</b>		
Walayar-Shoranur-Vallattolnagar	85	Kerala
<b>South Eastern Railway</b>		
Karkend-Jamadoba	08	Bihar
Bondamunda-Chandiposh	28	Orissa
Chandil-Tiruldih	33	Bihar
Barkakana-Ramgarh Halt	4	Bihar
<b>South Central Railway</b>		
Bhimadolu-Rajahmundry	71	Andhra Pradesh
Samalkot-Anakapalle	118	Andhra Pradesh
Total	642	

**Year 1997-98****Eastern Railway**

Danea-Gumia-Jarangdih	29	Bihar
Jasidih-Nargunjoo	36	Bihar
Jhajha-Kiul	56	Bihar
Nischintpur-Kishipur	09	West Bengal

**South Eastern Railway**

Duvvada-Vadlapudi	04	Andhra Pradesh
Bokaro Steel City-Radhagaon	04	Bihar
Chandiposh-Bimalgarh-Barsuan	37	Orissa
Bimalgarh-Rangra	21	Orissa
Tiruldih-Ramgarh	89	Bihar
Adra-Bankura-Bheduasol	60	West Bengal
Simhanchalam-Kottavalasa-Alamanda	39	Andhra Pradesh

**Southern Railway**

Vallotolnagar-Punkunnam	21	Kerala
-------------------------	----	--------

1	2	3
Salem-Salem Market	04	Tamil Nadu
<b>Northern Railway</b>		
Jagadhari Workshop-Saharanpur	36	Haryana/ Uttar Pradesh
Total	445	

**Year 1998-99****Eastern Railway**

Nargunjoo-Jhajha	8	Bihar
Mokama-Fatuha	68	Bihar
Mughalsarai-Kuchhman	7	Uttar Pradesh
Jerangdih-Phurso	9	Bihar

**South Eastern Railway**

Alamanda-Chipurupalli-Srikakulam Road	82	Andhra Pradesh
Palasa-Tilaru	48	Andhra Pradesh
Simhachalam Yard	8	Andhra Pradesh
Radhagaon-Muri-Kita	64	West Bengal/ Bihar
Purulia-Kotshilla	36	West Bengal
Rangra-Kiriburu	20	Orissa/Bihar
Bondamunda Yard	8	Orissa
Bheduasole-Chandrakona Road-Salbori	65	West Bengal
Talcher-Meramandoll	16	Orissa
Hijli-Bakhrabad	24	West Bengal
Bhadrak-Kenduapada	16	Orissa

**Northern Railway**

Ambala-Chandigarh	42	Punjab/Haryana
Sirhind-Morinda	24	Punjab
Saharanpur Station	2	Uttar Pradesh
Kanpur bridge-Unnao	14	Uttar Pradesh

**Southern Railway**

Punkunnam-Chovvara	56	Kerala
--------------------	----	--------

Total	617	
-------	-----	--

(b) Zone-wise expenditure incurred on Electrification Projects during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are indicated below :

Zone/Railway	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Eastern	75.25	76.00	65.00
South Eastern	67.47	145.00	176.00
South Central	66.02	8.00	-
Southern	30.65	30.00	20.00
Northern	31.49	49.00	52.00
Central	10.94	5.00	-
Western	-	7.00	21.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>281.82</b>	<b>320.00</b>	<b>334.00</b>

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) For electrification projects, electric power supply is required approximately at every 60 km interval. The quantum of power required at every supply point (traction sub-station) varies depending upon number of trains operating in a section. It ranges from 5 Mega Watt to 15 Mega Watt. The power supply for these schemes has been obtained from various State Electricity Boards in whose jurisdiction the traction sub-stations are located.

(e) The details of on-going Railway Electrification Projects are as under :

S.No.	Section	Estimated cost (Rs. in cr.)	Target
1	2	3	4
1.	Sitarampur-Mughalsarai	330.75	Mar.2000
2.	Bokaro-Barsuan incl. Purulia-Kotshila	214.54	Mar.2001
3.	Erode-Ernakulam	222.312	Mar.2000
4.	Ambala-Moradabad	152.21	X Plan
5.	Delhi-Ludhiana incl. Ambala-Kalka and Sirhind-Nangaldam	290.79	Mar.2001
6.	Adra-Midnapur	84.40	Mar.2000
7.	Kanpur-Lucknow	47.87	Mar.2000
8.	Kharagpur-Bhubneswar	310.19	X Plan
9.	Bhubneswar-Kottavalasa	292.87	X Plan
10.	Udhna-Jalgaon	138.12	X Plan
11.	Kusunda-Jumuniatand	16.42	Mar.2001

1	2	3	4
12.	Ludhiana-Amritsar	97.79	X Plan
13.	Renigunta Hospet	177.00	X Plan
14.	Khurja-Meerut-Saharanpur	89.21	Work pended
15.	Ernakulam-Trivandrum	157.68	X Plan
16.	Mughalsarai-Zafabad (Phase-I of Mughalsarai-Lucknow via Sultanpur)	40.80	X Plan
17.	Patna-Gaya	36.80	X Plan
18.	Tambaram-Chengalpattu-Villupuram and Chengalpattu-Arrakonam	35.06	X Plan

(f) Sections Planned for electrification during the remaining three years of IX Plan i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002 are as under :

S.No.	Sections	Zone/Railway	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Kiul-Mokama	E.R.	Bihar
2.	Fatuha-Ara-Kuchhman	E.R.	Bihar/Uttar Pradesh
3.	Kusunda-Jamuniatand	E.R.	Bihar
4.	Patna-Taregna	E.R.	Bihar
5.	Kita-Bondamunda	S.E.R.	Bihar/Orissa
6.	Bhakrabad-Bhubneswar	S.E.R.	West Bengal/Orissa
7.	Meramandal-Cuttack	S.E.R.	Orissa
8.	Palasa-Ichchapuram	S.E.R.	Andhra Pradesh
9.	Saiboni-Midnapur	S.E.R.	West Bengal
10.	Renigunta-Obulavaripalli	S.C.R.	Andhra Pradesh
11.	Chovvara-Ernakulam	S.R.	Kerala
12.	Ernakulam-Kalavur	S.R.	Kerala
13.	Ernakulam-Ettumanur	S.R.	Kerala
14.	Tambaram-Chengalpattu	S.R.	Tamil Nadu
15.	Chengalpattu-Arakkonam	S.R.	Tamil Nadu
16.	Mughalsarai-Varanasi	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh
17.	Kanpur-Kanpur Bridge	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3	4
18.	Unnao-Lucknow	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh
19.	Chandigarh-Kalka	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh
20.	Morinda-Nangaldam	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Saharanpur-Roorkee	N.R.	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Ludhiana-Jalandhar	N.R.	Punjab
23.	Jalgaon-Dondaicha	W.R.	Maharashtra
24.	Udhna-Navapur	W.R.	Gujarat/ Maharashtra

(g) Rs. 1146 crores are estimated to be incurred on the above electrification work during the remaining period of IX Plan.

#### Phasing out of Old Aircraft of Indian Airlines

\*354. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the A-300 and Boeing aircrafts in the fleet of Indian Airlines are nearly 20 years old and need to be phased out;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct a fleet renewal programme for Indian Airlines;

(c) if so, by when such programme will be conducted and how much amount is likely to be incurred on this; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) A Committee has been constituted by Indian Airlines to carry out techno-economic evaluation of suitable aircraft for replacement of A-300 and B-737 fleet. To enable Indian Airlines to undertake the fleet modernization programme and to achieve a financial turn around, the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, has recommended financial restructuring of Indian Airlines. The recommendations of the Kelkar Committee are under consideration of the Government.

24

#### Excess Purchases made by Indian Airlines

\*355. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has a Rs. 400 crore worth inventory portfolio and a lot of it are surplus spares;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered to probe into excess purchases of the inventory by the Indian Airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) to (d) Indian Airlines has an aircraft spares inventory of the value of Rs. 485.58 crores as of January 1999 as under :-

Aircraft	Amount (Rs. in crores)
A-300	106.72
A-320	246.97
B-737	84.15
Turbo Prop	15.87
Other Engineering Stores	31.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>485.58</b>

The entire matter is being enquired into.

#### Construction of Warehouses on Railway Land

\*356. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether private sector has been involved in setting up of terminals and warehouses in the country on railway land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to help the smooth transportation of goods;

(d) whether there is any proposal to build warehouses at Bangalore by Central Warehousing Corporation on railway land; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :  
(a) No, Sir. However, private sidings have been constructed for handling their own cargo.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. It has been decided in principle to permit Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) to set up warehousing as a pilot project at Whitefield, Bangalore on leasing terms.

25

*Railways*  
Pantry Cars in Trains

\*357. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the licencees for running Pantry Cars in trains were selected after floating tenders;

(b) if so, the amount of money/revenue earned by the Railways from each of these Pantry Cars;

(c) whether a big racket is operating from Delhi and Chennai to run these Pantry Cars allotted to SCs and other reserved categories; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to curb these unscrupulous practices?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir. So far the award of licence for managing pantry cars was done by inviting applications from reputed and experienced caterers through Press notification and selection was made by a committee of officers with the approval of competent authority on merits.

It has now been decided to introduce a 2 packet tender system while awarding pantry car licences. While Packet "A" will assess technical requirements like sales turnover, financial standing of the company, experience in catering etc., Packet "B" will have financial bidding in terms of licence fee. The revised procedure is expected to generate additional revenue for the Railways.

(b) Under the existing policy licence fee at the rates ranging from 2 to 5% of the assessed sales turnover was being recovered from the pantry car licencees on different zonal railways. During 1998-99, licence fee of Rs. 4.10 crores was recovered on pantry car licences.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

25-26

New Radars at Airports

\*358. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether at present most of the domestic airports have primary radars having a range not more than 50 nautical miles;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision to procure secondary surveillance radars for installation in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) At present, only three domestic airports at Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Guwahati have primary radar having a range of about 60 Nautical Miles (NM).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. To provide radar coverage to major air routes throughout the country, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken a decision to instal Secondary Surveillance Radars (SSRs) at Behrampur, Nagpur, Varanasi and Mangalore airports at an estimated cost of Rs. 73.06 crores by the year 2000. Secondary Surveillance Radars have already been installed at Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Mumbai, Calcutta and Delhi airports.

26

*Railways*

Mobilisation of Funds

\*359. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has decided on securitisation of cash flows from lease rentals of Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures adopted by the Indian Railway Finance Corporation to mobilise more funds for infrastructural development?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) mobilizes funds from the market as per annual targets set by this Ministry to supplement the budgetary resources for their Plan outlay, through various instruments such as issue of tax free and taxable bonds, long term loans and external commercial borrowings depending on the market conditions. These funds are utilized for acquiring Railway Rolling Stock, which are presently not included in the definition of "Infrastructure" under the Income Tax Act.

26-27

*Tourism*

Explore India Millennium Year

\*360. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY :  
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the target and budget set for attracting more tourists



during 'Explore India Millennium Year' w.e.f. April, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : The Ministry of Tourism has not set aside any specific target and separate budget for 'Explore India Millennium Year'. However, the Ministry has been allocated a Plan Budget of Rs. 160.50 crores for 1999-2000 as against Rs. 110.00 crores in R.E. 1998-99.

[Translation]

27-28

#### Development of Hotels in Bihar

3491. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned and released by the Union Government for the development of hotels run by Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation; during the last three year; and

(b) the name of the hotels which were selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) During the last three years, the Union Government has sanctioned/released the following amount for the projects to be implemented by the Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation :-

Year	Name of Project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount released
1	2	3	4
<b>1996-97</b>			
	Nil for BSTDC		
<b>1997-98</b>			
1.	Development of Tourist facilities at Dighi Tank, Darbanga, Bihar.	20.00	6.00
2.	Tourist Complex at Bhagalpur, Bihar.	35.00	11.00
3.	Cafeteria at Vikramshila	15.00	5.00
4.	Tourist Complex at Vaishali	45.00	14.00
5.	Wayside facilities at Bakhtiarpur, Bihar	25.00	7.50
6.	Tourist facilities at Gangaghat	16.00	4.80
7.	Tourist Complex at Raxaul	45.00	13.50

1	2	3	4
<b>1998-99</b>			
1.	Tourist Reception Centre at Munger	15.00	5.00
2.	Tourist Reception Centre at Bhagalpur	15.00	4.50
3.	Renovation of Hotel Birsa Vihar, Ranchi, Bihar	20.00	6.00
4.	Renovation of Hotel Ratna Vihar, Dhanbad, Bihar	25.00	7.50
5.	Yatrika at Singheshwar Asthan, Dist. Madhepura	19.39	6.00
6.	Tourist Complex at Aurangabad	25.00	7.50

[English]

28-29

#### Notice from N.H.R.C.

3492. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the notice of National Human Rights Commission received by the Union Government on the issue of the settlers at Tadepalligudem Aerodrome in Andhra Pradesh alongwith the name of petitioner;

(b) whether such representations have been received from the petitioner earlier also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to examine afresh the representations made by the petitioner and to solve this issue amicably?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) A notice has been received from National Human Rights Commission addressed to Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India and also to Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the representation of Dr. P. Pulla Rao, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh. In the petition of Dr. P. Pulla Rao received through National Human Rights Commission, and also the representations received directly from him, the case of about 20,000 settlers/displaced people living on the Defence land of Tadepalligudem aerodrome has been pleaded. It has been stated in the petition that these people are living on this land for the last 50 years without legal rights and they are ready to pay for their rights. The petitioner in his representations has also made a request for the visit of the concerned official to the site.

(d) The report has been submitted by the Government on the facts of the case to the National Human Rights Commission. The directives of the commission are awaited. As the said land was handed over to the Government of Andhra PPradesh on 3.8.1987 and the custodial responsibility of the land vests with the State Government therefore the matter has also been taken up with the State Government.

29

*Railways***Uneconomic Rail Lines**

3493. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to dismantle uneconomic rail lines;

(b) if so, the sections identified for the same, zone-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal with the Government to enter into joint ventures with the State Governments for taking up new projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Cabinet approval for setting up of Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC) to execute rail sector projects under Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II (MUTP-II) has been obtained. This would be on the basis of an equity participation on a 51:49 basis between the Indian Railways and Govt. of Maharashtra.

29 - 30

**Banikhet Airport Project in Himachal Pradesh**

3494. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have refused to fund the Banikhet Airport Project in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) to (c) The consultant appointed by the Himachal Pradesh Government has advised against

development of an airport of Banikhet mainly because of the prohibitively high cost of construction; serious damages to ecology; need for the felling of about 5000 trees, dislocation of about 80 families; shifting of a field firing range and acquisition of 181 bighas of forest land. Further as per policy on airport infrastructure approved by the Government no airport should be constructed within 150 kms. of the existing airport. The existing airports at Jammu and Guggal are within this limit. Therefore, the proposal for Banikhet Airport will be in violation of this policy.

30

**35th Meeting of the Standing Labour Committee**

3495. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :  
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :  
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the additional organisation invited by the Government to the 35th meeting of the Standing Labour Committee;

(b) whether the additional representatives of small scale industry were invited;

(c) if so, whether the Government received requests from Indian Council for small scale industries for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not inviting this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB) were also invited to participate in the 35th Session of the Standing Labour Committee. The representatives of Indian Council of Small Industries also attended the Conference as "Observer".

30 - 31

*Railways***Linking of Tonk with Rail Network**

3496. SHRI DWARKA PRASHAD BAIRWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any funds have been earmarked for the linking of Tonk with rail network during 1999-2000;

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

(c) whether the survey work for linking of Tonk with rail is being carried out; and

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

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

(b) and (c) The survey is still in progress. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

(d) The report is expected later this year.

#### Funds for Projects of North-Eastern Railway

3497. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for the railway projects taken up in the North-Eastern Railway during 1998-99 project-wise; and

(b) the actual amount spent on each of these projects till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) and (b) The total amount earmarked for the railway projects during 1998-99 for North-Eastern Railway and actual amount spent thereon upto 31.03.1999, project-wise are as under :-

(Figures in Crs. of Rs.)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Outlay 1998-99	Expenditure upto 31.3.1999*
1	2	3	4
<b>New Lines</b>			
1.	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	2.00	2.01
2.	Khagaria-Kusheshwarasthan	1.00	1.5
3.	Rampur-Lalkuan-Kathgodham-Road over Bridge on National Highway.	5.00	5.03
4.	Katra-Faizabad	10.00	17.6
5.	Sakri-Hasanpur	2.00	14.0

1	2	3	4
<b>Restoration</b>			
6.	Bagaha-Chhitauni	0.0370	93.41
7.	Maharajganj-Duraundha	0.3430	0.34
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>			
8.	Hajipur-Bachwara	4.01	67.39
9.	Mau-Sahganj	1.00	56.01
10.	Khadda-Gorakhpur	44.30	60.47
11.	Narakatiaganj-Valmikinagar	25.00	42.93
12.	Chhapra-Aunrihar	4.00	165.57
13.	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly	35.65	39.65
14.	Samastipur-Khagaria	0.0010	0.001
15.	Jaynagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj	0.0010	0.001
16.	Kashipur-Lalkuan	3.00	5.86
17.	Sagauli-Narkatiaganj	11.80	48.59
18.	Mathura-Achnera	0.01	0.1
19.	Mansi-Sahrsa-Forbesganj (Phase-I)	5.00	19.5
20.	Gonda-Bahraich-Sitapur-Lucknow (Phase-I)	0.001	0.001
21.	Gonda-Gorakhpur loop with Anandnagar-Nautanwa	0.001	0.001
22.	Indara-Phephna	5.00	6.25
<b>Doubling</b>			
23.	Gorakhpur-Sahjanwa	1.11	1.11
24.	Gonda-Jarwal Rd.	4.00	7.02

\* This is based on outlay provided. The exact expenditure till 1998-99 will be known only after the accounts for the year 1998-99 are finalised, which is likely by end of June, 1999.

#### Direct Flight on Delhi-Bhavnagar Sector

3498. SHRI N. J. BATHWA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce any new air service from Delhi to Bhavnagar; and

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

At present, Indian Airlines operates four times a week A-320 service on Mumbai/Bhavnagar/Mumbai route which provides both ways convenient connection between Delhi and Bhavnagar via Mumbai.

33

#### Extension of B.D.R. Railway Line

3499. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend Bankura Damodar River (B.D.R.) railway line from Burdwan to Howrah;

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

(c) the steps taken for timely completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) A survey for a new line from Bardhaman to Tarakeswar via Rainagar has been taken up. As and when this line comes up, the desired linkage of the erstwhile Bankura Damodar River line with Bardhaman and Howrah will be set up. However, any further consideration of this proposed linkage will be possible only after the results of the ongoing survey become available.

33-34

Air Services

#### Extension of Delhi-Kullu-Shimla Flight to Chandigarh

3500. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering extension of certain flights like Delhi-Kullu-Shimla to the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal of connecting Chandigarh with any other town by Air; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Operators are free to operate to any place/ on any route depending upon their commercial judgement. No private scheduled operator is operating any flight to/from Chandigarh. Indian Airlines may consider airlinking Chandigarh with Kullu/Shimla subject to availability of aircraft capacity and economic viability of operations.

[Translation]

34

Journalism

#### Procedure for Accreditation to Editors/ Cameramen

3501. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure adopted for accreditation to Editors/Cameramen of weekly, fortnightly and monthly magazines and News and Photo Agencies and the time taken in accreditation after the application is received;

(b) whether any procedure also adopted for accreditation to the unemployed journalists;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) the basis on which advertisements are given to the advertising agencies and News Agencies by the institution giving these advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Accreditation is granted to the Editors/ Correspondents/Cameramen of the news agencies, newspapers and periodicals having a periodicity of a fortnight or less in accordance with the Accreditation Rules. The time taken in providing accreditation, depends upon various factors such as submission of complete information and documents alongwith the application, receipt of security clearance from police and meeting of the Central Press Accreditation Committee etc. Normally, it takes about 2-3 months for granting accreditation from the date of receipt of application.

(b) and (c) There is no provision in the Accreditation Rules to provide accreditation to the unemployed journalists.

(d) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) releases advertisements to newspapers empanelled with them after taking into consideration the target area, readership and budgetary provisions etc. DAVP does not release advertisements to Advertising agencies/News agencies.

[English]

-36

**Airport at Nedumbassery (Kerala)**

3502. **SHRI T. GOVINDAN** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent by the Union Government for the construction of an Airport at 'Nedumbassery', in Kerala; and

(b) the present position of the Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 22 lakhs for preparation of Master Plan and detailed project report of the new airport. It has procured Communication and Navigation equipment at an estimated cost of Rs. 5 crores for installation at new airport.

(b) The present position of the works in progress at Nedumbassery airport is as follows :-

(1) Runway & Associated Pavements :

All works of Runway, Taxiways, Apron have been almost completed. The Ground Lighting System is also in the final stages of completion and is expected to be completed by 25th April, 1999.

(2) Terminal Building :

All works in the Domestic Terminal have been completed. The finishing works in the international terminal are in progress and are expected to be completed by end April, 1999.

(3) Car Park :

The works relating to parking area have been completed.

(4) Technical Block cum Control Tower and other Utility Buildings :

The Technical Block cum Control Tower and other Utility Buildings works with respect to Civil and Electrical works have been completed. The installation of equipments and communication facilities by Airports Authority of India are in progress and expected to be completed by 15th April, 1999.

(5) Navigational Aids :

All Building works to house the navigational equipments have been completed. The installation of equipments is in progress by Airports Authority of India.

The airport is likely to be commissioned in the last week of May, 1999.

36

**Fare War in Civil Aviation**

3503. **SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that all the international airlines operating in the country held a meeting in Mumbai to discuss the issue to end the fare war persisting since 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During discussions, the airlines had indicated their willingness to end the fare war but in actual practice because of various factors particularly lean traffic, they continued to resort to fare wars by giving incentives in various forms. Efforts are on to get the major carriers to agree to implement the incentives at the agreed levels to improve yields.

36-37

**Funds for Development of Tourism in Orissa**

3504. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI** : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds sanctioned by the Union Government during the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 against each of the sanctioned projects in the State of Orissa for development of tourism;

(b) whether all the funds allocated have been utilised by the State concerned in the meanwhile; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the funds remain idle against the funds earmarked therein for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure on the basis of specific project proposals received from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and availability of funds. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 453.28 lakhs for the implementation of 23 projects during the year 1996-97, Rs. 557 lakhs for implementation of 28 projects during the year 1997-98 and Rs. 210 lakhs for the implementation of 5 projects during the year 1998-99.

(b) and (c) 30% of the sanctioned amount is released is 1st instalment subsequent instalments are released on the basis of progress in implementation of the projects and utilisation certificates furnished by the State Governments, A project is to be completed within a period of 30 months of sanction.

[Translation]

37

National Highway (S)

**Construction of By-Pass between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai**

3505. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation is constructing the by-pass on G.T. Road in Varanasi (U.P.) from Mohan Sarai to Mughal Sarai;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-completion of the work by the target date of February-March 1999; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be finished now?

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

(b) Progress of work suffered due to irregular and inadequate flow of funds, unprecedented and incessant rains in September 1995, August 1996 and in 1998, inclement weather during Nov/Dec 97 & Oct 98 and delay in handing over of the approaches of Railway Over Bridge (ROB) to BRO.

(c) Works are planned for completion by 31 May 1999.

[English]

37-38

Kerala

**Power Cuts in Doordarshan Kendra at Trivandrum**

3506. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan Kendra at Trivandrum always face frequent power cuts;

(b) if so, the measures taken to have uninterrupted flow of electricity to the Kendra;

(c) whether the Government are considering to introduce a news headlines bulletin at the close of the transmission after the usual film at night on DD-4;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Power supply at Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum is provided through two independent feeder lines and interruption in service for 2 minutes occurs each time the source of power supply is changed from the mains to diesel generator and vice versa. Total breakdown in service on account of power supply failure is within half percent of entire duration of transmission.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Reasons are constraints of resources, manpower and other infrastructural facilities.

38

**Transfer of AIR, DD Staff to Prasar Bharati Corporation**

3507. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA : SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Transfer of AIR, DD staff to Prasar-Proposals pending before Ministries" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 2, 1999; 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 INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is guided by the provisions of the Prasar Bharati Act.

38-39

**Denial of Threat from China**

3508. SHRI SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Times of India' dated March 22, 1999, under the caption "China denies posing threat to India, calls for dialogue";

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action, if any, taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Government has seen the news-item appearing in the Times of India dated 22.3.1999 under the caption "China denies posing threat to India, calls for dialogue".

Government seeks friendly, co-operative, good neighbourly and mutually beneficial relationship with China on the basis of Panchsheel. India remains committed to the process of dialogue to resolve outstanding differences. Efforts to improve bilateral relations in diverse fields are continuing. Further, trade and economic activities, people to people and functional exchanges are continuing.

India and China held the first Foreign Office Consultations on 25th to 26th February, 1999 under the Protocol of Co-operation between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries signed in 1997. The two sides agreed that they would take a positive and forward-looking approach and also agreed on continuation of the dialogue at various levels.

[Translation]

4-40 *Dis-abled*  
**Employment to Handicapped Persons**

3509. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of unemployed handicapped persons is constantly going up;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed handicapped persons in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh;

(c) since when they have got their names registered in the Employment Exchanges; and

(d) the number of such persons provided with jobs by the Employment Exchanges during 1998?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The number of handicapped job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of Employment at the end of 1993, 1994, 1995 & 1996 (latest available) is as indicated below :

(in thousands)

	All India (as on 31st December)	Delhi	Uttar Pradesh
1993	337.6	5.2	25.6
1994	340.3	5.6	25.2
1995	352.7	5.6	23.7
1996	359.1	5.9	24.0

(c) Information in regard to job-seeker's length of stay on the Live Register is not maintained.

(d) The number of handicapped persons placed in Employment through Employment Exchanges during 1996 was about 3,900.

[English]

40  
**Privatisation of Railway Service Sector**

3510. SHRI C.P. M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise some of its service sectors related to the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith norms and condition thereof;

(c) the extent to which the Railways are likely to be benefitted by this privatisation;

(d) whether some employees' Unions have shown their protest on the decision of privatisation;

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

(f) whether the works other than service sector are being privatised by Railways; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) to (g) No, Sir. However on the basis of global bids invited in 1994, letter of intent has been awarded to M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Ltd. Chennai, for ownership, marketing, and management of tourist trains on the following sectors :

- (1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jhansi (Khajuraho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.
- (2) Bangalore - Mysore - Chennai - Kodaikanalroad-Kanyakumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Ooty)-Bangalore.

As per the agreement the operator will pay haulage charges and a certain percentage of gross turnover to the Indian Railways. Capital investment on the train will be borne by the operator.

40-41 *Radio*  
**Transmission of F.M. Station, Cochin**

3511. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the morning transmission of the F.M. station at Cochin has stopped recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to re-start the morning transmission of Cochin F.M. station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Morning transmission has been stopped with effect from 27.2.99 due to extreme shortage of staff.

(c) The morning transmission can be restarted immediately after the receipt of sanction for additional posts.

[Translation]

41

Defence

#### Submarine Scam

3512. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the German Government have sought any clarification from the Union Government regarding submarine scam;

(b) if so, whether said clarification has since been given; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, sir, in the case of purchase of HDW submarines, CBI had sent Letters Rogatory to Federal Republic of Germany in January 1998. In response the German authorities have sought certain clarifications.

(b) and (c) The clarifications sought are being examined by CBI and a suitable reply would be sent to the German authorities shortly.

[English]

41-42

#### Improvement In FPI

3513. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a High Powered Committee to study and advise for the development of the food processing industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) While there is no proposal to set up a High Powered Committee, two Development Councils have already been constituted in connection with the development of Food Processing Industries. These are :

1. Development Council for Processed Fruits & Vegetables, Cereal Products and Beverages.
2. Development Council for Dairy Products, Marine Products and Meat & Poultry Products.

#### Planning of EPF for PAN

3514. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation is planning to introduce PAN for all its members;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation has started the computerisation of all information;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Central Board of Trustees, EPF has since decided to issue photo Identity Cards alongwith Permanent EPF number to the EPF subscribers.

(c) to (e) The Computerisation Programme was initially launched in the EPFO in 1989-90 with establishment of two EDP centres. So far EDP centres have been set up in 98 fields offices of the EPFO. Computers are being used for maintenance of PF accounts, preparation of annual statement of accounts, accounting of money received from the employers, redressal of public grievances, generation of pension payment orders (PPOs) etc.

#### SC/ST Officers in EPF Organisation

3515. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of SC/ST officers working in Employees Provident Fund Organisation;

(b) whether any complaint against the Central Provident Fund Commissioner has been received



who ill-treat the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe officers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(d) total number of SC/ST officers Charge-Sheeted during the tenure of the present Central Provident Fund Commissioner and details of terminated/suspended SC/ST officers;

(e) whether the Government are taking any remedial measure to safeguard the SC/ST staff in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) 133.

(b) and (c) Some complaints about grievances of SC/ST officers for promotion, posting etc., have been received. These complaints are under examination.

(d) From February, 1996, eight SC/ST officers have been chargesheeted and three suspended. However, no service of a SC/ST officer of the EPFO has been terminated so far. As required, on review, suspension of one SC officer has already been revoked.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In order to safeguard interest of SC/ST officers, a senior officer has been appointed as Chief Liaison Officer at the Headquarter's office of the EPFO. Similarly, Liaison Officers have also been appointed in Regional Offices. The EPFO is also required to submit to the Government prescribed reports/returns about SC/ST staff.

[Translation]

44 Rajasthan  
**Telecast of Cultural Programmes By  
 Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur**

3516. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Jaipur Doordarshan Kendra was set-up;

(b) the names of the cultural and creative programmes telecast by it;

(c) the schemes proposed to be chalked out to make the above Kendra more meaningful; and

(d) the names of languages in which news is proposed to be telecast by the above Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR

NAQVI): (a) Doordarshan Kendra Jaipur started functioning from 24.6.1987.

(b) Prasar Bharati has reported that like various other regional kendras, DDK, Jaipur also telecasts a variety of programmes including cultural/creative programmes to cater to the requirement of the viewers in the State. Some of the important programmes are Antakshri, Ga Mere Sang Ga, Prashnotari, Mimshar, Srijan and other programmes for youth and children which also include creative/cultural programmes.

(c) It has been reported by Prasar Bharati that a number of new programmes like Geet Tarangini, Kala Aur Kalakar, Marg Darshan, Aina etc. are being introduced from this Kendra. Apart from this, OB coverages of Mushiaras, folk music and dance programmes are being planned in different cities of Rajasthan for telecast from the Kendra.

(d) The Kendra is telecasting news in Hindi. There is no proposal for telecast of news in any other language since the Kendra is situated in the Hindi belt.

44-49 Bridge 10  
**Construction of ROBs**

3517. SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of requests for the construction of road over bridges received by the Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of road over bridges approved by the Government during the above period;

(c) the time by which these approved ROBs are likely to be constructed; and

(d) the reasons for non-approval of remaining proposal alongwith the reasons for their pendency?

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

(a) to (d) A Statement is attached.

**Statement**

State/Railways	Total
1	2
Assam	1
Andhra Pradesh	42

1	2	1	2
Bihar	10	Maharashtra	45
Delhi	2	Orissa	22
Gujarat	6	Punjab	12
Goa	4	Rajasthan	10
Haryana	4	Tamil Nadu	58
Kerala	20	U.P.	27
Karnataka	7	W. Bengal	11
M.P.	14	Total	295

S.No.	State	Name of work	Railway
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.388/A at Belgaum	S.C.R
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.82 at Mahabubabad	S.C.R
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.104 at Khammam	S.C.R
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.101 at Km.251/13-14 Near Kuppam	S.R.
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.429 at Pithapuram	S.C.R
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.480 at Bayyavaram	S.C.R
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob Between Palasa-Mandasa	S.E.R
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.475 at Eiamanchili	S.C.R
9.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.1 at Sitafalmandi,	S.C.R
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob Between Mandasa-Boruva	S.E.R
11.	Andhra Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.250 at Guntur	S.C.R
12.	Assam	Rob in Repl. of LC No. SK/2 at Changsari at Km.8/0-1	N.F.R
13.	Assam	Rob in Repl. of LC No. 13 at Rangiya at Km.35/3-4	N.F.R
14.	Assam	Rob in Repl. of LC No.ST/9'A' class at Km.93/3-4 at Athgaon	N.F.R
15.	Bihar	Rob in Lieu of Existing Level Crossing at Deedarganj, Mithapur and Rahgaipur	E.R.
16.	Bihar	Rob at Tatanagar	S.E.R
17.	Bihar	Rob in Repl. of LC. No. SK/317 at Kishanganj at Km.526/3-4	N.F.R
18.	Haryana	Rub at Karnal	N.R
19.	Karnataka	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.36 Near Ramanagaram	S.R.
20.	Karnataka	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.48 Near Chennapatna	S.R.
21.	Karnataka	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.138 at on Belandur Road-Banaswadi Road	S.R.
22.	Kerala	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.561 at Km.179/13-14 Near Varkala	S.R.

1	2	3	4
23.	Kerala	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.1 at Km.EQ1/11-12 Bet. Shoranur & Thirupunithura Stns (Kathrikadavu) Srirangam-Pitchandarkoil	S.R.
24.	Madhya Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.59/A at Km.1126/11012 at Damoh	C.R.
25.	Madhya Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.23/A at Km.1048/4-5 at Sagar	C.R.
26.	Madhya Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.29'A' at Dewas	W.R
27.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.18/B at Km.260/3-4 at Daund	C.R.
28.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.12/A at Km. 60/4-5 at Navade Road	C.R
29.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.14/C at Km.22/11-12 at Vikhroli	C.R
30.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.1 (SPL) at Km.13/12-13 Chunabhatti	C.R
31.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.14/A at Km.792/2-3 Hinganghat	C.R
32.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.175/A at Km.505/12-13 at Nimbola	C.R
33.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.51 at Virar-Surat	W.R
34.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.99/B at Km.218/8-9 Niphad	C.R
35.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.114/A at Km.286/8-9 Niphad	C.R
36.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.7(SPL) at Km.7/3-4 Sewri	C.R.
37.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.35 at Churchgate-Virar	W.R
38.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.1/A at Km.450/3-4 at Fekri	C.R
39.	Maharashtra	Rob in Lieu of LC No.154/A at Km.433/15-18 Nasirabad	C.R
40.	Orissa	Rob at Chainpal	S.E.R
41.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.76-A at Sunam	N.R
42.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.144-B at Sirhind	N.R
43.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.135-A Rajpura	N.R
44.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.A-2 at Ludhiana	N.R
45.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of Do-Moria Rub at Jalandhar	N.R
46.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.25-B at Kothapura	N.R
47.	Punjab	Rob in Lieu of LC No.68-A at Jalandhar Cantt	N.R
48.	Rajasthan	Rob in Lieu of LC No.216'A' at Indore-Dewas-Ujjain	
49.	Rajasthan	Rub at Rai Ka Bagh	N.R
50.	Rajasthan	Rob in Lieu of LC No.109 at Kota-Mathura	W.R
51.	Rajasthan	Rob in Lieu of LC No.87 at Jaipur-Ringus	W.R
52.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.246 at Srirangam-Pitchandarkoil	S.R
53.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.406 on Virundhunagar-Sankaralingapuram	S.R
54.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.100 at Km.267/4-6 Near Morappur Station Srirangam-Pitchandarkoil	S.R
55.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.159 Near Tirupadiripuliyur	S.R

1	2	3	4
56.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.37 at Km.2-3 Near Karur	S.R
57.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.202 at Km.247/2 Near Chidambaram	S.R
58.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No. Near Bazaar Road at Saidapet	S.R
59.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.241 at Srirangam-Pichandaikoil	S.R
60.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.28 at Km.26/1-2 MIT Gate	S.R
61.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.85 at Palakarai	S.R
62.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC No.84 at Tennur High Road	S.R
63.	Tamil Nadu	Rob/Rub in Lieu of LC. No.96 Tindivanam	S.R
64.	U.P	Rob at Lucknow City in Lieu of LC No.10 Mahibullahpur Yard	N.E.R
65.	U.P	Rob at Lucknow City in Lieu of LC No.7 ML Between Daliganj & Badshahnagar	N.E.R
66.	U.P	Rob at Lucknow City in Lieu of LC No.6 Between Daliganj & Habibullapur	N.E.R
67.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.25-B at Sirsa Mandi	N.R
68.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.403-A at Rampur	N.R
69.	U.P	Rob at Saharsa in Lieu of LC No.31 SPL	N.E.R
70.	U.P	Rob at Chukati in Lieu of LC No.28 SPL	N.E.R
71.	U.P	Rob at Badshahnagar-Malhaur in Lieu of LC No.3 ML "A"	N.E.R
72.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.180-A at Barabanki	N.R
73.	U.P	Rub in Lieu of LC No.154-C at Ghaziabad	N.R.
74.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.109-A at Aligarh	N.R
75.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.40-B at Sakoti Tanda	N.R
76.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.50-C at Fatehpur	N.R
77.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.358/SPL & LC No.250 A/3-7 at Bareilly	N.R
78.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.95-A at Hathras	N.R
79.	U.P	Rob in Lieu of LC No.79-D at Kanpur	N.R
80.	Uttar Pradesh	Rob in Lieu of LC No.430/A at Km.1341/10-12 at Iradatganj	C.R.
81.	West Bengal	Rob in Lieu of Existing Level Crossing at Birati and Sonarpur.	
82.	West Bengal	Rob at Mourigram	S.E.R

(c) No target can be fixed as Railway construct bridge proper after the State Govt. starts work on approaches. However, all out efforts are made to complete the entire work expeditiously.

(d) Due to non receipt of firm proposal fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites by the State Govt. in time, also over all non availability of adequate funds and relative priority assigned by the State Govt. proposals do not find place in the Railways Budget.

[English]

50-51

Railways

Brake Blocks

3518. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rane and Compo make composite Brake Blocks have been fitted in BTPN rakes by Bajuwa C&W depot and in MEMU coaches by MEMU

Car Shed respectively of Vadodara Division under Western Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any excessive wearing/damages found on wheel tread;

(d) if so, whether any remedial measure is being taken;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 20 BTPN (Bogie Tank Petroleum (Air Brake) rakes moving in close circuit have been fitted with Rane make composite Brake Blocks.

8600 composite Brake Blocks were supplied by M/s Rane and 7250 were supplied by M/s Hindustan Compo in last 2 years for MEMU Car Shed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) Performance of composite Brake Blocks has been superior as compared to Conventional cast iron brake blocks.

[Translation]

#### Record of Non-Military Aeroplanes/Aircraft

3519. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation keeps a record of all the non-military aeroplanes and helicopters in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the types of planes and helicopters owned by various State Governments and public undertakings alongwith the details of the manufacturing years, the price and the dates on which these were purchased?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir. Records of all Civil Registered aeroplanes and helicopters are maintained by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

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

[English]

52-53

#### Tourism Projects From Assam

3520. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received detailed project reports from the Government of Assam for promotion of tourism during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far, project-wise; and

(c) the total allocation made for the above purpose, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (c) During 1998-99 Government of Assam have submitted 15 project proposal for Central Financial Assistance out of which 14 projects were sanctioned. One project was incomplete and not as per the guideline of the Ministry. The details of the project and amount sanctioned are as under :

S.No.	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Development of Picnic Spots and Tourist Amenity Centre at Chapanalla Fall, Nagaon, Assam.	19.58
2.	Expansion of existing tourist facilities at Pobitora, Assam	44.19
3.	Development of Basistha Ashram Guwahati, Assam	34.23
4.	Upgradation of existing Tourist Lodge at Kaziranga, Assam	40.00
5.	Tourist Complex at Rajiv Gandhi Wild Life Park, Orang, Assam	35.00
6.	Motel/Wayside Amenities at Chapar, Assam	34.15
7.	Children's Outdoor Recreational facilities at Aranaya Lodge at Kaziranga	17.80
8.	Beautification of Bramhaputra River front Guwahati	35.00
9.	Assistance for Tourism Fairs & Festivals :	
	(a) Tea Tourism Festival	5.00
	(b) Bramhaputra Beach Festival	4.00

1	2	3
10.	Yatri Niwas at Kakopathar	30.00
11.	Tourist Complex at Kaziranga	50.00
12.	Development of Biswanath	24.00
13.	Yatri Niwas at Khaspur	18.00
14.	Purchase of equipment for water rafting	26.27
Total		417.22

53

**Development of Bijapur Airport**

3521. SHRI M.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a plan to develop Bijapur Airport (Karnataka) in the wake of increasing tourists there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) and (b) No Airline operator has so far projected any requirement for this airport.

*Andhra Pradesh*

**Cold Storage Facility at Hyderabad Airport**

53-54

3522. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI N.R.K. REDDY :

SHRI R. SABASIVA RAO :

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY :

SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Government for cold storage facilities at Hyderabad Airport is pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) to (c) There is a proposal to provide cold storage facilities at Hyderabad airport and AAI has allocated land to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for setting up the facility which is likely to be completed during

the current financial year 1999-2000. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between APEDA and AAI and cold storage building will be handed over to AAI for operation.

54

*Railways*  
**Difference in Rail Fare**

3523. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that rail fare between Delhi to other places is different on its return journey to Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to remove such anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (c) The fares are charged as per the distance calculated by the train originating Zonal Railway as per its Junction Distance Tables. Therefore, in some cases, the chargeable distances for outward and return journeys differ resulting in difference in fares. The anomalies in such cases are rectified as soon as they come to the notice.

54-55

**Additional Flights by Indian Airlines**

3524. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have asked Indian Airlines to introduce additional flights on some selected routes during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details of the new routes that are proposed to be operated;

(c) the old routes on which additional flights are proposed to be introduced;

(d) whether any new flight is proposed for Bhubaneswar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) to (e) No, Sir. Indian Airlines/Alliance Air have, however, increased capacity/frequency on many routes and also provided new links on the domestic network in the Summer Schedule effective 29th March, 1999. A list showing major changes in Summer Schedule 1999 over Winter Schedule 1998 is given in the statement attached.

In addition, capacity/frequency has been increased on services from Bhubaneswar as under:

Route	Winter'98 (Freq. Wkly)	Summer'99
Hyderabad/Bhubaneswar/ Calcutta	2A-320	3B-737
Vizag/Bhubaneswar	3B-737	7B-737

### Statement

#### Major Changes in Summer Schedule, 99

Change of Frequency/ Equipment Route	Winter '98 FREQ/ Week	Summer '99 FREQ/ Week
Bangalore-Trivandrum-Bangalore	3A320	7A320
Bangalore-Ahedabad-Bangalore	3B737	7B737
Mumbai-Delhi-Mumbai	21A300 21A320 6B737	14A300 49A320 5B737
Mumbai-Chennai-Mumbai	7A300 7A320	7A300 14A320
Mumbai-Hyderabad-Mumbai	21A320	21A230 7B737
Mumbai-Jamnagar-Mumbai	5B737	7B737
Mumbai-Vizag-Mumbai	4B737	10B737
Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi	4B737	7B737
Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	11A320	10A320 2B737
Calcutta-Ahmedabad-Calcutta	6B737	7B737
Calcutta-Portblair-Calcutta	4B737	5B737
Chennai-Bangalore-Chennai	3B737 11A320	10B737 18A320
Chennai-Calcutta-Chennai	7A300 3A320	7A300 3A320 3B737
Chennai-Ahmedabad-Chennai	3B737	7B737
Delhi-Vizag	3B737	7B737
Delhi-Guwahati-Delhi	5A320	7A320
Hyderabad-Bangalore-Hyderabad	14B737	14A320

#### New Links

Mumbai-Lucknow  
Mumbai-Patna  
Mumbai-Ranchi  
Delhi-Coimbatore  
Delhi-Calicut  
Lucknow-Varanasi

[Translation]

### Golden Jubilee Year of Official Language Hindi

3525. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a special programme in the Golden Jubilee Year of official language 'Hindi' starting from September, 1999 to create awareness among the people about uses of national language; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) The programme of Golden Jubilee Year Celebration of Hindi is being considered by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Deptt. of Official Language, the nodal department in this regard. Follow up action will be taken up by this Ministry as and when required.

### Outstanding Amount

3526. SHRI KALLAPPA AWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra regarding payment of outstanding amount on account of expenditure incurred on Government railway police;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The billing on account of Government Railway Police is a continuous process. The total outstanding amount payable to State Govt. of Maharashtra on this account as on 31.3.1999 is as under :-

Central Railway	-	Rs. 8.37 cr.
S. Central Railway	-	Rs. 1.02 cr.
S. Eastern Railway	-	Rs. 0.61 cr.
Western Railway	-	Rs. 2.39 cr.
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>Rs. 12.39 cr.</b>

(c) The bills of Rs. 12.24 cr. are pending for want of Audit certificate from State Govt. of Maharashtra and that of Rs. 0.15 cr. are under process. Railways have standing instructions for early clearance of the bills on this account.

57-58

### Check Campaign In the Mines

3527. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued directions to carry out intensive check campaign in the mines;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken to review the performance of various organisations under his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) During the course of an internal review, the Directorate General of Mines Safety was directed to conduct intensive inspections of the accident prone mines with a view to ensuring proper compliance of the provisions of the Mines Act and regulations framed thereunder for preventing the accidents.

(c) and (d) Review of performance of the organisations under the control of the Ministry is purely an administrative matter which is a continuous process.

58-51

Akashwani

### High Power Transmitters of AIR

3528. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of High Power Transmitters of All India Radio installed during each of the last three years, location-wise;

(b) the places where these transmitters have started functioning, alongwith their relay range, State-wise; and

(c) the places where High Power Transmitters of the All India Radio are proposed to be installed during the current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Since 1.1.1996, 6 high power transmitters in Medium Wave Band, 4 High Power Transmitters in Short Wave band and 5 High Power transmitters in FM band have been commissioned in the Country. A statement-I showing State-wise details of locations and transmission range is enclosed here.

(c) A statement-II is attached.

### Statement-I

Sl.No.	State	Place	Power	Approximate range in kms.			
				North	South	East	West
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>I. MW Transmitters :</b>							
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur	100 KW MW Tr.	.	166	180	153
2.	Punjab	Jalandhar	2x100 KW MW Tr.	175	261	166	.
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Jagdalpur	100 KW MW Tr.	148	112	103	112
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	200 KW MW Tr.	261	288	315	256
5.	Orissa	Sambalpur	100 KW MW Tr.	166	153	85	162
6.	West Bengal	Calcutta	200 KW MW Tr.	243	.	.	211
<b>II. SW Transmitters :</b>							
1.	Delhi	Delhi	3x50 KW SW Tr.				
2.	Nagaland	Kohima	50 KW SW Tr.				



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	50 KW SW Tr.				
4.	Orissa	Jeypore	50 KW SW Tr.				
<b>III. FM Transmitters :</b>							
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	10 KW FM Tr. (VB)**	32	32	32	32
2.	West Bengal	Asansol	10 KW FM Tr. (Relay)	28	28	28	28
3.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	10 KW FM Tr. (VB)**	22	22	22	22
4.	Kerala	Cochin	10 KW FM Tr. (CBS)\$	30	30	30	30
5.	Tamil Nadu	Nagarcoil	10 KW FM Tr.	52	*	52	*

- \* - Coverage extends beyond our boundaries  
 \*\* VB - Vividh Bharati  
 \$ CBS - Central Broadcasting Service

**Statement-II**

State	Location & Schemes		
1	2		
Andhra Pradesh	1.	Vishakhapatnam	- 2x5 KW FM Tr. (CBS)
Assam	2.	Guwahati	- 100 KW MW Tr.
	3.	Guwahati	- 2x5 KW FM Tr. (CBS)
	4.	Ranchi	- 50 KW SW Tr.
Bihar	5.	Panaji	- 2x250 KW Sw Tr.
Gujarat	6.	Rajkot	- 1000 KW MW Tr.
	7.	Rajkot 'B'	- 10 KW FM Tr.
	8.	Vadodara	- 10 KW FM Tr.
J & K	9.	Srinagar 'C'	- 10 KW FM Tr.
	10.	Jammu	- 50 KW SW Tr.
	11.	Jammu	- 2x5 KW FM Tr. (CBS)
Karnataka	12.	Mangalore	- 10 KW FM. Tr.
	13.	Dharwad 'B'	- 10 KW FM Tr.
	14.	Bangalore 'B'	- 10 KW FM Tr.
Kerala	15.	Calicut 'B'	- 10 KW FM Tr.
	16.	Alleppey	- 2x100 KW MW Tr.
Madhya Pradesh	17.	Indore	- 200 KW MW Tr.
	18.	Jabalpur	- 2x5 KW FM Tr.
Maharashtra	19.	Amravati	- 10 KW FM Tr.
	20.	Nagpur	- 300 KW MW Tr.

1			2	
Manipur	21.	Imphal	-	300 KW MW Tr.
	22.	Imphal	-	10 KW FM Tr. (stereo)
Nagaland	23.	Kohima	-	100 KW MW Tr.
Rajasthan	24.	Jodhpur	-	300 KW MW Tr.
Tamil Nadu	25.	Tiruchirapalli 'B'	-	10 KW FM Tr.
	26.	Dharmapuri	-	10 KW FM Tr.
	27.	Kodaikanal	-	10 KW FM Tr.
	28.	Coimbatore	-	10 KW FM Tr.
Tripura	29.	Agartala	-	10 KW FM Tr. (stereo)
Uttar Pradesh	30.	Najibabad	-	200 KW MW Tr.
	31.	Aligarh	-	2x250 KW SW Tr.
West Bengal	32.	Purulia	-	10 KW FM Tr.
	33.	Darjeeling	-	10 KW FM Tr.
	34.	Siliguri	-	2x5 KW FM Tr.
Delhi	35.	Khampur	-	2x250 KW SW Tr.
	36.	Khampur	-	3x250 KW SW Tr.
<b>Union Territories :</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	37.	Portblair	-	100 KW MW Tr.

61 / 2 *Doordarshan*  
Setting Up of LPTs/HPTs

3529. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SMT. SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals received from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for setting up, upgradation and expansion of Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) and High Power Transmitters (HPTs) in these States during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the proposals cleared by the Union Government so far; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the remaining proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) The schemes for setting up, upgradation and extension of Doordarshan network are formulated by Doordarshan according to requirement of various areas of the country, availability of

resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities. These being central plan schemes, no proposal are sought from State Governments before finalising schemes. However, representation/proposals received from various quarters including State Governments and People's representatives are taken into account before finalising schemes. Doordarshan received 60 such representations in respect of UP and 24 in respect of Bihar since the commencement of 9th. Five Year Plan from people's representatives.

(b) and (c) At present, 106 transmitters of varying power are functioning in UP and 52 transmitters in Bihar. For further expansion of TV coverage, 31 transmitters (including 8 HPTs) in UP and 9 transmitters (including 4 HPTs) in Bihar are presently under implementation.

[English]  
52-63

National Task Force on Infrastructure for Tourism

3530. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Task Force on

infrastructure for Tourism has recommended a multi pronged strategy to boost tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by Task Force; and

(c) the number of recommendations accepted and implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) There is no National Task Force on Infrastructure specifically for Tourism.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

**Indian Airlines Service to South-East Asian Countries**

3531. DR. ASIM BALA :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines is planning a service to South-East Asian countries with Calcutta as the hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any feasibility studies have also been made to study the demand on some important international routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines are conducting a traffic survey to study the feasibility of a service between Calcutta and Hong Kong.

(c) and (d) Indian Airlines has planned operations on Bangalore-Bangkok sector. A traffic survey is also being undertaken to study the feasibility of a service between Bangalore and Kuala Lumpur.

[Translation]

**Construction of over Bridge in Lucknow**

3532. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that immediately after the Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the foundation of railway bridge number 469 at Lucknow, U.P., the construction work has been postponed by the railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the aforesaid construction work is likely to be completed?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) By year 2001.

[English]

Karnataka

64

**Development of Ulsoor Lake in Bangalore**

3533. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ulsoor Lake in Bangalore has been chocking with weeds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have requested the Government of Karnataka to release funds for taking up the cleansing operations;

(d) if so, the reaction of that Government thereon; and

(e) the amount proposed to be spent by the Union Government during current year for cleansing the lake?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Even though Madras Engineering Group utilises a portion of Ulsoor Lake in Bangalore for purpose of training from time to time, Ulsoor lake is under the management of the Bangalore City Corporation.

(c) Madras Engineering Group nor Government of India have approached the Government of Karnataka or Bangalore City Corporation for Cleansing operation.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

64-65

**Sports Channel on Doordarshan**

3534. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently started a new sports channel on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new sports channel;

(c) whether the Government propose to start any training programme for the sport commentary on Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To cater to the interest of millions of sports lovers in India and abroad, Doordarshan launched a dedicated 'Sports Channel' on 18.03.1999. The duration of transmission which was initially for six hours has been increased to 12 hours daily w.e.f. 25.3.99. The channel which is operating from PAS-4 satellite having footprints in 34 countries of Middle-East, CIS and Neighbouring Region, European Region and African Region will be devoted to various disciplines of sports with stress on Indian sports events, indigenous games, rural sports etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

65-66

**Doubling of Malda-New Jalpaiguri-New Coochbehar-New Bongaigaon Railway Line**

3535. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of requests received by Railways from MPs for doubling of Malda-New Jalpaiguri-New Coochbehar-New Bongaigaon-Guwahati Broad Gauge Line during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) A number of requests have been received, including repetitive ones, during the last 3 years from various Members of Parliament. Very often, letters from Hon'ble Members of Parliament refer to several projects. Each request received from an Hon'ble Member of Parliament is dealt individually and due consideration is given to it. However, consolidated project-wise record of such representations is not maintained.

(b) The requests have already been acceded to. The doubling of Malda-New Jalpaiguri section has been completed except for a short stretch between

Dalkhola and Kishanganj, where the work is in progress and would be completed by March, 2000.

The gauge conversion of New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon has been taken up. Once this line is converted to broad gauge, we will have a double line between New Jalpaiguri and New Bongaigaon. The work of gauge conversion of this line is planned to be completed during 9th Plan period depending upon availability of resources.

Between New Bongaigaon-Guwahati, a new BG line via Jogighopa is under construction and will be completed later this year. With this 2 lines which will serve the purpose of doubling will become available between these points.

[Translation]

6-6 Bihar, Labour

**Violation of Minimum Wages In Granite Mine**

3536. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private owners of black granite mine of Pakur (Bihar) are not following the safety rules and giving minimum wages to their workers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the mine owners do not attend the meeting called by Labour Commissioner to dispose off the matters relating to labour disputes; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) The information is not readily available. The same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

66-67

Railways

**Appointment of Rail Traveller Service Agents**

3537. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mugal Sarai division of the Eastern Railway had given an advertisement in 'Hindustan' dated May 11, 1998 with regard to the appointment of two Railway Traveller Service Agents at Mugal Sarai and three at Gaya;

(b) if so, the eligibility criteria fixed by the Eastern Railway in this regard;

(c) whether the then senior R.C.M. had appointed the agents at Gaya in a hurry just before his transfer;

(d) if so, whether the appointed agents at Gaya fulfilled all the conditions, those laid down under rule 4 for getting licence; and

(e) if not, the action being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(a) An advertisement for appointment of two Rail Travellers' Service Agents at Mugal Sarai and three Rail Travellers' Service Agents at Gaya was made in the leading Hindi Dailies on 30-04-1998 by Mugal Sarai Division of Eastern Railway.

(b) The criteria for appointment of Rail Travellers' Service Agents is as under :-

A person who is :-

- (i) in possession of the latest income tax clearance certificate;
- (ii) having office and premises properly maintained with adequate convenience and amenities in the city so as to accommodate the visit of sufficient number of customers; and
- (iii) not convicted in a criminal cases involving moral turpitude;

May apply for issue of a licence under Rule 4 of 'Authorisation of Rail travellers Service Agents Rules 1985' to act as an agent.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does no arise.

*Pakistan, Jammu and Kashmir*  
Proxy War in J & K

3538. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak told to end Proxy war" appearing in 'Deccan Herald' dated March 11, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow-up measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Government have consistently demanded that Pakistan should cease support to and instigation of terrorism against India, and take practical steps on the grounds to dismantle the infrastructure that exists in Pakistan for training terrorists. During the recent visit of the Prime Minister to Pakistan on 20-21 February 1999, Prime Minister had stated that the path of violence was futile and

senseless and that those who preached, practised and fomented violence should understand the simple truth of the path of peace and amity. In a suo motu statement in both Houses of Parliament on 26 February 1999, the Minister of External Affairs reiterated Government's desire to uphold the Constitution. He also reiterated that the unity and territorial integrity of the country would never be compromised.

During the visit, the Prime Ministers signed the Lahore Declaration, which is a landmark for the peace and security of the two nations. The two Prime Ministers have agreed in the Lahore Declaration that the two countries will intensify efforts to resolve all issues through the composite dialogue process, refrain from intervention and interference in each other's internal affairs, combat the menace of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, take immediate steps to reduce the risk of accidental and unauthorised use of nuclear weapons and discuss security concepts and doctrines with a view to elaborating measures for confidence building in the nuclear and conventional fields aimed at the prevention of conflict. The Lahore Declaration also refers to the determination of both parties to implementing the Simla Agreement in letter and spirit. This agreement remains the corner-stone for the conduct of bilateral relations between India and Pakistan.

Government has also been making conscious efforts for maintaining cordial relationship with other neighbouring countries, viz Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal and others.

[English]

*68-69*  
Imposed ban on flying of Aircraft without Tacas Instrument

3539. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director-General Civil Aviation (DGCA) has banned aircraft without Tacas instrument;

(b) if so, whether the DGCA has given any relaxation for installation of these equipments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Directorate General of Civil Aviation have issued instructions making it mandatory, w.e.f. 1st January, 1999, to install Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS)-II in all aircraft, operating to/from/through Indian airspace, having certified seating capacity of more than 30 passengers or pay-load capacity of more than 3 tonnes. ACAS is called TCAS (Traffic

Collision Avoidance System) in the terminology used by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of United States of America. The Civil Aviation Requirement, however, permits operation of an aeroplane having a maximum certified seating configuration of 10 to 30 or a maximum pay-load capacity of one to three tonnes without installation of an ACAS-I upto 31.12.2003.

(b) and (c) No general relaxation has been given. However, requests received for permission for operation of individual flights without installation of ACAS-II, are considered and decided on merit.

69 *Jammu and Kashmir Railways*  
**Employment to Affected Families**

3540. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed youth of families whose land were acquired for construction of Jammu-Udhampur rail line have been provided employment by the Northern Railway;

(b) the number of applications pending with the Government for employment alongwith the reason for their pendency; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide the employment to the youths of these families?

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

(a) to (c) The extant instructions on the Railways provide for consideration for preferential employment, subject to certain stipulations, of individuals/their family members displaced on account of acquisition of land for large scale Railway Projects. Jammu-Udhampur Rail Link (53.2 Kms) is still under construction and there has thus not been any recruitment in Group 'C' and 'D' categories for this line. The cases of preferential appointment of land losers or their dependents will be considered as per extant rules on receipt of their applications against Notification whenever issued for this purpose.

69-70 *Doordarshan*  
**NRI Sponsored TV Serials**

3541. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of NRI sponsored TV serial projects received by Doordarshan during 1998-99;

(b) the policy of the Government in this regard and the action taken on each of them;

(c) the number of local producers given permission to make programmes for Doordarshan during the above period and the criteria laid down therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to extend such facility to NRI sponsored TV serials or programmes to give special consideration to NRI entrepreneurs to make programmes/serials for Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by Prasar Bharati, the following two proposals for commissioned programmes were received from NRIs:

- (i) By Shri Vijay Rana of U.K. for 13 episodes on Museums 'Beyond the Seas'.
- (ii) By Ms. Lalita Krishna, Canada for documentary on 'Three Artists'.

Proposals are considered on merit whether these are coming from Indian Nationals or from NRIs.

(c) Prasar Bharati have intimated that producers from various parts of the country are booked for commissioned programmes as per Doordarshan's programme requirements. The details in respect of such producers are not centrally maintained. Programmes are assigned as per the guidelines prescribed for the purpose.

(d) Prasar Bharati have intimated that projects are considered on priority if the programmes are as per Doordarshan's programme requirements.

[Translation]

70-71

**Board Members of Air India and Indian Airlines**

3542. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the present number of members in Indian Airlines and Air India Boards and the number of members out of them who are on salary and working on honorary basis, separately;

(b) whether the above organisations have to make hefty payment for their salaries and other facilities; and

(c) if so, the amount of expenditure incurred on these boards during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 and the major heads on which the expenditure was incurred each year along with the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) The details are as under :-

	AI Board	IA Board
Present number of members on Board	6	6

Only Managing Director, Air India Limited and Chairman & Managing Director, Indian Airlines Limited who are chief executives are being paid salaries and other allowance by these organisations. Non-Official Directors on Boards are paid sitting fees @ Rs. 2000/- per head per day for attending meeting.

(b) No, Sir.

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

*Defence*  
**N.C.C. Training Units**

3543. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of N.C.C. training Centres functioning in the country, State-wise and the annual number of youths being provided training at junior and senior levels;

(b) whether any scheme to provide N.C.C. training to all the students between 13 and 21 years of age is under the consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the percentage of students being given N.C.C. training at present;

(e) whether any priority to N.C.C. trained youths are given while recruiting in the army; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) A statement showing state-wise number of N.C.C. units in the country is annexed. The enrolled strength of junior division and senior division N.C.C. cadets is 7,59,147 and 4,33,413 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The coverage of N.C.C. is estimated to be less than 4% of the student population in the country.

(e) and (f) (i) 32 vacancies are reserved for N.C.C. 'C' Certificate holders for each direct entry course at the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun.

(ii) 50 seats are also reserved for N.C.C. 'C' Certificate holders (with minimum 'B' grade) in the Short Service Commission (Non-Technical) course at Officers Training Academy, Chennai. The N.C.C. cadets are not required to appear in the written examination conducted by UPSC but are required to appear before the SSB for selection.

(iii) Preference is given to N.C.C. certificate holders for recruitment as soldiers in the Army.

**Statement**

S.No. State/Union Territory		No. of Units
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58
2.	Bihar	43
3.	Delhi	18
4.	Gujarat	35
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	09
6.	Karnataka	49
7.	Goa	03
8.	Kerala	38
9.	Madhya Pradesh	51
10.	Maharashtra	59
11.	Assam	26
12.	Meghalaya	04
13.	Manipur	02
14.	Nagaland	04
15.	Tripura	03
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
17.	Mizoram	01
18.	Orissa	23
19.	Punjab	31
20.	Haryana	17
21.	Himachal Pradesh	12
22.	Chandigarh	04

1	2	3
23.	Rajasthan	35
24.	Tamil Nadu	50
25.	Pondicherry	06
26.	Uttar Pradesh	122
27.	West Bengal	50
Total		754

73

### Air Service on Gorakhpur-New Delhi Sector

3544. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce air services from Gorakhpur to New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the air services are likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

[English]

Tamil Nadu

73-74

### Construction of Road over Bridge at Dharmapuri

3545. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are considering to construct a road over bridge near Dharmapuri Railway Station;

(b) whether any representation has also been received by the Railways in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu have agreed to grant its share for the construction of the said bridge; and

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

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

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

74-75

### Beedi Workers

3546. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN :  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Beedi workers in the unorganised sector in the country especially in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government proposes to launch any welfare schemes for them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) There are about 44 lakh beedi workers in the country mainly falling in the unorganised sector. Out of this, about 1.6 lakh beedi workers are in the State of Orissa.

(b) and (c) The Government has already formulated schemes in the fields of Health, Housing, Education and Recreation for the welfare of beedi workers and their dependents. A list of such schemes is given in the statement attached.

### **Statement**

#### *List of Welfare Schemes for Beedi Workers*

#### **A. Health :**

1. Static-cum-Mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic Dispensaries.
2. Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals.
3. Scheme for Domiciliary Treatment of beedi workers suffering from T.B.
4. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7. Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi Workers for purchase of Spectacles.



76

8. Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9. Scheme for payment of Monetary Compensation for Sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10. Re-imbursment of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11. Re-imbursment of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.

**B. Social Security :**

1. Group Insurance Scheme.

**C. Housing :**

1. Build Your Own House Scheme.
2. Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Section of Beedi Workers.
3. Grant of subsidy to Co-operative Societies of Beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.
4. Group Housing Scheme.

**D. Education :**

1. Award of Scholarship to the Children of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Beedi Workers).
2. Composite Scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress, slates, note books and text books.
3. Payment of incentives on passing final University/Board examinations from High School onwards.
4. Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance to female children of Beedi Workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.

**E. Recreation :**

1. Establishment of Audio-Visual Sets/Cinema Vans/Exhibition of Films.
2. Organising sports, games, social and cultural activities for Beedi Workers.
3. Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi Workers.
4. Supply of T.V. Sets to the Beedi Workers Industrial Co-operative Societies.
5. Establishment of Community Hall in Beedi Workers Housing Colony with colour T.V. Set.

**Blacklisted Banks**

3547. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways has blacklisted some banks and stopped their credit cards for all transactions;

(b) if so, the details of such banks;

(c) the amount outstanding with these banks; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Railways to realise the outstanding amount?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In the end of November, 1998, an amount of Rs. 70 lakhs (approximately) was due to be realised by Northern Railway from banks on account of non-reconciliation of accounts. Therefore, the transactions against Credit Cards were temporarily suspended by Northern Railway to clear the accounts. As the outstanding amount of nearly 24 lakhs was reconciled, the transactions against Credit Cards of Citi Bank and Vijaya Bank were restored on 21.2.1999 as their accounts were clear. The Northern Railway is holding discussions with officials of various banks and is likely to restore the transactions against Credit Cards of remaining banks by 15th April, 1999, pending reconciliation of old outstanding.

*Rail Gauge Conversion*

**Gauge Conversion of Darbhanga-Narkatiyaganj Rail Line**

3548. DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foundation Stone for gauge conversion of Darbhanga-Narkatiyaganj rail line laid by him on November 1, 1998;

(b) if so, the amount allotted for the purpose and the progress made so far;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for early completion of the project; and

(d) the amount released so far and the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released?

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

(b) Preliminary arrangements have been made for starting the work. An amount of Rs. 10 crs. has been provided in the Budget 1999-2000 for this project.

(c) The work will be progressed as per its priority as approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, and as per availability of resources in the coming years.

(d) The position has already been indicated in reply to (b) & (c) above.

[Translation]

*17*  
Inquiry against Staff of A.I. and I.A.

3549. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of staff/officers of Air India and Indian Airlines against whom inquiry was conducted and action taken by the Government held for corruption, negligence and inefficiency during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

*7-75* *Defence*  
Abandoned Army Tank

3550. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the abandoned Tank lying in the heart of the Bhatti Mines

located about 14 Kms. from Chattarpur Mandir in the Mehauruli district as published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated March, 1, 1999;

(b) if so, the where-about of the Tank;

(c) the date since when this Tank is lying there and the instrument or the person behind this placement;

(d) whether there is a proposal to take over the Tank by the Army; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

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

(b) The tank is of British origin and a pre-Second world war vintage. Being without any system i.e. Mechanical/Armament portion, this derelict Tank is only of scrap value.

(c) The Tank has been lying there in the same condition since, at least, 1975 and it was being used as a hard target, in the past, during firing practice.

(d) and (e) Army HQ contemplate disposal of the tank, in situ, as per laid down procedures.

[Translation]

*78-79*  
Aircraft Owned by Private Airlines

3551. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private Airlines operating in the country and the types alongwith the number of aeroplanes and helicopters owned by them; and

(b) the names of the countries alongwith the cost at which the private companies have procured their existing aeroplanes and helicopters?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The details are at given in the Statement attached.

#### Statement

Information regarding aircraft/helicopter owned by scheduled private airlines

S.No.	Name of scheduled Private Airlines	Type of aircraft	No. of aircraft	Companies from whom procured
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jet Airways	B-737-400 B-737-800	- 6 - 2	Under hire purchase agreement from Companies located in United Kingdom and British West Indies

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Archana Airways	L-410	- 2	Czech Republic
3.	Sahara India Airlines	B-737-200	- 2	Germany

Information relating to cost of aircraft/helicopter is not available.

[English]

**Different Status to Air Hostesses of Air India**

3552. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :

SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India Executive Air hostesses are treated as workman on board the aircraft;

(b) if so, the reasons for them being treated so as executives when on ground;

(c) whether the same rule is applicable for male Executive cabin crew; and

(d) if not, the reasons for this difference between Male and Female Executive cabin crew?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Executive Air Hostesses fly in the capacity of Line Air Hostesses when they undertake flying duties.

(b) Female Cabin Crew are assigned office duties on ground as Executives by virtue of their entering the management cadre on promotion.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per the Record Note dated 17.11.83 entered into between the Management and Air India Cabin Crew Association (the recognised Union), it had been agreed that the Executive Air Hostesses when they undertake flying duties will fly in the capacity of Line Air Hostesses.

[Translation]

**Illegal Occupancy of Seats**

3553. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Railway Staff in connivance with the Railway Protection Force occupy the seats in the unreserved compartments and give them to passengers by taking money;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the employees found guilty in this regard during the last two years and action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such type of incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (c) No instance of such occupation has come to the notice during the last two years. However, on 22-3-1999 Shri Sukhbir Singh, a Safaiwala of Northern Railway was caught taking money for arranging accommodation in an unreserved compartment of 2554 DN. Vaishali Express, at New Delhi Station. Suitable action has been taken against him under Disciplinary & Appeal Rules.

(d) All unreserved coaches of mail/express trains at major stations are being brought duly locked from yard/washing lines for placement on platforms. At platforms, queues are formed of passengers boarding the train so that they enter the unreserved coach as per their turn. Queues for popular trains are ensured with the help of mobile barricades and Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police.

[English]

**Construction of Rob/Rub in Maharashtra**

3554. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of railway crossings in Maharashtra particularly in Satara and Dhule districts;

(b) the names of Railway crossings on which road under bridges or road over bridges have been constructed so far;

(c) the names of railway crossings on which road under bridges/road over bridges proposed to be constructed; and

(d) the reasons for delay in constructing such bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) In Maharashtra, there are 2653 level crossings out of which 78 nos. are falling in Dhule District and 63 in Satara district.

(b)

1. Br. No.157 at Km.91/6-7 between Nira and Lonand Station.
2. Br. No.276 at Km.144/11-12 between Jarandeswar and Satara stations.
3. Br. No.203 at Km.116/0-1 between Adarki-Wathar station.
4. Br. No.208 at Km.118/1-2 between Adarki-Wathar station.
5. Br. No.382 at Km.203/3-4 between Shirvade and Karad.

(c) A Road Over Bridge at Karad-Chikalthana Road has been proposed by State Government.

(d) State Government is contemplating to construct road over bridge at Karad-Chikalthana on Build Operate & Transfer (BOT) scheme. Further action is to be taken by State Government.

[English] Jammu and Kashmir

#### Upgradation of Srinagar Airport

3555. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the upgradation of Srinagar Airport as International Airport;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in that regard;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to set up a separate terminal at Srinagar Airport; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A separate civil terminal managed by Airports Authority of India already exists at Srinagar Airport.

(d) Does not arise.

82  
L  
Maintenance and Overhaul Facility at H.A.L.

3556. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a maintenance and overhaul facility unit at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Airport in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure for setting up of the above unit?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Maintenance and overhaul facilities have already been set up by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. near HAL airport at Bangalore.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

82  
Posting of Air India Staff at Foreign Stations

3557. SHRI RAJNARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of officers and staff of Air India who are on foreign postings for more than 4 years alongwith stations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Two officers of Air India are on foreign postings for more than four years. They are presently posted in London.

2-83 Doordarshan  
Improvement in DD Programmes

3558. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the Doordarshan programmes to attract more viewers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to telecast Doordarshan programme on all channels throughout the country particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Programme matters of Doordarshan fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati, an autonomous statutory corporation. Prasar Bharati have reported that it is always the endeavour of Doordarshan to be more innovative and telecast programmes of different

categories keeping in mind the varied interest of different segments of its viewers.

(b) and (c) It has been intimated by Parsar Bharati that programmes of various Doordarshan Channels are available throughout the country including Maharashtra in satellite mode. In the state of Maharashtra 85 transmitters (DD-I-83, DD-II-2) are presently in service and for further expansion of terrestrial coverage, 28 transmitters (DD-I-27, DD-II-1) are under implementation.

[Translation]

83-84 *Railways*  
**Construction of Manmad-Dhule-Nardana-Indore Rail Line**

3559. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for Manmad-Dhule-Nardana-Indore rail line is being made since 1955 by the people of Nasik and Dhule districts of Maharashtra and Khairgaon and Indore districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the survey of the above rail line has already been conducted but the work has not yet been started;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether no provision has been made in the rail budget for the above railway line;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the above line is likely to be included and work is likely to be started?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) Surveys for new lines between Manmad-Dhule via Malegaon and Dhule-Nardana with extension to Shirpur have been completed recently. The following are the results of the surveys :-

Project	Length	Cost	Rate of return
(i) Manmad-Dhule via Malegaon New line.	98 Kms.	Rs. 132 crs.	(-) 1.73%
(ii) Dhule-Nardana new line with extension to Shirpur.	62 Kms.	Rs. 104 crs.	(-) 2.19%

In view of the heavy throwforward of ongoing new line projects and the grossly unremunerative nature of the lines, the projects could not be taken up for consideration.

Nardana-Indore suggested line will be about 240 Kms. long and will cost not less than Rs. 500 crores at current day prices. In view of the heavy throwforward of the new line projects already on hand and the severe resource constraints being faced by Railways at present, consideration of the suggested line is not feasible.

[English]

84-85  
**Tourism Projects from Bihar**

3560. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "Bijoy" : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3363 on 18.12.98 and state :

(a) the details of 12 projects so prioritised and the break-up of Rs. 325 lakh, project-wise; and

(b) the time by which the development work is likely to be started and completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) The details of 12 projects prioritised for central financial assistance of Rs. 325.00 lakhs to the State Government of Bihar during 1998-99 is as under :-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Rs. in lakhs
1	2	3
1.	Wayside amenities at Aurangabad.	25.00
2.	Yatri Niwas at Singheshwar Asthan (Madhepur)	20.00
3.	Tourist Reception Centre at Bhagalpur	15.00
4.	Tourist Reception Centre at Munger	15.00
5.	Upgradation-cum-expansion of existing tourist facilities at :	
	* (i) Jeevak Vihar Rajgir	50.00
	(ii) Birsa Vihar, Ranchi	20.00
	(iii) Ratna Vihar, Dhanbad	25.00
	** (iv) Kautilya Vihar, Patna (Phase-II)	10.00
6.	Refurbishment of monuments at Vikramshila	25.00

1	2	3
7.	Development of Rajgir Hot Spring as Health Resort.	40.00
8.	***Flood lighting at Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya	30.00
9.	Upgradation and renovation of Buddha Vihar, Bodhgaya	17.00
10.	Entrance gate/Notice boards, Light polls and benches at Buddhist sites at Nalanda, Vaishali, Patna and Rajgir under ASI	20.00
11.	Rajgir Festival	10.00
12.	Sonepur Mela	3.00
Total		Rs. 325

\* The project could not be sanctioned as the project proposal submitted by State Government was incomplete.

\*\* In lieu of this project, the State Government submitted project for landscapped parking Plaza Paving at Rajgir near the Hot Spring Area for central financial assistance of Rs. 19.52 lakhs.

\*\*\* In lieu of this project, the State Govt. submitted project for development of the Giddhkoot Hill and upgradation of the Environs around the front approach road of the Venuban at Rajgir for central financial assistance of Rs. 8.16 lakhs.

In both the cases State Government has been requested to process the case for obtaining approval of SFC after preparation of the Master Plan and also clarify and position on the financial pattern.

(b) These projects are to be implemented by the State Government. As per the existing guidelines, a project should be completed within a maximum period of 30 months from the date of sanction. The above projects were sanctioned during last quarter of financial year 1998-99.

[Translation]

Child Labour

#### Rehabilitation of Child Labourers

3561. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against non-implementation of the rehabilitation programmes for child labourers by the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last two years and the remedial steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) No specific complaints have been received regarding non-implementation of the National Child Labour Projects for rehabilitation of child labourers. Government has taken a series of steps for withdrawal of children from work and their rehabilitation. The National Policy on Child Labour envisages strict enforcement of child labour related laws, convergence of services for the benefit of parents of child labour in order to improve their economic conditions and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour. Under the scheme of National Child Labour Projects, Rehabilitation Centres have been set up with provision for non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health-care etc. So, far, 77 child labour projects are under implementation in the child labour endemic States for coverage of 1.5 lakh children. Implementation of the projects is being monitored through receipt of periodical reports of project activities and reviews undertaken at the Central, and State and District level. A Central Monitoring Committee has also been set up for overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the National Child Labour Projects.

[English]

86-88

#### National Commission on Child Labour

3562. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation Act) 1986 covers only 10 percent of the child labourers in India and has miserably failed to check child labour in the country, particularly in factories and carpet industry;

(b) if so, the action, the Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of child labourers;

(c) whether there has been demands from N.G.O.'s for setting up of National Commission on Child Welfare separate from the Commission appointed by the Government for children education, health, rights and abuse; and

(d) if so, the action propose to take by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The objective of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act is two-fold. It prohibits employment of children engaged in hazardous industries/occupations/processes and regulates employment of children in such industries/occupations/processes which are not hazardous. Part A & B of the schedule to the Act provides a list of such industries/occupations/ processes where

employment of children is prohibited. This list is being enlarged from time to time on the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee set up under section 5 of the Act. As of date, employment of children is prohibited in 13 occupations and 51 processes. Employment in carpet industry occurs in the list of 13 occupations contained in part 'A' of the schedule to the Act. The Act also provides for penalties for violation of the provisions of the law. All the State/UT Governments have an enforcement machinery to enforce the provisions of the law in relation to both prohibition as well as regulation. The Central Government monitors implementation of the provisions of the Act through periodical returns.

A National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour has also been constituted under the chairmanship of the Union Labour Minister and with Secretaries of 10 Ministries/Depts. as members. The Committee meets from time to time to take stock of the situation in relation to both prohibition and regulation on the ground. Children working in hazardous occupations are withdrawn from work and rehabilitated under the scheme of National Child Labour Projects through non-formal education, nutrition, check-up of health and vocational skill training. So far 77 National Child Labour Projects have been sanctioned in the child labour endemic States for coverage of 1.5 lakh children.

Elimination of Child Labour cannot be the mandate of one Ministry/Deptt. or agency. It is a national concern. The National/Agenda for Governance contains an item on progressive measures for elimination of child labour. The Ministry of Labour which is nodal ministry for this purpose works in close coordination and collaboration with other Ministries/Depts. of Government of India such as Health, Family Welfare, Women & Child Development, Urban Affairs & Employment, Rural Areas & Employment, Science and Technology etc. The Government of India also exchanges the collaboration and support of the International Labour Organisation through the programme 'International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour' (IPEC).

(c) and (d) Demands have been received from NGOs for setting up of a National Commission on Bonded and Child Labour. The issue was placed before the Labour Ministers' conference held in 1992 when a Committee of 13 State Labour Ministers was constituted. As the Committee could not meet due to various reasons, the meeting of State Labour Ministers was called on 18.5.95. The general consensus which emerged from this meeting was that in view of the National Commission on Human Rights having been set up, there is no need for a separate commission on bonded and child labour. In the meanwhile, Government have taken a decision

to set up a second National Commission on Labour with a time-bound mandate.

SS

Railways  
New Suburban Station

3563. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from any party or organisation for creating a New Suburban railway station on the Central Railway Suburban Network in Mumbai between Sion and Matunga railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SS-8a

Doordarshan Returning to Sycophancy

3564. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "DD is returning to sycophancy" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated January 20, 1999; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All programme matters including news telecast by Doordarshan fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous body and the Government do not interfere in such matters. Prasar Bharati have reported that its news bulletins are prepared purely on the consideration of news value of stories and keeping in view its policy guidelines. It has further reported that being national broadcaster, it is the duty of Doordarshan to ensure that sensitive matters particularly those affecting national security or harmonious relations between different communities are covered in a responsible manner keeping in view possible ramifications of

their coverages. Whenever the statements of Prime Minister have important news value justifying their inclusion as a top story, it is being done.

89

Railways

### Functioning of Newly Created Zones

3565. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the newly created zones have not been made fully functional;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the infrastructures are likely to be provided to make them functional;

(c) whether the jurisdiction of newly created zones has been finalised; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) and (b) The Zones have been planned to be set up in a phased manner over a period of five years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

9

### Air Force Flying Station in Orissa

3566. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Air Force Flying Station for training activities in Orissa is being set up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed and start functioning?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Labour

1-91

### Hospitals for Labourers

3567. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the labourers working in the Beedi and Cement industries are falling victims to diseases like T.B., anaemia, malnutrition and cancer;

(b) if so, the estimated number of labourers and the number of labourers who met their untimely death due to lack of treatment, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to open new hospitals to prevent diseases in these areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) While the studies carried out in our country have shown that the persons working in Beedi and Cement Industries are exposed to health problems, it is however not a fact that most of the labourers working in Beedi and Cement Industry are becoming victims of T.B., Anaemia, Malnutrition and Cancer. Beedi workers develop respiratory problems and get afflicted by pulmonary diseases partly on account of exposures to/inhalation of tobacco and partly on account of unclean and unhygienic working conditions. Pollution in cement industry is caused mainly by dust produced while grinding limestone, Coal and Klinker. All the cement plants are required to take anti-pollution measures for controlling pollution and no factory is allowed to operate before taking prior approval of the Pollution Control Board. No complaints have been reported regarding labourers becoming victims of T.B., Anaemia, Malnutrition and Cancer in the Cement Industry. The State Pollution Control Boards have been monitoring the level of pollution caused by cement plants on a regular basis. As per the information available for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96, the estimated number of beedi and mine workers who took treatment for the pulmonary diseases in the Labour Welfare Organisation hospitals/dispensaries was 1,68,477 and 1,78,277 respectively. Data related to State-wise break-up of mortality due to Anaemia, T.B., Malnutrition and Cancer in beedi and cement workers is not maintained.

(c) and (d) Hospitalisation of T.B. patients is required only in extremely serious cases. The disease can be effectively cured by domiciliary treatment which is the recommended method of treatment. National Tuberculosis Control Programme is implemented in the rural districts through District Tuberculosis Centres integrated with primary health care infrastructure and in cities/big towns through Tuberculosis Clinics. This is being further strengthened by introducing revised strategy covering a population of 271 million in a phased manner. Labour Welfare Organisation in the Ministry of Labour who are running dispensaries/hospitals for beedi and mine workers have sanctioned 51 new dispensaries for beedi workers in various parts of the country. A 50-bedded hospital for beedi workers is also coming



up at Dhuliyān (West Bengal). In addition, it has been decided to set up three 30-bedded hospitals one each at Sagar (MP), Mukkudal (TN) and Bihar Sharif (Bihar) for the benefit of beedi workers.

[English]

**Fall In Income of Doordarshan**

3568. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been slump in the income of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the income of Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Revenue earned by Doordarshan is likely to fall during the current financial year in comparison to that of last year due to fragmentation of viewership and increased competition from satellite channels.

(c) Prasar Bharati has reported that constant efforts are being made by Doordarshan to boost its commercial revenue earnings. In order to achieve this objective, Doordarshan has taken steps to telecast quality programmes, opening up of more commercial Kendras, to rationalise the commercial advertisement charges, to give incentives to advertisers to make Doordarshan more attractive etc.

[Translation]

91-92  
**Tourism Projects Submitted by Delhi and Gujarat Governments**

3569. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the tourism projects submitted by the Delhi and Gujarat Governments to the Union Government during the last three years; State-wise;

(b) the projects out of them cleared by the Union Government so far; State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for rejection of the remaining projects in this regard, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) :

(a) Projects received

State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Delhi	3	8	23
Gujarat	11	7	18

(b) Projects sanctioned

Delhi	3	8	21
Gujarat	11	7	18

(c) Projects rejected

Delhi	-	-	2
-------	---	---	---

The project of Wayside amenities at Nandprayag and purchase of Tempo for carrying Trekking & Camping equipments received from the National Capital Territory of Delhi could not be sanctioned as they were not as per the approved guidelines.

[English]

92-95

Public Sector

**Funds Allocated for PSUs**

3570. SHRI VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the name of PSUs working under his Ministry;

(b) the number of PSUs participated for business promotion in Overseas Events like Seminar/Conferences/Exhibitions/Business Meetings etc., during the last 3 years and the details thereof, like financial involvement in each trip and the outcome; and

(c) the funds allocated for the year 1999-2000 to each PSU for participation in Overseas Events?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) There are two Public Sector Undertakings working under the administrative control of this Ministry viz. National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC) and Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL).

(b) The details are given in the statement attached.

(c) There is no budget allocated by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to NFDC and BECIL for participation in overseas events. The Companies will meet the expenses from their own resources.

**Statement**

*Details of overseas events participated in by National Film Development Corporation and Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited in the part three years.*

*National Film Development Corporation*

S.No.	Purpose of visit/ Country visited	Composition of delegation	Expenses incurred (in rupees)
-------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------------

**1996-97**

1.	Cannes Film Festival France.	3	10,48,812.00
2.	American Film Festival USA	1	2,11,405.00
3.	MIPCOM Film Festival France.	2	6,89,104.00
4.	MIP TV France	3	8,64,331.00
5.	EAFTAB'96 Malaysia	1	18,100.00
6.	Cine Asia Singapore. Singapore.	1	54,440.00

The income from exports as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 56.29 lakhs. The income from sales of the films imported as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 265.71 lakhs.

**1997-98**

1.	MPI TV France	3	4,10,808.00
2.	Cannes Film Festival France	3	9,82,546.00
3.	Sydney Festival Australia	1	1,01,326.00
4.	Moscow International Film Festival, Russia	2	1,87,032.00

*Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited*

S.No.	Purpose of visit/ country visited	Composition of delegation	Expenses incurred (In rupees)	Outcome
1	2	3	4	5

**1996-97**

1.	Broadcast Asia'96 exhibition, Singapore.	1	2,35,103	Making the presence of such a consultancy company known to
----	---	---	----------	---

5.	East Asia TV Film Festival. Malaysia.	1	50,552.00
6.	MIFED Market Italy	1	1,09,097.00
7.	MIPCOM'97 France	2	5,23,254.00
8.	Tehran International Market. Iran.	1	74,296.00
9.	16th FAJR International Market. Iran	1	83,864.00
10.	American Film Market.	1	1,39,674.00

The income from exports as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 4.55 lakhs. The income from sales of the films imported as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 225.27 lakhs.

**1998-99**

1.	MIP TV France	2	4,41,056.00
2.	NATPE'99 USA	1	2,50,582.00
3.	Filmart'98 Hong Kong	1	66,966.00
4.	Cannes International Film Festival. France	2	7,43,675.00
5.	MIFED'98 Market. Italy	3	6,23,789.00
6.	MIPCOM Film Festival	1	1,78,972.00

The income from exports as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 41.01 lakhs. The income from sales of the films imported as a result of participation in the above festivals/markets was Rs. 172.98 lakhs.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

broad casters in the region. Enquires from different quarter showing interests in the consultancy and turnkey jobs undertaken by BECIL

### 1997-98

BECIL did not participate in an overseas events.

### 1998-99

1. Broadcast Asia '98 exhibition. Singapore	2	2,87,302	Due to publicity gained in the previous year as well as during this show BECIL received enquires for the following overseas projects
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operation &amp; Maintenance of Radio/TV Transmitters in Kuwait.</li> <li>2. OB Van Project in Saudi Arabia</li> <li>3. RDS Project in Nepal.</li> <li>4. Setting up of TV Studio in Thimpu Bhutan.</li> </ol>
2. 7th Annual Conference of Asian Media Information and Communication Centre	1	Expenses on Travel and accommodation borne and AMIC	New opportunities for business generated in the region.
3. Project Feasibility Study for RDS Service for Radio Nepal	1	10,948	Proposal submitted by BECIL is under consideration of Radio Nepal
4. Setting up of TV Broadcasting Centre at Thimpu, Bhutan	1	36,635	Proposal submitted to the Bhutan Broadcasting Services.

as-07 Employees State Insurance

### Garment Manufacturing Units covered under ESI Scheme

3571. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the garment manufacturing units covered under Employees' State Insurance Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the number of such units not covered under this scheme; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to enable these companies/units to come under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The requisite information is given in the statement.

(b) and (c) The ESI Act, 1948 applies to power-using factories employing 10 or more persons and non-power using factories and certain other establishments employing 20 or more persons. The ESI Scheme is being implemented areawise in a phased manner. The Act applies on its own vigour. Accordingly the garment units situated in the notified areas are required to report compliance under the ESI Scheme on their own. According to the ESI Corporation all the garment units situated in the notified areas and having the requisite employees' strength are already covered under the ESI Act. The ESIC in consultation with the State Governments has formulated a phased programme for implementation of the ESI Scheme in 61 new areas during 1999-2000. Regular survey is also conducted so as to detect defaulting establishments including garment units and ensure their compliance under the Act.

**Statement****The Garment Manufacturing Units Covered Under the ESI Scheme**

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Garment Manufacturing Units.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	72
2.	Bihar	7
3.	West Bengal	88
4.	Delhi	2408
5.	Maharashtra :	
	(i) Mumbai	3175
	(ii) Pune	93
	(iii) Nagpur	4
6.	Goa	11
7.	Assam	NIL
8.	Madhya Pradesh	46
9.	Rajasthan	141
10.	Uttar Pradesh	709
11.	Orissa	7
12.	Tamil Nadu :	
	(i) Chennai	1291
	(ii) Madurai	28
	(iii) Coimbatore	1996
13.	Gujarat	110
14.	Kerala	55
15.	Karnataka	976
16.	Punjab	439
17.	Haryana	248

**97-98**  
**Stoppage of Service by United Airlines**

3572. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether United Airlines of USA has decided to pull out of India;

(b) if so, whether the reasons for the pulling out is lack of safety equipments at our airports; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the standards of safety at our airports and bring them upto the international standards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) United Airlines have suspended their operations from India effective from 3.4.99 for commercial reasons.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**98** **Defence**  
**Pension revision for pre-1986 Retirees from Armed Forces**

3573. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pensions in respect of the pre-1.1.86 Defence civilians and Armed forces personnel, specially reemployed pensioners who were not paid any pension for their re-employed period, has since been revised; and

(b) if so, the time-bound action the Government contemplate to take to settle the old cases of retired personnel who have not received their pension so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission, the Government orders for revision of the pension of Defence civilians as well as Armed Forces pensioners, including pre 1-1-1986 pensioners, have been issued. As per the prescribed procedure, the pensioners are required to submit their application for revision to the Pension Disbursing Authorities. As per the available reports, pension in respect of a large number of pensioners has been revised. The Pension Disbursing Authorities have also been authorised to pay revised pension to the personnel below officers rank on the basis of tables provided to them. To monitor revision of pensions, Pension Disbursing Authorities are required to submit a monthly progress report.

**98-100** **Defence**  
**Performance of Ordnance Factories**

3574. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed performance of ordnance factories during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of targets set and achieved, capacity utilisation, upgradation, expansion, diversification programme for All India in general and for units located in Maharashtra in particular during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of action plan for modernisation/upgradation/diversification of defence production in

the country and Maharashtra in particular during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The performance of Ordnance Factories is continuously monitored by the Ordnance

Factory Board (OFB) at Calcutta and by the Ministry.

The production achievement and capacity utilisation for the last 3 years for OFB as a whole and Maharashtra Group of Factories are given below in Tables I and II respectively.

Table I

	1998-99	1997-98		1996-97	
	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Capacity Utilisation (%)	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Capacity Utilisation (%)
All Ordnance Factories	5527.00	4400.48	66.80	3945.87	65.99

Table II

	1998-99	1997-98		1996-97	
	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Capacity Utilisation (%)	Achievement (value of prodn. in Rs. crores)	Capacity Utilisation (%)
Maharashtra Group of Factories (10 Nos.)	1464.11	1327.24	60.80	1282.40	61.33

OFB have met the targets as set for them. The achievement figures for 1998-99 are provisional and the compilation will be subject to check by C & AG. The capacity utilisation for 1998-99 is under compilation.

Ordnance Factory Board have drawn an action plan for a total investment of approx. Rs. 1241 crores during the Ninth Plan period. For the first two years of Ninth Plan, following investments have already been made :

Year	Total Investment (Rs. Crs.)
1997-98	143.96
1998-99	170.00 (provisional)

For the coming three years of plan period, the contemplated investment levels are :

Year	Total Investment (Rs. Crs.)
1999-2000	200.00
2000-2001	447.00
2001-2002	280.00

Out of above level of investment, which is for all the existing Ordnance Factories, approximate share of investment in Maharashtra Group of Factories (10 Factories) is approximately 35%. The major investments planned in Maharashtra are for augmenting and modernising the explosive manufacturing facilities; facilities for manufacture of Small Arms Ammunitions; facilities for special aluminium alloys for Defence applications.

100 - 03

#### Railway Projects

3575. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the railway projects which were included in the Railway Budget for 1997-98 and the projects out of them approved by the Parliament;

(b) the names of the projects cleared by the C.C.E.A for execution; and

(c) the projects pending clearance by the C.C.E.A. indicating the reasons for delaying in clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (c) The details of railway projects included in the Budget 1997-98 and approved by Parliament, to be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs and their present status of clearance is as under :-

S.No.	Name of Project	Status
1	2	3

#### New Line

1.	Lalitpur-Satna & Rewa-Singrauli	Cleared
2.	Baramati-Lonad	Cleared
3.	Patna-Ganga Bridge	Clearance yet to be obtained.
4.	Ara-Sasaram	Cleared
5.	Giridih Koderma	Cleared
6.	Rail bridge on Ganga at Munger	Clearance yet to be obtained.
7.	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	Cleared
8.	Bogibeel bridge	Cleared
9.	Diphu-Karong	Cleared
10.	Chandigarh-Ludhiana	Cleared
11.	Etawah-Mainpuri	Clearance yet to be obtained.
12.	Macheria-Nalgonda	Cleared
13.	Munirabad-Mehboobnagar	Cleared
14.	Gulbarga-Bidar	Cleared
15.	Angul-Sukinda Road	Cleared
16.	Dharmavaram-Penukonda via Puttaparthi	Cleared
17.	Bangalore-Satyamanglam	Cleared
18.	Angamali-Sabarimala	Cleared
19.	Kottayam-Erumeli	Clearance yet to be obtained.

#### Gauge Conversion

1.	Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj	Cleared
----	----------------------------------	---------

1	2	3
2.	Samastipur-Khagaria	Clearance yet to be obtained.
3.	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura	Cleared
4.	Gonda-Gorakhpur	Clearance yet to be obtained.
5.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon	Cleared
6.	Katakhal-Bhairabi	Cleared
7.	Katihar-Jogbani	Clearance yet to be obtained.
8.	Luni-Barmer-Munabao	Cleared
9.	Rewari-Sadulpur	Clearance yet to be obtained.
10.	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar	Clearance yet to be obtained.
11.	Secunderabad-Madkhed and Jankhampet-Bodhan	Cleared
12.	Dharmavaram-Pakala	Clearance yet to be obtained.
13.	Naupada-Gunupur	Clearance yet to be obtained.
14.	Mysore-Chamarajanagar	Clearance yet to be obtained.
15.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Trichendur and Tenkasi-Virudhnagar	Cleared
16.	Madurai-Rameshwaram	Cleared

#### Doubling

1.	Jalandhar-Pathankot-Jammu Tawi	Clearance yet to be obtained.
2.	Gudur-Renigunta	Cleared
3.	Goelkera-Manoharpur 3rd line (Chakradharpur Bondamunda Section)	Cleared
4.	Bilaspur-Urkura	Cleared
5.	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	Cleared
6.	Nergundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	Cleared
7.	Yeshwantpur-Tumkur	Cleared

#### Railway Electrification

1.	Udhna-Jalgaon	Cleared
----	---------------	---------

1	2	3
2.	Ludhiana-Amritsar	Cleared
3.	Bhubaneshwar-Kottavalasa	Cleared
<b>Metropolitan Transport Project</b>		
1.	Bhandup-Thane 5th & 6th line	Cleared

For projects costing less than Rs. 50 crores, CCEA clearance is not required, as such projects are not listed above.

These projects were included in the Budget, with the proviso that work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearance. In some of the above cases the surveys had not been completed at that time. After completion of surveys, the survey reports had to be examined in the Ministry and often clarifications have to be obtained from the Zonal Railways. Thereafter the proposal is to be appraised by Planning Commission and considered by Expanded Board/Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. The entire procedure takes considerable time.

[Translation] Food Processing Industries  
04

#### FP Training Centres

3576. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the number of Food Processing Training centres set up in country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Since the inception of the scheme of "Person-Power Development in Rural Area" in 1992-93, a total number of 293 Food Processing & Training Centres (FPTC) have been assisted by this Ministry. Of these, 160 Centres have already become operational as on date.

The state-wise break-up of these centres is given in the statement attached.

#### Statement

State-wise details of Food Processing & Training Centres assisted during the period 1992-93 to 1998-99

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of FPTCs set-up
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	18

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	13
4.	Delhi	6
5.	Gujarat	2
6.	Haryana	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	6
9.	Karnataka	6
10.	Kerala	5
11.	Maharashtra	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5
13.	Manipur	2
14.	Mizoram	6
15.	Meghalaya	1
16.	Nagaland	2
17.	Orissa	21
18.	Punjab	1
19.	Rajasthan	2
20.	Tamil Nadu	11
21.	Tripura	1
22.	Uttar Pradesh	31
23.	West Bengal	11
Total		160

[English] Doordarshan, All India Radio

104-05

#### Concessions for Advertisements on S.S. Programme

3577. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government give concessions for advertisement on small savings programme;

(b) if so, the concessions given for advertisement on Doordarshan and All India Radio for this purpose; State-wise,

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have requested to give some more concessions;

(d) if so, the concessions given to these States during the last three years; and

(e) the extent to which the concessions are likely to be given during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati extends 25% and 75% concession for the spots relating to small savings carried by All India Radio and Doordarshan respectively. This concession is extended uniformly to all the States.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that while no request has been received by All India Radio from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, Doordarshan has received a request only from Government of Andhra Pradesh for extending 75% concession for this purpose which is already being provided to them.

(d) Both the States were provided with 75% concession by Doordarshan and 25% concession by All India Radio during the last three years.

(e) Prasar Bharati has informed that the present rate of concessions being provided by All India Radio and Doordarshan are likely to continue during the current financial year as well.

05 *Air Services*  
**More Flights on Calicut-Mumbai-Calicut Sector**

3578. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received requests from the State Governments for increasing the frequency of flights at Calicut-Mumbai-Calicut sector; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

-06 *Arachwani*  
**Functioning of Broadcasting Station at Cochin**

3579. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Commercial Broadcasting Station at Cochin is not functioning;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether sufficient staff has been appointed there; and

(d) if so, the break-up thereof, category-wise?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) to (d) The Commercial Broadcasting Service of Cochin has a studio and 2x5 kw transmitter which was formally inaugurated on 15.2.96. Since then, it has been relaying Vividh Bharati Service. The paging, which was started on 28.6.95, was subsequently shifted to Commercial Broadcasting Service transmitter from 1.8.96 and both Vividh Bharati and National Channel programme were relayed for 24 hours. The Commercial Broadcasting Service studio is not functioning as no staff has been sanctioned for the same.

106 *Taxation*  
**Revenue from Soft Drink Industry**

3580. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on various soft drink schemes during the last three years and till date;

(b) the policy formulated by the Government to promote the Soft Drink Companies particularly the Indian Companies; and

(c) the value of soft drinks produced till 31st December, 1998 as compared to the corresponding period of the last year?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) No financial assistance under any of the Plan Schemes of the Ministry has been extended so far to units engaged in the manufacture of soft drinks (sweetened aerated water).

(b) The soft drinks (sweetened aerated water) industry is a delicensed industry and entrepreneurs can set up units by filling Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda with the Government except where the unit is proposed to be set up within the restricted area/location for which prior permission of Government is necessary. In addition, all units, in soft drinks (sweetened aerated water) are required to obtain licence under Fruit Products Order, 1955.

(c) As per information available, the production of soft drinks (sweetened aerated water) which was 445 crore bottles in 1996-97 increased to 492 crore bottles in 1997-98.



[Translation]

*AB Bhandari*

**Construction of New Building for  
Air Station, Jaipur**

3581. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Radio station of Jaipur is located at a suitable place and whether any scheme is under consideration for construction of a new building for this station; and

(b) the programme broadcast by the above station to create cultural awareness among people and the future plans in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Radio Station at Jaipur is located at a suitable place. There is no scheme for shifting it to a new location.

(b) AIR, Jaipur has been broadcasting various programmes viz. "Shakhshat", "Gorband", "Saheliyon Ki Bari", "Rajasthali" and "Kahksan", etc. to create cultural awareness among people. In these programme interviews with renowned personalities and artists, programmes based on local cultural activities, special musical and other programmes on the occasion of national and regional festivals, programmes aimed at national unity and communal harmony, song based programme and folk music programme are being broadcast. A project has been envisaged in association with 'Jawahar Kala Kendra', a premier Cultural Institute of the state, to record for archival purposes, various fast disappearing styles of folk music by artists from far flung areas.

[English]

*Railways, Germany*

**Loan sanctioned by German  
Development Bank**

3582. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has failed to draw the 185 million DM loan sanctioned by the German Development Bank KFW over two years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are paying Rs. 10 lakhs as commitment charges per month on loan; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to expedite the projects for which loan is sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under a Loan Agreement signed on 1st August, 1997, the Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KFW), Germany has extended a loan of DM 185 million for the project of Modernization of Signalling between Delhi and Kanpur. Drawal of the loan is expected to commence after an agreement is reached between the Ministry of Railways and the KFW on the Final scope of the project including the technological options.

(c) As per Loan Agreement, commitment charge of 0.25% per annum on the undisbursed loan amount is payable. The Government have, however, not paid any commitment charges to KFW/Germany so far against this loan since the first payment of commitment charge shall be due together with the first interest payment.

(d) Government have proposed modifications in the scope of the project keeping in view the existing constraints and operating environment of the Indian Railways and are requesting KFW to agree to the same.

*107* *rail gauge conversion*  
**Gauge Conversion of Kollam-Sengottai,  
Rail Line**

3583. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount sanctioned for conversion of Kollam-Sengottai metre gauge line into broad gauge; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The estimated cost of Quilon-Shengottai-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudunagar project is Rs. 280 crores and an outlay of Rs. 10 crs. has been provided in Budget 1999-2000 for starting the work.

(b) Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are being made. No. target date of completion has been fixed. The work will be progressed and completed as per the priority fixed by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs subject to availability of resources in the coming years.

109 Television

**Demands of Cable and Satellite Industry**

3584. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing cable connectivity and the resultant inability of the hardware industry to meet the requirements of the Cable and Satellite industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*North-Eastern Region*

109-10 ESI Hospitals and Dispensaries

3585. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ESI hospitals and dispensaries in North-Eastern States, location-wise; and

(b) the hospitals and dispensaries out of them where treatment like CT Scan, MRI etc. are available?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) There is one ESI hospital at Beltota, Guwahati. The requisite information about the dispensaries is given in the statement attached.

(b) The provisions of CT Scan, MRI etc. are not available in the ESI hospitals, dispensaries in North Eastern States. However, necessary arrangement has been made for providing such facilities to the beneficiaries through other hospitals and charges in this regard are reimbursed as per the rules.

**Statement**

*Detail of ESI Dispensaries in North Eastern States*

**Assam**

1. Vjanbazan, Guwahati
2. Kalapahar, Guwahati
3. Noonmati, Guwahati
4. Dispur, Guwahati
5. Narangi, Guwahati
6. Chandrapur, Guwahati

7. Jalukheri, Guwahati
8. Amingaon, Guwahati
9. Lokra, Guwahati
10. Silghat
11. Chaudur
12. Tezpur
13. Dhubri
14. Jogighopa-Dhubri
15. Jorhat
16. Musiani-Jorhat
17. Tinsukia
18. Makum-Tinsukia
19. Addl. Tinsukia
20. Dibrugarh-Tinsukia
21. Manghasita-Tinsukia
22. Medo, Tinsukia
23. Jaypur, Tinsukia
24. Newgaon
25. Jagisoad-Newgaon
26. Bongaigaon,

**Meghalaya**

1. ESI Dispensary, Lower Lachvmiere, Shillong-I.

110-11

*Russia*

**Visit of Russian Defence Minister**

3586. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Minister of Russia recently visited India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at; and

(d) the outcome of the talks held?

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

(b) to (d) Marshal I.D. Sergeyev, Defence Minister of the Russian Federation visited India from March 19 to 23, 1999. The two sides discussed furthering

and enhancing defence cooperation between the two countries and other related issues. Further a general agreement for training of Indian military personnel in military educational institutions of the Russian Federation was also signed.

The Russian Defence Minister called on the External Affairs Minister and the Prime Minister. The three Service Chiefs also called on him.

### Impacts of Y2K on Defence Systems

3587. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the impacts of the Y2K problem on Defence System of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The issue of Y2K compliance and identification of Y2K related problems in Defence Systems is receiving due attention in the Ministry.

The monitoring of Y2K related issues for Defence Systems has been broken down into the following :

- (i) Critical EDP Systems (including operating and application software).
- (ii) Inventory Management.
- (iii) Pay-Roll Management.
- (iv) Embedded System of the Defence Services which can be affected by the Y2K problems.

The above issues are being addressed with regard to the Defence Services, Defence Research and Development Organisation, Defence Public Sector Undertakings, Ordnance Factories and the Inter Service Organisations in the Ministry of Defence. The various Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) vendors have been contacted and a Y2K expertise cell consisting of Defence Research Development Organisation and the Central Research Lab of Bharat Electricals Ltd, Bangalore are providing the necessary Research and Development guidance for rectification.

All EDP systems, which are critical, have been identified and most of them have already been fixed and patched for Y2K compliance. This is also the case with inventory and payroll management.

The issue of Embedded Systems involves weapons, and surveillance and navigation systems. Y2K problems associated with Embedded Systems are very complex. Both identification and resolution call for a high degree of expertise and greater involvement of OEMs. Work on such systems is in hand.

As soon as the rectification work in various organisations is completed it is programmed to conduct a technical audit to validate the work done.

### Indian Airlines Flights to Hong Kong

3588. SHRI MADAN PATIL :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has extended its services to Hong Kong; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Expenditure on Advertisements

3589. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Public Undertakings under the Ministry are concentrating more on advertisements through media instead of on improving efficiency in air services;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on such advertisements during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to ensure economy in such expenditure and for improving efficiency by indicating the total vacant capacity carried; increases in air traffic and idling time of aircraft year to year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

113-14 Television  
Commissioning of TV Transmitters

3590. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

SHRI AJIT JOGI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on the commissioning of transmitters during 1998 and 1999, State-wise; and

(b) the annual expenditure being incurred on maintenance and operation of these transmitters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) State-wise number of transmitters commissioned during 1998 and 1999 is given in a statement enclosed. Capital cost of establishment of a High Power Transmitter is about Rs. 8 to 10 crores, that of a Low Power Transmitter about Rs. 1 crore and of a Very Low Power Transmitter about Rs. 0.8 crores.

(b) Annual expenditure on operation and maintenance is about Rs. 45 lakhs for a High Power Transmitter; Rs. 20 lakhs for a Low Power Transmitter and Rs. 3 lakhs for a Very Low Power Transmitter.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of TV transmitters commissioned during the year 1998 and 1999 (till March 1999)*

State	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Total
Andhra Pradesh	-	7	1	8
Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	20	21
Assam	-	3	-	3
Bihar	-	4	-	4
Gujarat	-	9	1	10
Haryana	-	1	-	1
Himachal Pradesh	-	2	7	9
Jammu & Kashmir	-	6	5	11
Karnataka	1	3	1	5
Kerala	-	1	-	1
Manipur	-	-	2	2
Madhya Pradesh	-	5	2	7
Maharashtra	-	6	3	9
Mizoram	-	1	-	1
Orissa	1	4	6	11
Nagaland	-	-	1	1
Punjab	1	1	-	2
Rajasthan	-	1	2	3
Sikkim	-	-	2	2
Tamil Nadu	-	2	-	2
Tripura	-	2	-	2
Uttar Pradesh	-	7	5	12
Pondicherry	-	1	-	1
West Bengal	-	-	1	1
	3	67	59	129

[Translation]

*railways*

115

**Rail Yatri Magazine**

3591. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways propose to provide guidance to all other departments through its programmes and bring out a 'Rail Yatri' magazine in view of its pioneering work in the field of implementation of Official Language and also proposes to commence Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Official Language from September 14, 1999;

(b) whether the outlines of this programme have been drawn up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the outlines of this programmes are likely to be drawn up?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. "Rail Yatri Magazine" for the passengers reading on board will be introduced initially on Shatabdi/Rajdhani trains. It would be a quarterly issue featuring on tourism, culture, food, health, literature, art, life style etc. Each issue will have a dedicated story on transport related issues. The Magazine will be in two languages i.e. Hindi & English. Some of the articles will be in English while others in Hindi.

It is proposed to commence Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Official Language from September 14, 1999.

(b) and (c) The outlines of the programme are being drawn.

(d) The outlines will be ready by the end of June, 1999.

[English]

*Labour***National Wage Policy**

3592. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new National Wage Policy;

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

(c) the steps taken to introduce the new National Wage Policy at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

116

**Army Recruitment Centre in Bihar**

3593. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open Army recruitment centre in the Bhagalpur district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the revised recruitment policy from 01 April 1998, the location of Branch Recruiting Office is not important since all recruitment is done through open rallies only by Recruiting Teams detailed by the concerned Zonal Recruiting Office.

**Procedure for computing Group 'B' Officers Into Group 'A'**

3594. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure/formula laid down for computing vacant posts for entry of Group 'B' officers into Group 'A'; and

(b) the date on which the last amendment was made therein and the objective thereof?

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

(a) The posts to be filled each year in Junior Scale Group 'A' Railway services are equally divided between Direct Recruitment through UPSC and promotion of eligible Group 'B' Railway Officers.

(b) The ratio of recruitment between Direct Recruits and programme was 60:40 for Railway Group 'A' services (other than for IRPS, where it was 50:50). The ratio has been changed to 50:50 for all Group 'A' services w.e.f. 31-7-1997. This is likely to increase the induction of Group 'B' Officers to Group

[English]

**Amendment in Industrial Dispute Act**

3595. **SHRI K.S. RAO :**

**SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947, Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and Trade Union Act 1926; and

(b) if so, the details of amendments likely to be made in these Acts?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Various amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 and Trade Unions Act, 1926 are proposed, based on the requirements of the social partners and in consonance with economic reforms. The amendment proposals are processed at various stages before being approved by the competent authority. The details of the amendments can be made public only after they have been finally approved.

**MOU with Private Sector**

3596. **DR. ASIM BALA :**

**SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :**

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :**

**SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :**

**SHRI KAMAL NATH :**

**DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :**

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :**

**SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :**

**SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Private trains could be on Indian tracks next year" appearing in *The Hindustan Times* dated February 18, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the routes proposed to be given to the private operators; and

(d) the extent to which the Railways likely to be benefited as a result thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of global bids invited in 1994 letter of intent has been awarded to M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Ltd., Chennai for ownership, marketing and management of tourist trains on the following sectors :-

(1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jhansi (Khajuraho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.

(2) Bangalore-Mysore-Chennai-Kodalkanal Road-Kannyakumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Ooty)-Bangalore.

(d) As per the agreement the operator will pay haulage charges and a certain percentage of gross turn-over to the Indian Railways. Capital investment on the train will be borne by the operator.

**Vanishing of Air India Plane on Screen**

3597. **SHRI R.S. GAVAI :**

**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :**

**SHRI MOTILAL VORA :**

**SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :**

**SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :**

**DR. SAROJA V :**

**SHRI M. BAGA REDDY :**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Air India ka Viman 40 minutes tak lapata raha" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated March 2, 1999 and news-item captioned, 'DGCA probe likely into missing Air India Plane', appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated March 4, 1999;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There was a complete failure of Radio Telephone Communication of Approach, Area and Tower frequencies around 1005 hrs. IST on 21st February, 1999. The failure of power supply to the

frequencies was because of malfunctioning of the power stabiliser following which neither commercial supply nor stand by supply from power house which is through the stabiliser was available to the transmitters. It also prevented switch over to standby battery supply. However, as the frequency (118.1 Mhz.) of Tower was operational, being on a separate battery back up, the same was used to guide the Air India aircraft and three other aircraft which made an uneventful landing at Delhi Airport.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken action to provide battery back-up to Area and Approach frequencies. This will obviate such incidents in future.

### Defence Cooperation with UAE

3598. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI M. BAGA REDDY :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the first time India has sent its aircraft carrier Virat to the United Arab Emirates as a part of its attempt to deepen the defence engagement in Persian Gulf;

(b) if so, whether three Navy ships left for Abu Dhabi held joint manoeuvres with Naval Ships of the UAE;

(c) if so, whether a defence dialogue with UAE to encourage exchange of personnel to each others training institutions and conduct joint Naval exercise is in offing; and

(d) if so, the extent to which both India and UAE have agreed to work with each other for the defence cooperation?

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

(b) The three Indian Naval Ships visited Abu Dhabi from 9-12 March 1999 but did not participate in any exercises with UAE ships. However, a flying demonstration was witnessed by the senior officers of UAE Defence Forces, on board the Aircraft Carrier.

(c) and (d) Defence cooperation with a large number of countries including UAE is an on-going process.

[Translation]

### Accident of Gwalior-Chhapra Express

3599. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an accident of 1144-UP Gwalior-

Chhapra Express train took place on Gonda-Lucknow railway line near Maijapur railway station on January, 31, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total loss of life and property thereby; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir. No such accident of Train No. 1144 Up took place on 31-01-1999. However, on 30.01.1999, 1144 Up Chhapra-Gwalior Mail train derailed between Gonda Kacheri and Maijapur stations on Gonda-Barabanki B.G. single line section of Lucknow Division of North Eastern Railway.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation by Commissioner of Railway Safety/ North Eastern Circle.

(c) Loss of life and property are as under :-

<b>Casualties</b> - Killed	-	1
Grievous Injuries	-	4
Minor Injuries	-	10

The cost of damage was Rs. 1,05,66,300/-

(d) Following steps have been taken to check recurrence of such type of accident :-

(i) Intensive inspection of track at various levels is undertaken to ensure round the clock safety.

(ii) For better and improved track maintenance, mechanised track maintenance is being progressively introduced in place of conventional manual maintenance.

(iii) The rails are being tested regularly as per a predetermined frequency by the hand held USFD testers as well as by the SPURT (Self Propelled Ultra-sonic Rail Testing) car.

(iv) Regular patrolling of the railway track by gangmen is carried out during vulnerable seasons such as summer, monsoon and the winter months.

(v) Those found responsible for accidents are sternly taken up including senior officials. Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/

removal from service is being imposed on staff causing serious accidents.

- (vi) Railways are pursuing SAIL/BSP vigorously for installation and commissioning the upgrading facilities for improving the quality of rails.

21

*Defence*  
**Fake L.T.C. Claims in Khamaria  
Ordnance Factory**

3600. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some employees involved in fake L.T.C. claims in the Ordnance factory, Khamaria, Madhya Pradesh, have been suspended;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government are contemplating to adopt any policy to check such incidents; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Eighteen employees of Ordnance Factory, Khamaria had availed Leave Travel Concession (LTC) in fraudulent manner. These employees have been suspended and disciplinary action has been initiated against them under Rule 14 of Central Civil Service (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules 1965 and procedures are already in force to dissuade fraudulent use of facilities.

The following additional measures have been taken by Ordnance Factory, Khamaria to prevent such cases in future :

- (i) Whenever any application is received from an employee for Leave Travel Concession (LTC) advance, he is advised by the officer that in case he does not perform the journey and the advance drawn by him is not returned in time, disciplinary action will be initiated against him.
- (ii) Every employee who has been sanctioned Leave Travel Concession (LTC) advance has to submit a copy of the journey ticket to the office before commencement of journey. The ticket No. will be noted in the register maintained in the office.
- (iii) Under the Rules, the employees availing Leave Travel Concession (LTC) facilities are required to submit the details of journey within one month of commencement of journey. After receipt of details, factory will send some tickets selected at random to local Railway office for confirmation.

The above measures taken by Ordnance Factory, Khamaria have been brought to the notice of the employees through a circular.

[English]

122

*Karnataka*

**Defence Land for Parking in Bangalore**

3601. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bangalore City Corporation has requested the Defence Ministry to hand over a portion of parade ground in Bangalore for parking of vehicles;

(b) if so, the extent to which the land, if any, proposed to be handed over to the Bangalore City Corporation; and

(c) the amount of compensation proposed to be paid by the Bangalore City Corporation in lieu thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) A proposal to hand over 300' to 700' of land in the Parade ground in Bangalore for parking of vehicles has been received from the Mayor, Bangalore Mahanagara Palike through the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism during March, 1999. No decision has been taken in the matter.

[Translation]

122

*Railways*

**Reservation Quota at Pakud Station**

3602. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the quota allotted for Magadh-Vikramshila Express and Farakka-Bhiwani Express at Pakud;

(b) whether the quota allotted for both the trains at Pakud fulfil the requirement of the passengers; and

(c) if not, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to meet the requirements of the passengers at this station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) At present a quota of two sleeper class berths each by Magadh-Vikramshila Express and Malda Town-Bhiwani Farakha Express is available at Pakud Station.



(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Railways

### Rail Project Runs Into Rough Weather

3603. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned, 'Rail Project runs into rough weather' appearing in the *Tribune Chandigarh*, dated March 4, 1999;

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

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

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

(b) The news-item refers to Chandigarh-Ludhiana new line project. The Chandigarh Administration had earlier demanded a very high price of Rs. 30 lakh/acre for the Govt. land required for this corridor. The matter has since been reconsidered by them and the rate brought down to Rs. one lakh/acre. Now, there is no problem and land acquisition has been started.

(c) The work will be started as soon as land becomes available. No target date has yet been fixed for completion of this project.

### Long Range Patrol Submarine

3604. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak may steal much over India in long range patrol submarine" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated March 11, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

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

(b) It is understood that Pakistan is acquiring three submarine from France to be delivered over a period ranging from 1999 to 2004. It is further

understood that only the third submarine is likely to be fitted with Air Independent Propulsion System.

(c) Adequate remedial measures have been taken to acquire and indigenously construct submarines. It will not be in the interest of national security to divulge further information in this regard.

[Translation]

124

Railways

### Appointment of Class IV Employees

3605. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of persons appointed in Class IV category between March, 1998 to March, 1999 in South-Eastern railway alongwith the number of candidates belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes out of them, separately?

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

[English]

124

Jammu and Kashmir

### Construction of Bridge over River Chenab

3606. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a second bridge at the river Chenab in Akhnoor area of Jammu and Kashmir taken up by BRO in late seventies has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the initial estimated cost and the targetted date, the amount spent so far and the quantum of work done till date; and

(d) the revised target date of completion and the estimated cost as well, along with the reasons for such an inordinate delay?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Construction of this bridge was started in December 1978. It has not yet completed.

(b) The bridge could not be completed by the contractors because of the washing-away and/or tilting of the pier wells caused due to high velocity of stream.

(c) Initial cost of work was estimated at Rs. 77 Lakhs. The work was to be completed by December

1981. Works amounting to Rs. 193.51 Lakhs were executed before the project was abandoned by the second contractor in June 1994.

(d) Technical committee, which was constituted to go into all the aspects of construction of bridge, has recommended to avoid construction of piers in the running stream. The BRO is working on the revised bridge scheme. The estimated cost and the revised target date of completion will be known after the scheme is finalised and the contract for work is concluded. Reasons for delay have been indicated above, in reply to part (b) of the question.

[Translation]

125

Operational Cost of Air India

3607. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the operational cost of flights of Air India is more than that of other international organisations;

(b) if so, the details of the operational cost of flights of Air India and that of other international organisations, separately; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

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

25

Air Service for Badrinath, Kedarnath and Hemkund

3608. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
MAJOR GENERAL, BHUVAN CHANDRA  
KHANDURI, AVSM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to start an air service for Badrinath, Kedarnath and Hemkund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) to (c) Badrinath, Kedarnath and Hemkund do not have airports and therefore, it is not possible to operate air service with passenger aircraft. However, Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam has plans to start helicopter services on Badrinath-Kedarnath-Rudraprayag sector for which Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. will provide one helicopter (5 seater) on wet lease. On receipt of approval from Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam for leasing the helicopter, the services are likely to start from 15th May, 1999 initially for a period of one month.

[English]

126

Doubling and Electrification of Railway Lines in Kerala

3609. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN :  
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made with regards to on-going projects of doubling and electrification and railway lines in Kerala, project-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon and the total funds required for the completion of these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (c) The details are as under :

Doubling

(i) *Trivandrum-Quilon* :- 27 kms. has been completed till 31.3.1999 out of 64 km. An Amount of Rs. 106.16 crs. has been spent upto 31.3.1999 and an amount of Rs. 26.98 crs. has been provided in 1999-2000. The work will be completed by March'2000.

(ii) *Mangalore-Shoranpur* :- The work on his doubling is being progressed rapidly and four block sections were completed in 1997-98 (29 kms). In the year 1998-99 another 48 kms has been completed. During 1999-2000 another 68 kms would be completed. An amount of Rs. 184.48

crores has been spent upto 31.3.1999 and an amount of Rs. 125 crores has been provided in 1999-2000.

(iii) *Railway Electrification :-*

*Erode-Ernakulam section :-* Walayar-Chovvara section (164 km) has been completed. Remaining section from Chovvara to Ernakulam 30 kms is planned for completion by March 2000. An amount of Rs. 161.60 crores has been spent till 31.03.1999. An amount of Rs. 36 crores has been provided in the Budget 1999-2000.

*Ernakulam-Trivandrum :-* The work has been included in the Budget 1999-2000 at the cost of Rs. 157 crores and will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.

**Railway Electrification Projects**

3610. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the railway electrification projects still incomplete which were to be completed during 1997-98;

(b) the reasons for delay in their completion;

(c) the total cost involved in the above projects; project-wise;

(d) the cost likely to be escalated, project-wise; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

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

(a) No Railway electrification project which was to be completed in 1997-98, is still pending.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

**Allegation made by Ex-Admiral at Press Conference**

3611. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :  
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, 'Bhagwati' drags

Malik's name' appearing in *Pioneer* dated February 23, 1999;

(b) if so, the fact thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action taken, if any, in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Government have seen the news item captioned "Bhagwat drags Malik's name" which appeared in the *Pioneer* dated 23.2.99. The allegations against General V.P. Malik, COAS, were to the effect that (i) General Malik called Shri Bal Thackaray at the Army Day Investiture Ceremony at Mumbai; (ii) General Malik presided over the Award ceremony on 28.5.98 relating to the Veer Sarvakar Award and (iii) General Malik was given extension in service.

2. The Above report had appeared in the press as a sequence to the interaction with the media by ex-Admiral V. Bhagwat at the Press Club of India at Delhi on 22.2.99. General V.P. Malik, the Chief of the Army Staff, has refuted the allegations made by ex-Admiral V. Bhagwat and clarified the position in the statement issued by the COAS, to the press on 9.3.99 to the effect that :

(i) the Army Day Investiture Ceremony which took place at Mumbai on 15.1.96, when General Malik was the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, was a public function, well attended by military and civil public. The Parade was arranged at Shivaji Park so that the public could witness the parade and investiture ceremony to honour our brave and distinguished soldiers. The Parade was advertised in the media/banners and public was invited. A large number of invitations were also issued to State Government officials, public leaders and dignitaries. Some members from Shri Bal Thackray's family attended the Parade. At the end of the ceremony, Shri Thackray himself came and met the kith and kin of gallantry award winners. General Malik has clarified that he had never met Shri Bal Thackray before or after that function and that ex-Admiral Bhagwat, as an invitee, had himself attended the complete parade and the ceremony as well as other functions. Ex-Admiral Bhagwat had neither on that occasion, or thereafter, raised the issue with General Malik formally or informally.

(ii) Veer Sarvakar Award

This award has been instituted by the Runa Vimochan Trust set up by Shri Madhav

Keshav Ranade, a private individual who has donated over Rs. ten lakhs from his own savings as a philanthropic gesture to promote Strategic Studies and Research on issues of defence preparedness of Independent India. The award is made under the aegis of the Centre for Strategic Studies. A three-member Committee headed by Admiral JG Nadkarni (Retd.), former CNS, Lt. Gen BT Pandit (Retd.) and Air Marshal S. Kulkarni (Retd.) had been constituted to select the awardee, who could be either an individual or a group of individuals or an institution for making a valuable contribution in the field of strategic studies. The recipient of the first Veer Sarvakar Award was Shri K. Subrahmanyam and the former Chief of the Army Staff General S. Roychowdhury had presided over the Award Ceremony in 1997. The second recipient was Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. For the second award ceremony, General Malik was requested to preside over the function which he did on 28.5.98. Neither the Trust instituting the Award, the organising Centre, nor the recipients have any political affiliations.

- (iii) In so far as the allegation by ex-CNS that General Malik was given extension in service, the truth is that the Government had taken a policy decision, in May 1998, on the specific recommendation of the three Services, to increase by two years, the retirement ages of all personnel of the Defence Services. This decision was taken simultaneous with the decision to enhance the retirement age by two years on the civil side. In the case of three Chiefs of the Defence Services, the Government revised the ages of retirement from 60 years of age or 3 years tenure, which ever is earlier to 62 years of age or 3 years tenure, whichever is earlier. No special extension in service was given to General Malik.

9-30  
Rent Charged by Airport Authority of India

3612. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India is charging a significantly lesser rent from Indian Airlines for use of the domestic airports in comparison to private airlines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

130 Trivandrum and Calicut Airports

3613. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the Trivandrum and Calicut airports in terms of revenue earning and passenger handling;

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment the Calicut airport including providing Night Landing System; and

(c) if so, the time frame required for it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Details relating to Thiruvananthapuram and Calicut airports in 1997-98 is as under :-

	Thiruvananthapuram	Calicut
Revenue	25.29 crores	07.28 crores
Expenditure	26.37 crores	05.75 crores
Profit/Loss	01.09 crores (loss)	01.53 crores (profit)
Passengers handled	1.45 lakhs	05.00 lakhs

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has following proposals for the augmentation of infrastructura facilities at Calicut Airport :-

(i) Extension of runway from 6000 feet to 7500 feet has been completed and commissioned and further extension work to 9000 feet is in progress and is likely to be completed by January, 2000.

(ii) Night landing facilities are already available on the existing runway but due to surrounding environment, DGCA has not permitted night operations at Calicut. However, the same will be reviewed by DGCA after extension of runway to 9000 feet.

130 Construction of Road Over Bridges In Karnataka

3614. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has

submitted any proposal for construction of two road over bridges on level crossing at Shimoga-Holehonnur Road and Shimoga-Honnali Road;

(b) if so, since when the proposal is pending clearance;

(c) the amount sought by the State Government for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

131 *Arashwani*  
**Staff Training Institutes of AIR**

3615. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Regional Staff Training Institutes (Programme) of All India Radio (AIR) established in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more Staff Training Institutes in 1999-2000 specially in Srinagar (J&K); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHAR NAQVI):

(a) Apart from the two Staff Training Institutes (Programme) of AIR at Delhi and Cuttack, there are 5 Regional Training Institutes (Programme) located at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Shillong, Lucknow and Thiruvananthapuram).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

*Railways*  
**Closure of Diesel Loco Shed at Purna**

3616. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to shut down the Diesel Loco Shed at Purna in South Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) No, Sir. There is no diesel shed at Purna. However, a metre gauge satellite diesel shed which became dormant due to gauge conversion has been modified to undertake minor repair of broad gauge diesel locomotive.

(b) Does not arise.

132 *Kerala*  
**Kannur Airport**

3617. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the techno-economic feasibility study has been conducted for setting up an Airport at Kannur in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the findings of the study team;

(c) whether the proposed Airport is going to be set up under the Government sector or Joint sector or private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) A preliminary technical feasibility study has been conducted by Airports Authority of India (AAI). A high level team had also visited the site near Moorkhapuramba on 15.12.98 and has given the following findings for the construction of new airport at Kannur :-

(i) A runway of 6600 ft. length only with orientation 08/26 is possible.

(ii) Removal of TV/Microwave Antenna on the hill top in the approach path of runway is desirable for all weather operations. If this obstruction is not removed then operations may be unidirectional i.e. landing from one direction and take off from other direction.

(iii) Change of the runway orientation by 30 degree may make more runway length available but it will not be suitable for small aircraft operation like F-27 because of heavy cross wind components. It may be a cost prohibitive project as heavy earth filling work is involved, because of deep drops at both ends. It would therefore not be economically feasible to develop a runway of 7500 feet length.

(c) and (d) The matter is under examination.

133 *Civil Aviation*  
Air Hostesses

3618. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether air-hostesses are well paid at the time of their posting with crew and are paid less at the time of their ground level posting; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of their designation, salary and allowances etc. that are paid to them per month while on board and on ground duty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) All Cabin Crew including Air Hostesses are paid flight related allowances as per their grades. These allowances are not applicable to them when Air Hostesses cease to fly and perform ground duties.

The pay and allowances per month of cabin crew during flying and grounded duties are as under :-

		Sr. Manager (Cabin Crew)	Manager (Cabin Crew)
Flying	Minimum	77142	72280
	Maximum	78824	74802
Grounded	Minimum	41434	34892
	Maximum	43385	37230

3 *Air Accidents*  
Crash of MIG-21

3619. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Air Force Plane MIG-21 crashed in the Dibrugarh district of Upper Assam on the 15th February last;

(b) if so, the reasons for the crash;

(c) whether such incident of crashes have been increasing; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to curb such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. However an MIG-21 crashed in Chabua in Dibrugarh District of Upper Assam on 15.3.99 due to technical defect.

(c) and (d) The number of accidents of IAF which was about 30 per year in the previous decade, has fallen to an average of 22 accidents per year in the current decade. During 1998-99, a total of 22 aircrafts have been lost. However, a High Powered Committee on Fighter Aircraft Accidents (COFAA) was constituted under the Chairmanship of Scientific Advisor to

Raksha Mantri to analyse the causes of the accidents which submitted its report in September 1997. It has made certain recommendations to minimise accident rate. Implementation of these recommendations would involve changes in organisational structure, procedures, training, design, technology etc. Necessary instructions have been issued to the agencies/departments concerned to take suitable action in terms of the recommendations of Committee.

134 *Maharashtra*  
Railway Lines owned by Killick Nixon & Company

3620. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Killick Nixon & Co. is owning railway lines in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Railway has taken lines on contract basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the railways are running at a loss as a result of taking them on contract;

(f) if so, the loss suffered by the Government on this account during the last three years; and

(g) the reasons for not nationalizing these rail lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The three railway lines in Maharashtra under private ownership by The Central Provinces Railways Company Limited of which M/s Killick Nixon and Company are the managing agents.

(b) These railway lines comprise of the following sections :

I. Murtizapur-Yavatmal.	-	113 Kms.
II. Murtizapur-Achaipur	-	77 Kms.
III. Pulgaon-Arvi	-	35 Kms.

(c) The Central Railway is working these lines under an agreement entered into with The Central Provinces Railways Company Limited.

(d) The following are the main terms of the agreement :

(i) The Central Railway as the working agency retains 45% of the gross earnings per annum towards the working expenses.

(ii) The balance 55% of the gross earnings is treated as net earnings of these lines.

(iii) If the net earnings are not sufficient to meet 5% of the returns on share capital invested by the Company plus Rs. 21,000/- per annum towards management expenses, the deficit thereof is made good by the Central Railway, as a guaranteed return.

(iv) If the net earnings exceed the above guaranteed return, the same will be shared equally by the Central Railway and The Central Provinces Railways Company Ltd.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Losses suffered by Central Railway in the last three years are :

1995-96	Rs. 3.60 crores
1996-97	Rs. 3.64 crores
1997-98	Rs. 4.36 crores

(g) At the time of the last ten yearly financial review in 1996 it was decided not to exercise the purchase option but to continue the existing arrangement on financial considerations as nationalisation would have entailed heavy capital investment on upgradation and proper integration of

these unremunerative lines with the main Indian Railways system.

136

### Participation of Public Sector Undertaking in Overseas Events

3621. SHRI VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of PSUs under his Ministry;

(b) the PSUs participated for business promotion in Overseas Events like Seminars/Conferences/Exhibitions/Business Meetings, etc., during the last 3 years along with financial involvement in each trip and the outcome therefrom; and

(c) the funds allocated for each PSU for the participation in Overseas Events during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) India Tourism Development Corporation is the only Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Tourism.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The Ministry of Tourism has not allocated any money to ITDC for this purpose. However, ITDC has provided a amount of Rs. 90 lakhs in their budget for the year 1999-2000 to cover the expenses on air-fare and TA/DA etc. of their officers to foreign countries in connection with participation in overseas events and other activities, if any.

### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No. of Trips	No. of Participants	Purpose and Place of Visit	Expenditure in connection with air fare/TA/DA etc. of the participants.	Outcome of visit*
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1996-97</b>				
1.	3	To attend PATA Travel Mart at Thailand	1.74	
2.	6	To attend 10th Asian International Exhibition of Food and Drink/Hotel, Restaurant & Catering Equipments supplies & services and Conference with the 10th FHA International Saloon Culinaire at Singapore.	5.60	
3.	3	To attend 45th PATA Annual Conference at Bangkok, Thailand.	1.31	
4.	1	To participate in Arabian Travel Mart Tax Free, Dubai.	0.66	
5.	2	To attend Tax Free Asia Pacific Conference & Exhibition organised by M/s Duty Free News International at Singapore.	1.80	
6.	2	To participate in EIBTM 96 (European Incentive & Business Travel & Meetings Exhibition 96), Switzerland.	1.67	

1	2	3	4	5
7.	2	To attend Conference & Exhibition Intermedia/ Internet Asia 96 at Singapore.	1.32	
8.	1	To attend FAM Tour at the invitation of Tourism and Travel Industry of Sri Lanka.	0.24	
9.	1	As a member of the Indian Delegation for attending Annual Conference of Australian Federation of Travel Agents for two days visit to Singapore for a Road Show to promote India as a Tourist Destination at Singapore.	1.77	
10.	1	To attend Annual Conference of Australian Federation of Travel Agents and Road Show to promote India as a Tourist destination at Australia and Singapore.	1.56	
11.	3	To attend CIS Travel Marketing Conference at Petersburg, Russia.	4.69	
12.	3	To attend 66th ASTA World Congress at Bangkok, Thailand.	2.05	
13.	2	To attend Tax Free World Conference and Exhibition in France	2.86	
14.	1	Promotional Tour to Dubai—invited by Air India	0.21	
15.	5	To attend the WTM World at London, United Kingdom	5.97	
16.	2	To attend 36th ICCA Assembly at RIC, Brazil.	1.58	
17.	3	To participate in FITUR in Spain	3.87	
18.	1	To attend ASTA Pacific Ministers' Conference in Maldives	0.59	
19.	2	To participate in BIT Milan, Italy	1.25	
20.	4	To attend ITB Berlin, Germany	5.85	
<b>1997-98</b>				
21.	3	To participate in PATA Travel in China	4.93	
22.	3	To attend 46th PATA Annual Conference	4.03	
23.	4	To participate in SAATE '97 at Colombo, Srilanka	2.93	
24.	3	To attend EIBTM '97 at Geneva, Switzerland	4.71	
25.	1	To attend PATA Chapter World Congress at San Francisco, USA	1.60	
26.	1	To attend Seminar on Hospitality Management at Singapore.	0.36	
27.	1	To attend PATA Board of Directors meeting in Pakistan.	0.22	
28.	5	To attend 46th TAAI Annual Convention in Srilanka	1.42	
29.	5	To attend World Travel Mart, London, UK	2.70	
30.	2	To attend Japan Congress International Travel & Travel Show at Tokyo, Japan	2.28	
31.	4	To participate in ITB '98 in Berlin, Germany	4.58	
32.	1	To attend 10th Annual PATA Chapter World Congress and 47th PATA Annual Conference in Philippines	1.59	
<b>1998-99</b>				
33.	3	To attend PATA Mart '98 in Singapore.	3.29	



1	2	3	4	5
34.	2	To attend EIBTM '98 in Geneva, Switzerland.	2.68	
35.	1	To attend 12th PATA Asia Chapter meeting in Nepal	0.31	
36.	1	Visit to the Tax Free World Exhibition, Cannes, France	1.36	
37.	3	Participation in World Travel Mart '98, London, UK	5.05	
38.	2	Participation in FITUR '99, Madrid, Spain.	2.15	
39.	2	Participation in ITB '99, Berlin, Germany.	2.24	
40.	1	To participate in 8th World Travel Fair '98 in Tokyo, Japan.	0.84	

\* Participation in overseas events provides platform for business interactions between buyers and sellers for promotion/marketing of products. Besides, it provides an opportunity to get an in-sight of prevailing business trends, new developments etc.

Information relating to expenditure incurred by ITDC on other items i.e. registration fee and setting up of booths etc. wherever applicable is being collected.

#### Expansion of Abbreviations

ASTA	American Society of Travel Agents Inc.
PATA	Pacific Asia Travel Association
WTO	World Tourism Organisation
ICCA	International Congress & Convention Association
WTM	World Travel Mart
ITM	International Tourism Borse
FITUR	Feria Internacional De Turismo (International Tourism Trade Fair)
EIBTM	European Incentive & Business Travel & Meetings Exhibition
JATA	Japan Association of Travel Agents
IHA	International Hotel Association
BIT	Borsa Internazionale del Turismo (International Tourism Exchange)
FHA	Food & Hotel Asia
FAM Tour	Familiarisation Tour
CIS	Commonwealth Independent States
SATTE	South Asia Travel & Tourism Exchange
TAAI	Travel Agents Association of India

#### Linking of District with State Capital

3622. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Ministers RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of districts in Maharashtra particularly in backward areas linked with the State capital by single/double/metro rail lines;

(b) whether there is proposal to link the remaining districts with the State capital;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (d) Such information is not maintained by Railways.

[Translation]

141

**Criteria for Opening of Sub-Regional Office of EPFO**

3623. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open a sub-regional office of Employees Provident Fund Organisation in Sheikhpura district of Bihar;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Sub-Regional Offices in the E.P.F. Organisation are opened keeping in view the parameters like number of establishments, number of employees, number of claims received/settled, service to the subscribers in the area etc., While considering the proposal the recommendation of the Regional E.P.F. Committee is also kept in view in this regard. There is no proposal at present to open a sub-regional office at Sheikhpura in Bihar.

[English]

141

**Duty Free Shops at Airports**

3624. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has sought a minimum five year sale guarantee of Rs. 1,500 crores and a royalty of Rs. 420 crores from bidders for the Duty Free Shops at Indian Airports;

(b) if so, whether the amount fixed for the guarantee and royalty is much more than the revenue generated by the India Tourism Development Corporation during the last five years from duty free trade; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the hike in the amount for bidding for the next five years for the Duty Free Shops at airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has sought a Minimum Reserve Licence Fee (MRLF) of US \$127.99 million (Rupees 537.56 crores) from Global Bidders payable over a period of 5 years on account of space licence fee and royalty on projected gross

turnover for the Duty Free Shopping Areas measuring 1992.22 sqmtrs. at five international airports viz. Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Mumbai, Thirunvanathapuram, and six Customs Domestic Airports i.e. Ahmedabad, Calicut, Hyderabad, Varanasi, Bangalore and Goa.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Amount of MRLF was decided based on the highest financial bid that AAI had received in August, 1996 for the Additional Duty Free Shopping Areas measuring 1380 sqmtrs. at five international airports i.e. US \$ 72.65 million (Rupees 305 crores) over a period of 5 years.

142

**Withholding of Indian Digital Flight Control Computer by U.S.**

3625. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :  
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian scientists working at the LCA had taken the 'Digital Flight Control Computer' to United States for software validation;

(b) whether as an aftermath of the Pokhran-II, US authorities have confiscated the equipment and asked Indian scientists to return to India without equipment; and

(c) if so, the steps, if any, taken to recover the equipment from the US?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Two Laboratory Models of Digital Flight Control Computer (DFCC) were taken to US for system integration and validation tests in the laboratories of collaborating US company under a contract for joint design, development and testing of Flight Control System for Light Combat Aircraft.

(b) Immediately after the Pokhran tests, sanctions were imposed by the US Government. Consequently collaborating US company expressed their inability to continue the joint work under the contract. Therefore, the team of Indian scientists working there was withdrawn. The US company also expressed their inability to re-export the two Laboratory Models of DFCC to India.

(c) The Government have taken up the matter with the US company through Embassy of India in the USA for re-export of the Laboratory Models of DFCC. Further payment to the US company has been stopped. A national team has been formed to complete the development work within the country.

143  
**Supreme Court's Judgement on Sexual Harassment of Women**

3626. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the workshop organised by the Delhi Committee of National Federation of Indian Women on February 26, 1999 in New Delhi to highlight the laxity in enforcing the Supreme Court's judgement on sexual harassment in work place;

(b) if so, the specific issues were raised therein; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) As per available information the Delhi State Committee of National Federation of Indian Women had organised a workshop in February, 1999 and discussed the measures that should be initiated at workplaces to prevent sexual harassment of women within the framework of the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court.

The Government has already taken a number of initiatives to give effect to the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court of India. These include circulation of the guidelines, for action as indicated therein, to all Secretaries to the Government of India/ Chief Secretaries of the State Governments and Union Territories and Heads of the Central Public Sector Undertakings. A large number of responses have since been received intimating action taken in accordance with the directions. Conduct Rules applicable to Government employees have already been amended to incorporate Supreme Court guidelines. To make the guidelines applicable to employees in private sector, action to amend the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1976 has been initiated.

144  
**Appointments of Financial and Legal Consultants**

3627. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :  
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :  
SHRI C.D. GAMIT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bids received by Airports Authority of India for the appointments of Financial and Legal Consultants to give corporate status to the international airports—Delhi, Mumbai and Calcutta;

(b) the number of foreign parties participated in this process;

(c) whether these bids have been scrutinised and finalised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work of giving corporate status to these airports is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As on 1st February, 1999, 20 financial consultants and 33 legal consultants have responded to the invitation by Airports Authority of India for Expressions of Interest (EOI) Most of them are consortiums/groups with both Indian and foreign partners.

(c) to (e) The offers by various parties are under scrutiny and the selections are likely to be finalised by May, 1999 and the work of giving corporate status to these airports is likely to be started thereafter.

[Translation]

144  
**Celebration of Golden Jubilee of Official Language**

3628. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Labour itself has chalked out a programme to celebrated Golden Jubilee of official language; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) No Sir. In this regard, no final decision has been taken so far.

[English]

144  
**Doubling of Talcher-Hindol Road Rail Line**

3629. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the original estimated cost of the doubling of Talcher-Hindol Road railway line in Orissa;

(b) the allocation made for doubling of that line so far, year-wise;

(c) the progress of that project as on date;

(d) whether any target date has been fixed for the completion of doubling of that line; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
 (a) Rs. 6.25 crores.

(b) The position is as under :-

Year	Allocation (in crs. of Rs.)
1991-92	2.00
1992-93	1.46
1993-94	22.24
1994-95	6.71
1995-96	3.65
1996-97	1.00
1997-98	4.35
1998-99	1.75

(c) Work has been completed and section opened to traffic.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

15 2  
National Policy for Promotion of FPI

3630. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a Permanent National Policy for the promotion of Food Processing Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has already been initiated to formulate such a policy.

[English]

45 Defence  
Spares for Submarines

3631. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is paying exorbitant price several times higher than the normal rate, to HDW front company for submarine spares;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Two SSK submarines were procured for the Indian Navy from M/s HDW (Germany). Two more such submarines were assembled in MDL (Mumbai) in collaboration with HDW. Dealings with M/s. HDW were suspended by the Government due to allegations of kick-backs in the year 1987. The Navy has been sourcing its requirements of spares for these submarines from other companies. These spare parts are procured according to well defined procedures by Naval Hqrs. under their delegated financial powers. Apart from the purchases by Naval Hqrs. Ministry of Defence had also sent an empowered delegation to Germany in November 1997 including representatives from Naval Hqrs and contracts were negotiated as per the laid down procedures and orders were concluded thereafter by Naval Hqrs. Naval Hqrs have been dealing in this matter with the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) and where OEM's are not known, tenders are floated to known agencies as per prescribed practice and procedure. Based on the lowest and technically competent quote, orders are placed. According to Naval Hqrs. one of these companies is partly owned by HDW and partly by another company M/s Forrestdahl. It would not be correct to say, therefore, that spares have been procured at exorbitant prices from front companies of HDW.

146 Helicopters of Pawan Hans Limited

3632. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of helicopters with the Pawan Hans Limited which are grounded on account of safety and uneconomic reasons, airport-wise;

(b) the number of helicopters disposed of and the revenue earned therefrom;

(c) the estimated loss to the exchequer on account of this deal;

(d) whether there is any proposal to merge this company with other companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) A total of 19 Westland helicopters were grounded on account of safety and uneconomic reasons in February, 1991. Out of these, 13 are grounded at Helibase, Mumbai and 6 at Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi.

(b) and (c) Government have approved disposal of these helicopters alongwith inventory for a sum of Pound Sterling 9,00,000 equivalent to Rs. 6.17 crores approximately. Since an independent surveyor had estimated the fair value of the entire Westland fleet to be Rs. 5.28 crores, there is no loss.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does Not arise.

147 **Jurisdiction of South-West Railway Zone**

3633. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the divisions included in the South-West Railway Zone;

(b) whether Guntakal division is included in the South-West Railway Zone;

(c) if so, whether there is any request to retain Guntakal division in South Central Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) The detailed territorial jurisdiction of South-Western Railway has not yet been finalised.

147 **Derailment of Malwa Express at Jammu Railway Station**

3634. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether four coaches of Malwa Express were derailed while coming to platform from yard at Jammu Railway Station on January 16, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the stations where cranes are available to meet such casualties; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide these emergency equipments at Jammu Railway Station to meet with such type of eventualities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This derailment occurred due to breakage of lock bowl of point in cabin basement.

(c) On the following stations cranes are available to meet with casualties on Northern Railway :

*Name of Stations :*

Delhi, Lucknow, Ludhiana, Bhatinda, Ambala, Merta road, Moradabad, Kanpur, Tundla, Pathankot, Faizabad, Laksar, Firozpur, Amritsar, Allahabad, Saharanpur, Roza, Churu, Lalgarh, Hanumangarh, Rewari, Samdhari.

(d) Emergency equipment such as cranes are provided at Centrally located stations from where requirement of connected stations are met with. For Jammu Tawi station the cranes are located at Pathankot station.

[Translation]

148 **Vacant Posts of Cameraman**

3635. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the posts of Cameraman are lying vacant in the Doordarshan Directorate for a long time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such posts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) There are no posts of Cameraman in the Doordarshan Directorate. However, 225 posts of Cameraman Gr.II were lying vacant in various Doordarshan Kendras all over India for which UPSC were requested to recruit the personnel. But the Commission have recommended a panel of 132 candidates only who have since been offered the appointment. Prasar Bharati have intimated that for filling up the remaining vacancies, they are initiating necessary action.

[English]

148-49 **Service by Singapore Airlines from Trivandrum Airport**

3636. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Singapore Airlines is starting their services from Trivandrum International Airport;

(b) if so, whether the Government have given permission to start the services of Singapore Airlines from Trivandrum Airport;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) to (d) So far, no schedule has been filed by Singapore Airlines for services from Trivandrum International Airport. Trivandrum has been already granted as a point of call to the designated airlines of Singapore under the Air Services Agreement.

149 *Railways*  
Train Service between Rewari-Delhi

3637. DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of trains carrying daily passengers from Rewari to Delhi section have been reduced after gauge conversion of only one line;

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

(c) whether his Ministry proposed to revive the facility as before the conversion of the gauge;

(d) if so, whether the other line is also proposed for conversion into broad gauge;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any proposal to introduce EMU/DMU service on the above section like other sections from Delhi; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Prior to gauge conversion of Rewari-Delhi section, 16 pairs of trains were available for passengers between Rewari and Delhi whereas after gauge conversion 18 pairs are available in this section on BG and MG put together.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The work is in progress and is expected to be completed in the Ninth Plan.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

150 *Defence*  
Joint Military Exercises

3638. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of joint military exercises conducted by each of our Armed Forces with other countries during the last three year; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The details of joint military exercises conducted by each of our armed forces with other countries during the last three years, and expenditure incurred thereon are as under :-

Army	Navy	Air Force
<p>U.K. - Two officers attended the exercise in UK from October 18—25, 1996 as part of Indo-UK army-to-army cooperation activities. The cost incurred was Rs. 2,06,770/-</p> <p>- Three officers from UK attended an exercise from November 17—23, 1997 in India. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 70,000/-.</p> <p>USA - An Indo-US Joint Training involving participation of the Indian Army and US Army was conducted from April 03—23, 1997 as part of the Indo-US Military exchange programme. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 55,000/-.</p> <p>- Three Indian officers attended an exercise at National Training Centre, Fort Irwin California (USA) as observers from June 02-07, 1997. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 2,60,000/-.</p>	<p>During the years 1996, 1997 and 1998, the Indian Navy was conducted joint exercises with the Navies of Singapore, US; Australia, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Thailand, Italy, UK, France, Germany, Seychelles, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Philippines and Maldives. These exercises were conducted during Indian Naval ships' goodwill visits of foreign countries, visit of foreign countries, visit of foreign naval ships to India and during MILAN-97 and MILAN-99 conducted at Port Blair.</p> <p>Since these visits were part of the goodwill visits/foreign visits to India/MILANs, no specific expenditure, other than the overall expenditure for the visits/MILANs, was incurred for carrying out these exercises.</p>	<p>Royal Air Forces despatched at VC-10AK-3 tanker aircraft to an Indian Air Force Base to conduct elementary air to air refuelling training with selected IAF pilots from April 14 to 18, 1997. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 53,78,026/-.</p>

151

**Defence Land to Karnataka**

3639. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted any request to him for obtaining some Defence land required for the construction of a grade separator at Trinity Circle;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

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

(b) and (c) A total area of about 1,100.25 Square Metres in Survey Nos. 1849 and 1850 has been sought for. No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

151

*Doordarshan*

**Coverage of Programme on Kashmir**

3640. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to provide additional coverage of programme on Kashmir on national network of Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) All programme matters of Doordarshan fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati, an autonomous statutory corporation. Prasar Bharati have informed that they have taken steps to provide additional coverage of programme on Kashmir on National Network (DD-1) as well as on DD-2, DD International and DDK, Srinagar.

(b) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that 67 programmes of 270 episodes were commissioned by Doordarshan in 1996-97 for telecast in 1997-98 and 129 programmes of about 700 episodes have been commissioned in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 for telecast on DD-1, DD-2, DD International and DDK, Srinagar. The issues covered relate to culture, tourism, history, monuments, re-construction of damaged infrastructure, revival of grass root level political activities, developmental stories, countering insurgency and anti-India propoganda from across the border etc.

*Railways*

**Ticketless Passengers**

3641. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any comprehensive study about the menace of ticketless passengers on trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases detected by the authorities and amount of fine charged from them during the last three years, division-wise/year-wise;

(c) the steps are being taken by the Government to do away with the menace of ticketless passengers;

(d) whether there is no special drive in different divisions to check the ticketless passengers due to shortage of ticket examiners; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to improve the situation?

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

152

*Doordarshan*

**Commissioning of HPTs and LPTs**

3642. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of High Power/Low Power Transmitters commissioned during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the number of LPTs converted into HPTs during the above period;

(c) whether there is an acute shortage of Staff in running of these transmitters; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make up the shortage of staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) During 8th Plan period, 18 LPTs were replaced by HPTs.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, a number of transmitters commissioned during 8th plan period are giving partial transmission, in the absence of requisite complement of staff which is yet to be sanctioned. Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance have been requested to make an urgent study of the staffing norms of various Doordarshan installations including LPTs to work out their overall staff requirement. On

receipt of these recommendations of SIU necessary action will be taken for creation of requisite number of posts so that all the installations are suitably manned and are fully operational.

**Statement**

*TV Transmitters commissioned during the 8th Plan Period.*

State	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	4	33	5
Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	3
Assam	-	11	1
Bihar	-	15	1
Goa	-	1	-
Gujarat	2	16	1
Haryana	-	4	-
Himachal Pradesh	1	02	16
Jammu & Kashmir	1	6	16
Karnataka	1	16	2
Kerala	1	9	2
Madhya Pradesh	2	18	6
Maharashtra	1	26	6
Meghalaya	-	3	1
Mizoram	1	1	1
Orissa	1	39	6
Manipur	-	1	1
Punjab	-	2	-
Nagaland	1	1	1
Rajasthan	3	27	11
Sikkim	1	1	-
Tripura	-	1	1
Tamil Nadu	2	14	4
Uttar Pradesh	2	19	10
West Bengal	1	10	2
Chandigarh	-	1	-
Delhi	1	2	-
Lakshadweep	-	1	1
Pondicherry	-	1	-
Andaman & Nicobar	-	1	4

1	2	3	4
Daman & Diu	-	1	-
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	1	-

154 *Indian Airlines*  
Discount in Fares for Educational Tours  
for Students

3643. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has introduced any scheme regarding discount in fares of educational tours for students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With effect from 17th July, 1998, Indian Airlines is offering 50% discount on normal and point to point fares to students travelling in a group comprising of minimum fifteen students on a study tour, conducted by their Educational Establishment.

\* Teacher accompanying the group is also entitled for 50% discount.

\* This discount is offered in Economy class on all domestic sectors except for travel to/from Agatti, Port Blair and Leh. However, students studying in Agatti, Port Blair and Leh are entitled for this discount.

\* This discount is granted against written request from the Head of a recognized 'Educational Establishment' on the letter head, with complete travel details of the group of students and the accompanying teacher on an 'Educational Tour'.

\* The request has to be submitted to the General Manager (Commercial) of the region, who after taking into consideration the seat factor and the existing marketing condition, approves the discount.

\* Tickets can be issued by Indian Airlines or its approved Travel Agents.

\* This discount is valid till 31st July, 1998.

154 *Doordarshan*  
Uplinking Facility at Nagpur DD Kendra

3644. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the Doordarshan Kendra, Nagpur fully equipped like Mumbai, Ahmedabad;



(b) whether any up-linking facility is available at Nagpur to send news to Mumbai/Delhi Doordarshan Kendras; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Facilities at DDK, Nagpur are being augmented in accordance with requirement. However, facilities at DDK, Mumbai and Ahmedabad, which are State Capitals, are little more elaborate.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**ITDC Hotels**

3645. SHRI RAJO SINGH :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

**Statement**

*Statement showing the name of the Hotels presently operated by ITDC State/Location-wise and the profit earned and loss suffered by each of the Hotels during the last three years*

S.No.	Name of the Unit/ Location	State	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99 (Estimated)	
			Turn Over	Net P/L	Turn Over	Net P/L	Turn Over	Net P/L
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Patalipura Ashok, Patna	Bihar	163.20	6.45	197.00	10.16	217.10	3.48
2.	Bodhgaya Ashok, Bodhgaya	Bihar	103.63	18.62	81.23	2.51	92.20	10.70
3.	Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	NCT of Delhi	5385.83	2126.53	5326.44	1390.41	4237.49	-154.84
4.	Samrat Hotel, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	1683.36	422.00	1442.27	80.27	1098.76	-213.61
5.	Qutab Hotel, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	925.60	488.70	920.81	396.46	754.42	210.85
6.	Kanishka Hotel, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	2144.27	670.28	2111.57	462.71	1707.90	16.10
7.	Janpath Hotel N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	1071.98	200.68	1077.13	89.88	998.03	-102.61
8.	Lodhi Hotel, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	842.26	295.63	758.18	127.21	672.37	20.32
9.	Ranjit Hotel, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	255.17	-118.17	250.71	-167.93	275.95	-148.92
10.	Ashok Yatri Niwas, N. Delhi	NCT of Delhi	718.14	4.38	755.53	-63.21	758.28	-90.58
11.	Manali Ashok, Manali	Himachal Pradesh	26.41	-33.76	29.88	-27.67	26.77	-26.58
12.	Jammu Ashok, Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir	67.17	-31.12	76.22	-25.15	79.64	-41.76
13.	Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore	Karnataka	557.30	254.64	518.15	204.02	527.84	144.55
14.	Hotel Ashok, Bangalore	Karnataka	1632.41	351.42	1605.59	168.03	1488.39	-69.54
15.	Hassan Ashok, Hassan	Karnataka	152.53	42.21	132.71	18.20	146.50	18.13

(a) the Hotels of ITDC in the country, location-wise;

(b) the profit earned and loss suffered by each of the Hotels during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make their hotels more profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) ITDC owns and operates 26 hotels all over the country. A statement showing location/State-wise names of the hotels and their profitability position for the last 3 years is attached.

(c) The measures taken/proposed to be taken by the ITDC Management to improve the profitability of the hotels include :

- Aggressive marketing efforts.
- Upgradation/renovation of properties to make them contemporary and competitive.
- Exercising strict cost control.
- Introduction of operating manuals.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16.	Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort Kovalam	Kerala	1137.73	279.86	1003.17	174.00	1085.67	121.47
17.	Aurangabad Ashok, Aurangabad	Maharashtra	78.99	-47.23	73.97	-55.41	69.41	-66.30
18.	Khajuraho Ashok, Khajuraho	Madhya Pradesh	31.37	-58.75	39.12	-62.21	41.32	-49.41
19.	Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	174.61	-31.12	188.02	-29.78	196.27	-36.66
20.	Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur	Rajasthan	316.86	110.36	382.18	111.26	222.21	-18.90
21.	Jaipur Ashok, Jaipur	Rajasthan	173.50	-61.27	183.90	-84.09	150.49	-120.94
22.	Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort Mamallapuram	Tamil Nadu	160.04	22.93	168.96	9.26	179.00	6.99
23.	Madurai Ashok, Madurai	Tamil Nadu	126.23	-3.37	130.42	-18.59	127.99	-32.65
24.	Agra Ashok, Agra	Uttar Pradesh	134.65	-70.44	146.21	-72.50	156.35	-72.24
25.	Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	148.72	-99.35	170.19	-90.90	150.62	-123.07
26.	Airport Ashok, Calcutta	West Bengal	1293.45	221.23	1244.39	127.57	1146.00	-4.16
			19505.41	4961.34	18994.04	2674.53	16604.97	-820.18
Profit earned by ITDC hotels			5515.92		3371.97		552.59	
Losses incurred by ITDC hotels			-554.58		-697.44		-1372.77	
Net Profit			4961.34		2674.53		-820.18	

[English] Maharashtra, Airport

### Reopening of Second Runway at Mumbai

3646. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has decided to reopen the runway at Mumbai airport, which had been closed for the past two years;

(b) if so, the reasons for the reopening of the runway; and

(c) the measures adopted for the safety of planes before taking a decision for reopening it?

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

(b) The alternate runway was closed in January, 1997 as apprehensions were expressed that the height of new Control Tower would be an obstacle for safe operations of aircrafts on this runway. Since the subject required more detailed examination, it was decided to request International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to send an expert for carrying out the study. After examination of all information and inspection of airports, the ICAO expert submitted his report in October, 1998. Action on all the recommendations made by the consultant and ICAO has been taken.

As per the recommendations are safety of aircraft operation is not jeopardized if the equivalent level of safety is provided by imposing aircraft operation restrictions and by adding operational notes both on approach procedure charts and in the Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP). As these recommendations have been implemented, the new runway has been reopened to facilitate increased aircraft movements.

(c) In compliance of the ICAO Consultant's recommendations, various safety measures, namely, limiting aircraft operations when cloud ceiling is 500 ft. or above, not permitting aircraft to visually circle in the North segment of the aerodrome, lighting the Tower to mark it by night, notifying its location on maps and charts, have been taken.

### 158 Loss suffered by Railways due to Natural Calamities

3647. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Railway lines in each zone affected by natural calamities during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) the total loss incurred on account of damage to bridges and railway lines during the above period;

(c) whether repairing work on such railway lines and bridges have been completed;

(d) if not, the extent of work done;

(e) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(f) the number of days for which the trains were cancelled due to the damages and accidents, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) to (f) A Statement is attached.

#### Statement

(a) Loss suffered by Railways due to natural calamities

Railway	1996-97 Section	1997-98 Section	1998-99 Section
1	2	3	4
Central			Itarsi-Nagpur Kalyan-Kasara Kalyan-Karjat
Eastern			Malda-New Farrakka New Farrakka-Azimganj Moharajpur-Sahibganj Kahalgauon-Ekchari
Northern	Jodhpur-Jaisalmer	Jodhpur-Jaisalmer Luni-Marwar Pathankot-Jammu Tawi Pathankot-Joginder Nagar Phulara-Jodhpur	Laksar-Dehradun Kalka-Shimla
N.E.R.	Mathura-Vrindavan Sakari-Jhanjharpur Jhanjharpur-Nirmali	Jhanjharpur-Nirmali Saharsa-Purnia	Mandhana-Brahmvert Gaisari-Jarwa Gonda-Gorakhpur Jhajharpur-Nirmali Sakari-Jhanjharpur Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj Saharsa-Purnia Samastipur-Darbhanga Bahmankhi-Behariganj Narkatiaganj-Bhikhnathora Manasi-Saharsa.
N.F.R.	Alipurduar-Siliguri Rangapara (N)-Murkongselek	Rangapara (N)-Murkongselek Katihar-Teznarayanpur	Darjeeing-Siliguri Katihar-Teznarayanpur Forbeshgang-Jogbani New Jalpaiguri—Barsoi Barsoi-Radhikapur Kumadpur-Old Malda Kumadpur-Katihar, New Jalpaiguri-New Cooch Behar New Bongaigaon-Guwahati Siliguri-Alipurduar Rangia-Murkongselek Lumding-Badarpur
Southern	Villupuram-Tiruchchirappali Mettupalaiyam- Udagamendalam	Dingigul-Madurai Tiruturai-pundi-Karaikkudi Mettupalaiyam-Udagamendalam	Trivandrum-Nagercoil Dindigul-Madurai Madurai-Manamadurai Madurai-Bodinayakkanur Mettupalaiyam- Udagamendalam

1	2	3	4
S.C.R	Dhronachalam-Nandyai Mehboobnagar-Dronachalam Gudur-Vijayawada		Londa-Voscoda-Gama Mudkhed-Secunderabad Manmad-Secunderabad Wadi-Secunderabad
S.E.R		Jabalpur-Gondia	
Western	Alwar-Mathura Bandaikui-Agra Fort Bharatpur-Mathura Kota-Ruthiyai Kota-Nagda	Maliya Miyana-Surbari Maliya Miyana-Wadharva Jhund-Bajana Jhund-Kharaghoda Nandiad-Kapadvanj Virangam-Surendranagar Ahmedabad-Himatnagar Mehsana-Palanpur Mehasana-Patan Kalol-Chanasma Kalol-Vijapur Vijapur-Ambilyasan Virangam-Mahesana Rayaka-Dhandoka Botad-Sabarmati Mahesana-Taranga Hills Himatnagar-Kherbramha Devgam-Radhanpur Bhabhar-Devgam Sendra-Bar Godhra-Ratlam Dahod-Ratlam Godhra-Yard Vadodra-Godhra Vadodra-Ahmedabad Anand-Godhra	Gandhidham-New Kandla Port Gandhidham-Old Kandla Port Amreli-Talala Rajkot-Hapa Kalol-Katosam Road-Patan Mahesana-Ranuj-Patan Himatnagar-Udaipur Alway-Mathura Udhna-Jalgaon Kosamba-Surat

(b)

Railway/ Cost in Year	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Central	-	-	9,18,000
S.C.R.	7,24,48,927	-	59,02,000
N.F.R.	2,19,00,000	12,13,00,000	10,00,00,000
S.E.R.	-	2,00,000	-
Northern	8,03,500	8,85,000	17,00,000
Eastern	-	-	55,50,000
Southern	4,21,00,000	2,43,00,000	2,38,00,000
N.E.R.	1,79,000	51,000	57,10,000
Western	3,00,00,000	8,25,00,000	5,00,00,000
Total	16,74,31,427	22,92,36,000	19,35,80,000

(c) and (d) Repairing work on all the sections have been completed except in Mehsana-Patan Section. About 40% work on this section has been completed and the work is expected to be completed by Dec. 1999.

(e) Approximately Rs. 150 lakhs.

(f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

162 *Defence*  
Spares for Bofors Guns

3648. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Austrian arms firm Maschinen Febrk Liezen has cancelled a memorandum of understanding reached with the Ministry of Defence to supply 25 crores worth of spare parts for the 410 Bofors guns;

- (b) if so, the main reasons attributed thereto;
- (c) whether any alternative market has been found for this; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) A contract was signed with M/s MASCHINENFABRIK LIEZEN UND GIESSEREI GES. M.B. (MFL), Austria, on 25.7.1998, for supply of spares for 155 mm FH 77B Gun System. However, even through there was no such stipulation in the contract, M/s MFL, Austria, later, sought the Buyer's assistance by way of drawings and technical documents, to be able to execute the contract. Since legal consequences were involved in acceding to the request to M/s MFL, Austria due to apprehensions of the contracted spares being sourced by the vendor from Bofors, (dealings with whom stand banned), view was taken not to progress the contract with M/s MFL, Austria. Although the said company has made a recent request to this effect, the contract has not been cancelled, so far. Attentions are under consideration for meeting the spares requirement.

163  
**Expansion and Modernisation of Airports In Goa**

3649. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the proposals regarding development/expansion and modernisation of civil aviation network received from the Government of Goa;
- (b) the decision taken on each of the project; and
- (c) the details of the present civil aviation infrastructure facilities available in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A proposal for the construction of a new airport near Mopa north of Panaji as an alternate to the existing naval airport at Dabolim is under consideration. Meantime a decision has been taken to upgrade the existing naval airport so that it is operational round the clock.

(c) The Airports Authority of India which maintains the civil enclave at the existing airport has incurred expenditure for the development of airport infrastructure including international and domestic terminal buildings, apron and taxiways. Two AB-300, two AB-320 and two B-737 aircraft can be parked at the same time. The airport is fit for operations of limited international chartered flights.

164

*Doordarshan*  
**Staff for DD Kendra, Jammu**

3650. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of ~~INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING~~ be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have provided the required manpower/staff at Doordarshan Kendra, Jammu for the optimum utilisation of the installed equipments/facilities there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the required manpower is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (d) Partial staff has been sanctioned for Programme Generation Facility (PGF), Jammu. This has been further supplemented by redeployment of some staff from DDK, Srinagar. To solve the staff problem for all the Doordarshan installations, Staff inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance has been requested to make an urgent study of the staffing norms of various Doordarshan installations. On receipt of the recommendations of the SIU, necessary action will be taken for creation of requisite number of posts so that all the installations are suitably manned and fully operationalised.

164  
**Loss making Routes of Air India**

3651. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the routes incurring heavy financial loss to Air India; and
- (b) the action taken or proposed to be taken to reduce the loss?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) As per provisional financial results for the period April/September, 1998, Air India has suffered net operating losses on almost all routes except India/Gulf route. The loss making routes are as below :-

---

India/USA  
India/UK  
India/Continental  
India/Russia  
India/East Africa  
India/South East Asia  
India/Hong Kong  
India/Japan

---

(b) Some of the important steps taken by the airline to reduce losses are as under :-

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

#### Development of Airports In Karnataka

3652. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka have submitted any request seeking financial assistance for the development of airports in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) No, sir. However, the following requirement of funds for five airports in Karnataka was projected to the Planning Commission by this Ministry :-

Gulbarga	-	Rs. 50 crores
Mysore	-	Rs. 50 crores
Hubli	-	Rs. 35 crores
Belgaum	-	Rs. 35 crores
Hassan	-	Rs. 25 crores
Total	-	Rs.195 crores

The Planning Commission have informed that the above projects may be considered subject to the availability of funds, the viability of the projects and the *inter-se* priority *vis-a-vis* other airport projects.

#### Performance of RITES and IRCON

3653. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evaluated the performance RITES and IRCON;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the new projects proposed to be taken up by RITES and IRCON during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The performance is evaluated on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed at the beginning of the financial year.

(b) The highlights of the performance of RITES & IRCON are as follows :

#### RITES :

	(Figures in crores of Rs.)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Revised estimates)
Gross Margin	35.13	29.64	11.40
Turnover	134.73	132.89	128.20
Order Secured	98.60	117.71	*54.00
Dividend	1.00	1.29	Yet to be declared
Rating	Excellent	Excellent	Yet to be decided

#### IRCON :

	(Figures in crores of Rs.)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Revised estimates)
Gross Margin	56.25	60.55	46.40
Turnover	466.74	459.38	396.50
Order secured	254.17	382.35	*450.00
Dividend	1.98	8.66	Yet to be declared
Rating	Good	Very Good	Yet to be decided

\*As per Budget estimates.

(c) The details of new projects proposed to be taken up by RITES and IRCON during 1999-2000 are as follows :-

#### RITES :

- Package export of diesel locomotive to Myanmar Railways
- Techno economic feasibility study for inland Waterways/Road Project from Myanmar to Mizoram State.
- Supply of railway rolling stock equipments to Vietnam Railways.

**IRCON :**

- Construction of a new railway siding for NTPC's Thermal Power Plant at Simadhari (near Vishakhapatnam) in Andhra Pradesh
- Construction of Qazigund-Srinagar-Baramula new B.G. railway line in the Jammu and Kashmir.

*Railways*

**Consultancy Services by RITES**

3654. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether RITES has started providing consultancy services for certification in ISO 14000 on environmental management systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. RITES is actively involved in providing consultancy services on Environmental Management System for certification to ISO 14001 standard. M/s Godrej Soaps Ltd, Malanpur, MP has achieved certification based on RITES consultancy support. Consultancy in ISO 14001 system is presently being provided to following organisations :

1. Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.
2. Hi-Tech Carbon, Goodmdipundi, Tamil Nadu.
3. LG Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., Greater Noida.
4. M/s Gwalior Polipines Ltd., Gwalior.

*Railways*

**Circular Train from Kamptee to Ambajhari**

3655. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a policy decision to start local railway service in big cities having population of more than 10 lakhs;

(b) if so, the names of such cities where the government proposed to start the local railway service;

(c) whether the Government propose to start Circular Trains in Nagpur; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*168*

*Air Accidents*

**Crash of AN-32**

3656. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IAF AN-32 aircraft crashed in Delhi on March 7, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of officers and civilians killed therein;

(c) whether the inquiry committee set up in this regard has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether compensation has been paid to kith and kin of the crew members and the civilians died in this accident; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for delay?

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

(b) An AN-32 aircraft met with an accident on 7.3.99 near IGI Airport in which 18 Air Force Personnel on Board and three civilians on ground sustained fatal injuries.

(c) and (d) A Court of inquiry ordered in this regard is still in progress.

(e) and (f) Compensation claims of the next of kins of those killed in the accident are being processed. However, an ex-gratia, interim relief has been paid to the next of kins of the civilians killed,

as given below :-

Killed	Number	Rate of Payment	Total Amount (Rs.)
Adult	1	@ Rs. 10,000	10,000
Children	2	@ Rs. 5,000	10,000

159 *Entertainment Industry*  
Incentives for Entertainment Industries

3657. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- whether his Ministry propose to give any incentives to entertainment industries;
- if so, whether his Ministry has made a number of proposals to be Finance Ministry over this issue;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) It is the view of this Ministry that in order to tap the full potential of the entertainment sector, as a foreign exchange earner and for generating employment opportunities, the entertainment sector must be given parity with the Information Technology sector so that all benefits available to the Information Technology (I.T.) sector are extended to the entertainment sector as well. The proposals submitted to the Ministry of Finance in this regard are :-

- Rate of customs duty on professional equipment for films, television and music industry may be similar to the duty structure laid down for the I.T. sector.
- Customs duty and countervailing duty on colour raw stock (including positive and negative film rolls) be waived as it is not manufactured in India.
- Exemption from payment of Excise duty on pre-recorded video cassettes may be given with retrospective effect.
- Excise duty on compact discs be waived, as has been done in the case of pre-recorded cassettes. This will serve to deprive manufacturers of pirated CDs of an unfair price advantage.

(v) Extending the benefit of Section 80-1A of the Income Tax Act to Cinema halls and multiplexes set up within the country.

(vi) Benefits of the new Section 80 HHF, announced in the Budget for the year 1999-2000, to be applicable also to proprietors, individuals etc. engaged in the export of entertainment software and that such benefits be available with retrospective effect.

170 *Reference*  
Test Firing of Agni

3658. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Army to operate own revenue expenditure" appearing in *The Times of India*, dated March 20, 1999;
- if so, the facts thereof; and
- the time by which the test firing of "Agni" missile is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The review of administrative and financial procedures for more delegation of powers to Services is an ongoing process. Enhanced powers have been delegated to the Army in the recent past for the procurement of Stores, Construction Work, Information Technology, etc. Besides large scale financial delegation, Procurement Planning Boards separately for Revenue and Capital acquisitions have also been constituted with a view to expediting the procurement process.

(c) "Agni" has been test fired on 11th April, 1999.

170 *Food Processing Industries*  
FPI with Foreign Collaboration in Kerala

3659. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- whether the Government of Kerala propose to set up fruit processing industries with foreign collaboration; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Kerala Horticulture Development Programme (KHDP), under the Government of Kerala, has set up a Fruit Processing Factory at Nadukkara near Muvattupuzha in



Eranakulam district. KHDP is a project funded by the European Union and Government of Kerala, and is designed to utilise the rich agricultural potential and to promote cultivation of high-value horticultural crops in Kerala with key benefits to farmers.

The cost of the plant and machinery for the said factory, which are imported, was met by the European Union directly. Commercial production in the factory is anticipated to start shortly.

No foreign collaboration is envisaged in managing/operating the factory.

*171*  
*Defence*  
**Replacement of MIG**

3660. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hunter and MIG-21 aircrafts are ageing and need immediate replacement;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken in that direction; and

(c) the time by which the whole process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Hunter fleet has already outlived its life and Mig-21 fleet are ageing.

(b) To overcome phasing out of these aircraft, induction of Jaguar, SU-30 aircraft are in process. Further, in order to maximise the operational potential of the existing aircraft, upgrade programmes such as Mig-21 Bis upgrade, are being undertaken. Further induction of other aircrafts are being planned.

(c) The whole process is likely to be over by 2003-05.

*171*  
*base house*  
**Cold Storage Facility at Airports**

3661. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide cold storage facility at airports to handle perishable food products in the Eastern Coast of India to boost export of Indian fruits and vegetable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) have provided a 20 feet walk-in-cooler for export of perishable items at Calcutta airport.

*172*  
*Doordarshan*  
**Commissioned Serials and Programmes**

3662. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether C.E.O. Director General and Associates sanctioned commissioned serials and programmes with more than Rs. 90 crores during the last 10 years are still lying unutilised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that programmes are commissioned as per the programme requirements of Doordarshan and utilised thereafter as per programme exigencies.

(b) Does not arise.

*172*  
*Newspapers and Periodicals*  
**Criteria for Registration of Publications**

3663. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Dailies, Weeklies, Bi-weeklies, Fort-nightly and monthly papers/magazines being published from each State/Union Territories;

(b) the number of various kind of papers which launched new publications during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the criterion fixed for registration of new publication;

(d) whether the Government are aware that many papers especially in Jammu and Kashmir are indulging in Biased reporting against national interests and encouraging Pak-sponsored terrorism and subversion;

(e) if so, whether the Government have ever look into the sources of income and expenditure of such papers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) State-wise and periodicity-wise break up of newspapers being published, as on 31.12.1997, is given in the statement-I attached.

(b) The number of newspapers registered with RNI during the last three years (i.e. 1996, 1997 and 1998) and the current year is 6264 and 735 respectively. The state-wise details of newspapers registered during the years 1996 and 1997 are given in the statement-II attached state-wise details for 1998 and 1999 are being compiled.

(c) The publisher has to get an authentication of the declaration by the District Magistrate concerned

and after publication of the first issue within the stipulated period, the newspapers/periodical can be got registered by the publisher after submitting the documents to RNI as required under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. RNI after scrutiny of the requisite documents issues a Certificate of Registration to the publisher.

(d) to (f) The information is being collected.

### Statement I

Total number of registered Newspapers as on 31.12.1997  
(State/UTs & Periodicitywise)

States/UTs	Dailies	Tri/Bi Weeklies	Weeklies	Fortnightlies	Monthlies	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman & Nicobar	4	0	17	7	8	36
Andhra Pradesh	281	7	583	303	610	1784
Arunachal Pradesh	2	1	3	0	1	7
Assam	30	8	167	59	84	348
Bihar	404	33	684	146	235	1502
Chandigarh	35	1	66	27	109	238
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	0	0	1
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	1	0	1
Delhi	244	49	997	780	2519	4589
Goa	13	0	14	9	27	63
Gujarat	106	5	486	140	395	1132
Haryana	87	8	307	183	187	772
Himachal Pradesh	8	0	48	20	39	115
Jammu & Kashmir	70	4	181	30	28	313
Karnataka	371	11	462	283	740	1867
Kerala	211	4	184	180	813	1392
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	1	2
Madhya Pradesh	425	8	2199	139	359	3130
Maharashtra	422	36	1322	372	1304	3456
Manipur	46	3	12	11	37	109
Meghalaya	4	4	32	6	15	61
Mizoram	38	11	32	6	15	102
Nagaland	2	0	9	0	1	12
Orissa	84	2	138	84	279	587

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pondicherry	3	1	10	4	18	36
Punjab	122	13	386	132	292	945
Rajasthan	403	22	991	1050	324	2790
Sikkim	0	2	10	1	1	14
Tamil Nadu	357	49	430	246	953	2035
Tripura	22	2	52	7	11	94
Uttar Pradesh	781	31	4238	866	1126	7042
West Bengal	144	10	682	561	974	2371
<b>Total</b>	<b>4719</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>14743</b>	<b>5454</b>	<b>11505</b>	<b>36946</b>

**Statement II**

*Statewise Break-up of Newspapers Registered with RNI during the years 1996 and 1997.*

S. No.	State	1996	1997
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55	106
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1
3.	Assam	20	20
4.	Bihar	26	22
5.	Delhi	238	306
6.	Goa	1	1
7.	Gujarat	74	161
8.	Haryana	37	43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	10
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	12
11.	Karnataka	64	94
12.	Kerala	21	53
13.	Madhya Pradesh	187	234
14.	Maharashtra	86	248
15.	Manipur	5	4
16.	Meghalaya	1	1
17.	Mizoram	2	7
18.	Nagaland	1	-
19.	Orissa	21	41
20.	Punjab	15	37
21.	Rajasthan	99	129

1	2	3	4
22.	Sikkim	3	2
23.	Tamil Nadu	29	79
24.	Tripura	1	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	678	616
26.	West Bengal	66	58
27.	A & N Islands	4	5
28.	Chandigarh	6	9
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-
30.	Daman & Diu	-	-
31.	L' Dweep Islands	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	-

176 **Norms for Leasing out of land of Airports**

3664. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is revising its norms for leasing out of Prime land of the airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the exercise is being conducted by the three member Committee of the A.A.I.;

(d) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its reports to the Board for final approval; and

(e) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir. ;

(b) Consequent to the merger of the international Airports Authority of India and National Airports Authority, studies are being conducted to frame a policy for standardised norms for lease of land at airports.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Initially, a Committee was constituted to review and recommend fresh land lease policy. However, subsequently it was decided to appoint an outside consultant for drafting out the Land Lease Policy. The final draft report has since been submitted by the Consultant and the same is being examined in the Airports Authority of India.

[Translation]

*Doordarshan*

**Shortage of Staff in Navapur TV Tower  
in Maharashtra**

3665. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Navapur T.V. Tower in Maharashtra is not fully operational due to shortage of staff;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to provide the full strength of staff there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir. LPT Navapur, Maharashtra is at present providing partial transmission as full complement of staff has not been sanctioned yet.

(b) to (d) Staff inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance has been requested to make an urgent study of the staffing norms of various Doordarshan installations including LPTs to work out their overall staff requirement. On receipt of recommendations of the SIU, necessary action will be taken for creation of requisite number of posts so that all the installations are suitably manned and are fully operationalised.

[English]

*177*

**Release of Salary of an Ex-Employee Working in  
Doordarshan**

3666. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any ex-employee of Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi has not been paid salary for about eight months from November, 1993 to June, 1994;

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

(c) whether the Regional Labour Commissioner has observed vide Order dated December 28, 1998 that the salary and other arrears are payable to him; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken to release the salary and arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) A former make-up artist of DDK, Delhi was retired on 31.10.93 on attaining the age of 58 years. However, he represented for his continuation of services till he attained the age of 60 years on the ground of being a workman. On reconsideration the said employee was allowed to join back and it was decided to treat the intervening period of more than 7 months as leave of the kind due, and admissible to him or dies-non, as the case may be.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter regarding further action to be taken on the order of RLC is under consideration in consultation with Ministry of Law etc.

*178*

**Enhance Rate of Interest of EPF**

3667. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to enhance the rate of interest of the Employees' Provident Fund; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*178*

*EPFO*

**Tours of EPF Commissioner**

3668. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners are called up in Delhi once in every two months to review the functioning of each region;

(b) if so, the number of such meetings held during 1998-99 and the amount spent on it;

(c) whether the Central Provident Fund Commissioner goes on domestic/external tours and if so, the details thereof alongwith the purpose; and

(d) the expenditure incurred as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Under the Central Action Plan quarterly review meetings are organised to review functioning of regional EPF Officers.

(b) There were 4 review meetings in 1998-99 and a sum of Rs. 6.43 lakh was spent on meetings held in New Delhi.

(c) and (d) The Central Provident Fund Commissioner (CPFC) is the Chief Executive Officer of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation and is, therefore, responsible for ensuring that all the offices which are primarily public dealing offices function to the satisfaction of over 2.00 crore provident fund subscribers, all over the country. For this purpose, it is necessary to make periodical inspection of Regional Offices as also the Sub-Regional Offices. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is an associate member of the International Social Security Association, Geneva. The CPFC is also Chairman of Standing Committee on Provident Funds of the ISSA. Therefore, the officers of the EPFO including CPFC are required to participate in the ISSA meetings which are of interest to the EPFO. During 1998-99, the CPFC made 31 visits of EPF Offices and four visits abroad in connection with matters relating to Social Security. The amount of expenditure incurred in this regard was Rs. 5.90 lakhs.

111  
"Operation Leech" conducted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3669. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the probe into the controversial Operation Leech conducted jointly by the three services in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in February, 1998 has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) A tri-services operation was launched in February 1998 to apprehend foreigners along with their arms, ammunition and equipments. A case, Crime No. 50/98, was registered in the Central Crime Station, Andaman on 18.2.98 in this regard.

On the basis of certain information and in view of the possible international ramifications of 'Operation Leech', it was considered desirable that investigation into this episode be carried out by a Central investigating agency. Accordingly, the Government of India directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to take over investigation in this case. Accordingly RC 1(S)/98-Calcutta was registered in Special Crimes Branch, Calcutta on 27.2.98. Investigation in this case has not yet been completed.

180  
Participation of Public Sector Undertakings in Overseas Event

3670. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) the number of PSUs participated for business promotion in Overseas events like Seminar/Conferences/Exhibitions/Business meetings etc., during the last three years alongwith financial involvement in each trip and the outcomes therefrom; and

(c) funds allocated for each PSU for the participation in overseas Events during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

180  
Railways  
Attachment of Pantry Cars with Long distance train

3671. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.:

(a) whether there is any policy regarding attachment of pantry was with trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the judgement order dated September 10, 1993 passed by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, New Delhi, regarding the attachment of pantry cars in petition No. 213 of 1993, is being followed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether on the note of the then Executive Director (Coaching) subsequent directives given to Advisor (Catering & Tourism) on attachment of pantry

cars by the then Chairman Railway Board on April 4, 1995 being adhered to; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Pantry Car services are provided on certain long distance trains having journey time more than 30 hours subject to availability of Pantry Car, vestibuling and room in trains. However, in case of Rajdhani/Shatabdi and certain Inter-City Express trains pantry car services are provided even on trains having lesser journey time duly considering the importance of the trains, duration of its stoppages and adequacy of catering services enroute.

The above policy is in conformity with judgement of the National Consumers and Disputes Redressal Commission who have directed that all superfast trains having journey time over 30 hours should be provided with pantry car facility.

*Dejorac*

**Alleged Corruption in Ambala Cantt.**

3672. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Community Hall which was being constructed at R.A. Bazar, Ambala Cantt. fell down/collapsed as reported in the Indian Express dated November 25, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry received any complaint about the prevailing corruption amongst officials of Ambala Cantonment Board;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Due to premature removal of the shuttering by the labourers of the Contractor before the Reinforced Concrete Cement could get settled, a projection on one side of the Community Hall had collapsed. The President Cantonment Board called for a report on the incident even prior to the publication of the news report.

(b) to (d) Various types of complaints of corruption as and when received by the Government as well as the DGDE are promptly enquired and investigated into. Constant efforts are made to prevent corruption in all the Cantonment Boards.

182-276  
11.03 hrs.

*Motion (5)*

**MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

[Translation] 182

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to move :—

“That this House expresses its confidence in the Council of Ministers.”

I would like to speak something in favour of the motion but before speaking, I would like to listen as to what opposition wants. It is obvious that the opposition wants to remove my Government but the picture is not clear as to what the opposition wants and I would like to make sure that this picture becomes clear in this discussion so that the House as well as the nation can take decision. Though the opposition can remain silent on this if it thinks so because we are going to achieve victory ultimately and its clear picture is likely to emerge. Still, it is the demand of the democracy that those who want to remove the Government, should clearly state about the type of Government they want to form. Who will lead this Government? What will be the programme of this Government? That is why I am giving opportunity to the opposition to speak and then, at the end, I will reply in detail.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That this House expresses its confidence in the Council of Ministers.”

[Translation] 182

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the motion that has been moved in the House by the hon'ble leader of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : The leader of opposition stood up to speak and nobody clapped...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : We are not hired bandsman, nor flatterers ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I rise to oppose if. Apart from opposing it, I would like to assure the people of the country that when we oppose this motion, then at the same time, we are absolutely clear about the type of alternative which we can provide. All our friends who are going to help us in this regard, have talked about this and as Lalu Prasad Yadavji has said...*(Interruptions)* The burden of formation of a

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

new Government over the country, will be done away with in just five minutes after the fall of the Communal Government and an alternative will be provided to the country...*(Interruptions)* What are the circumstances which have led to move this motion of confidence?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb him.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura) : As we have said just in five minutes, then it means five minutes. We can bring down in one minute only...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, the voice of Shrikrishna has made its way here in the House. So, I do not need to say much. One thing which all of us should agree upon, is that thirteen months back people of India had given verdict of the Elections but the people of this country neither gave clear majority to any political party on voting pattern to anyone. The political party to which the Prime Minister belongs, got not more than 25-25.5 percent of votes. After observing the votes of all their allies who supported them, it becomes evident that the people of this country had not given any clear mandate. However, at the same time, I am ready to admit that the mandate was also not given to us. Hence, when the issue of forming the Government came up, it could have been a coalition Government and the Government could have been formed with the help of the alliance parties which could come to the front. This important issue was there with this Government. That time when the hon'ble President had made preparations to give an oath of office to the Prime Minister for the prime ministerial post, he was paying all his attention to the number. As the letter of support from Jayalalitaji was received after two days' delay...*(Interruptions)* So, the President did not make any preparations to give an oath of office to the Prime Minister. The letter from Chennai was awaited and after receiving the letter from there, he made preparations to give an oath of office to the Prime Minister.

This Government had support to Subramanian Swamy ji, Sardar Buta Singh, Chautala ji and AIADMK. The day when the leaders of all these political parties withdraw their support, they had no right to run the Government in this country, they lost that right. The political career of Atalji is well before the whole of the nation and all people of the country know his public life. He always showed a moral based politics. When some of his allies withdraw

their support, then it seemed to us that probably he himself will go to the President (Rashtrapati Bhawan) and bring no such situation before the House. It is alright that he adopted the other way. The whole countrymen are going to know about this condition within two days. He did not do what he could have done yesterday. He will face that situation after observing the majority in this House perhaps on Saturday. The people of the country are seeing that Atalji is facing such a situation for the second time. We have seen the Government which ran for 13 days and now, we are also seeing the 13 month old Government. I was thinking,

[English]

What exactly is the achievement of this Government? What exactly has this Government done in the last twelve or thirteen months? The sole achievement of this Government is, in spite of so many contradictions, this Government has survived. I have to accept it. Apart from that, I do not find any other single contribution of this Government in the last twelve or thirteen months.

[Translation]

This Government survived for 13 months. Today, there is almost a different situation in the entire world. Today, everywhere there are talks of entering in to the 21st century. All are thinking as to how this problem can be solved, what measures can be taken to eradicate poverty and unemployment, how we can strengthen our economic condition, how we can go to the 21st century by adopting modern science and technology. This view is being expressed in the world. We could probably have done something in this regard by keeping the whole nation united. However, after taking into account the performance of the 13 month old Government of Atalji, every person of the country has realized that this has been done by the people of India. Whether any specific steps were taken to improve the economic condition? Whether any strong measures were taken to overcome the crisis of depreciation in price. Whether any steps were taken to improve the production. Which has come down and continues to decline? Whether any steps were taken to eradicate unemployment? Whether any steps were taken to improve the trade relations with the neighboring countries or whether any steps were taken to increase the revenue of the country? These are prominent issues of the nation. Whether it is the issue of Universalization of Primary education or the question of providing equality to the women, any steps were taken in regard to such important issues? It feel sorry that the answer to all these questions is in negative. The people of the country are not seeing any such situation when any strict measures were taken in this regard during these 13 months.

In a country like India, when we discuss the problems and talk about making progress, ensuring development, enhancing production, eradicating unemployment, strengthening the country, then first of all it is our duty to make sure that how we can keep our society united and maintain integrity in society. The situation which the people of the country and especially the people belonging to the lower strata and the minority class have faced during the last 12-13 months, had never been experienced by them in the last 50 years. I would like to give an example regarding this. The number of assaults made on the Christians during the past 50 years...*(Interruptions)* increased to more than 50 percent during these 13 months...*(Interruptions)* Is it not shameful?...*(Interruptions)* Is it a praiseworthy incident which we have seen in Orissa? The Australian Missionary and his innocent Children were burnt to death. Is such incident help in improving the image of India in the world? The most serious matter about it is that when such a situation arises and the forces and organisations are held responsible for the same, they are backed by our hon'ble Home Minister. Our hon'ble Home Minister said that he knew those organisations and there was nothing like rowdyism or criminal activity committed by them. He gave them certificates without carrying out any investigations. What was said by the Minister of Defence in this regard? He went to Orissa, observed all conditions there in two hours and stated before the nation that this was a foreign conspiracy to destabilize the Vajpayee Government. This foreign conspiracy took place even before the investigation was completed. All countrymen know that there are some communal forces & organisations which have helped this Government to hatch this conspiracy; it is their role. So, we need to speak on the rights which this Government possesses, to stay in power.

I felt that at least the hon'ble Prime Minister will show a new path to the people of the country in such a situation. He started talking about this and said that there should be discussion on conversion. Such a serious situation arose in this country. We have been seeing the condition of Christians for the last 50 years. There is a religion whose followers are decreasing in number while the number of people belonging to other religions is increasing and there is a decline in the population of the Christians...*(Interruptions)* All these are Government figures. In such a circumstance, the Prime Minister has put before the country the topic of national debate on the issue of conversion. I could have understood it, if he would have talked about the national debate on the issue of unemployment, about the national debate for taking strong measures to improve the condition of the villagers, about how to utilize the State and the Central Funds, and what can be done about subsidy. There could have been national

debate on these issues but the hon'ble Prime Minister did not consider these issues so important. It was the issue of conversion which he considered important. The need of the hour was that he should have kept an over all vigil on each and every aspect of the entire country by sitting in Delhi, but the hon'ble Prime Minister did not try to ensure it. Perhaps he had received a message from Nagpur. On the basis of that message, he talked before the people of the nation about holding a debate on conversion.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : It had not come from Italy.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : It was not at all required. The allies who were giving support to their Government, were not happy with the situation that was taking place and the way of running of the Government. That displeasure was not confined to the allies who were giving support but even to those who were working in their Cabinet. I would like to give an example, the letter of Madan Lal Khuranaji...*(Interruptions)* Now, the face of Sushmaji has also taken a turn. He wrote,

*[English]*

"I have earlier sent a letter to Shri Advaniji and stated that the Central leaders are surrounded by (careerists) and power brokers which has resulted in decisions not being objective but according to the persons, place and wish."

*[Translation]*

Khuranaji said this. He, the poor fellow, became annoyed. He said, what was right and tendered his resignation. He was willing to speak something in the House but was not allowed to do so. He was ordered not to speak on this. I am sure that he will speak today or tomorrow and share his experience of the Government with the people of the country. I would like to state that this Government failed to take small sections of the society into confidence. There are always talks of Hindustan. What we have learnt about Hinduism since the childhood, includes more of tolerance in Hinduism. Tolerance is one of the main principles of the Hindu religion. That principle...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Speaker Sir, as my name has been mentioned, I would like to give explanation.

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, I have not yielded.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not yielding.



[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Shardadji, I would like to state one thing that you have said in English but I write letters in Hindi and not in English. Whatever you are saying, does not mean that. Apart from this, I am not going to speak anything.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I would like to urge that whatever you have in your mind, you should speak out before the House. You should state whatever you want to say before the people of the country through this House. I can understand what your woe is?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I would put my views in my own words and will not do so on your State.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Well, you present in your own words, but I believe in this regard that the sufferings will remain as it is. The question is that the contribution of this Government in twelve and a half or 13 months is to create communalism combined with the feelings of distrust amongst smaller sections. Their Hindutva or Hinduism — all were the slogans for election about which the people of the country have come to know.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sir, I had gone to Varanasi 10 days ago. Waking up in the morning I went to see the Ganga Ghat. I saw there the condition of water, the dead animals and I talked to the people there. All the people were saying that Late. Rajeev Gandhi had started the Ganga Action Plan. Nobody, be it the Government of Uttar Pradesh or the Government in Delhi, paid any attention to it. The people stated that the party, which took political gains in the name of Ganga, Ayodhya and Varanasi, should have taken the step at least keeping in mind the sentiments of the people of this country. They have also said that after observing the performance of the Govt. during the last 13 months, they have completely lost confidence in this Government, and asked to give some alternate quickly, only then the condition would improve.

So far as the unity of the country is concerned, the most important thing is the problem of economic condition of the country. Today, the industrial production is going downward. The area represent in this House is having Pimpri, Telco in Chinchwara, Bajaj Auto, Kirloskar factory and other major industries. You will be surprised to know that more than 50 per cent of new industries have been closed and more than 70 per cent of the small factories supporting the major industries, particularly the ancillary industries, in which small artisan of the society used to run business at his house, have been closed. At present more than 50 thousand workers have become jobless in one city, they are not getting livelihood. This is the condition of the city with most developed industries. So, you can imagine the condition of the whole country. What is the

condition of the Public Sector? This Government has not taken any step to reduce this unemployment to run the factories and to increase the industrial production due to which the countrymen are compelled to pay heavy price for that.

We are watching that a slogan of Swadeshi has been given for the last several years. The situation is such that the whole world is making India a dumping ground. The same thing has happened in the field of Sugar. The farmers in this country have the capacity to meet with the requirement of every person of the country. The cane growers here has no importance which is evident from the fact that even after such a large production of sugar in our country, the permission to import it from out side has been granted. The policies of this Government have caused the fall of the condition of the farmers who produce four crore ton sugar cane in this country. It is happening in all the fields.

India is becoming a dumping ground today and this Government is giving the slogan for Swadeshi. Under such circumstances, the people of the country don't have such confidence that this Government be given the right to run administration. I remember when elections were held in Delhi, the onion was talked about in the whole country. Onion was brought here from all over the world at 16-17-18 rupees and even at 30 Rupees per kilo. Today, the production of onion has been in excess. The farmers of Nasik and other places are making a demand to allow them first for selling their onion in the world. This Government has allowed for 25-30 thousand ton per month. The permission for such export was given by this Government only when the onion was sold by the farmers in Mandi and they could not get even the cultivation price. The permission to export was granted only after the stock was made by the businessmen. In this way this Government has made all arrangements to benefit the businessmen and caused problems to the farmers. The condition has been same for potatoes. The same has been the condition of potato growing farmers which is leaving bad effect on the whole country. The farmer living in village is pining for. Whenever we go to anywhere, the people ask how long this situation will continue and by which time we would remove it. I am glad that Ms. Jayalalitha, with some intelligence has prepared to take step to liberate the people of this country from this Government. It's process has started today.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, many things have been said about infrastructure. It has been repeatedly said that power generation is likely to be increased. The Prime Minister has given much importance to it but during last 13 months only the old projects have been completed and dedicated to the country, but we have not come across any such project for which the Government had taken any step to bring before the people of the country. At several places in Uttar

Pradesh, the electricity is not provided from 9.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. every day...*(Interruptions)* You have given a very big slogan for constructing High-ways all over the country, for developing the power station, for setting up new courts, but this Government has not given any indication whether the investment has come from the world in all areas or preparation has been made during last 13 months. This Government has fully ignored the infrastructure.

I thought that this Government would consider a little bit about Telecom policy but the investment from the world has not come. Some work has been done but that too is not done completely. There was a need to send a message to the whole world from here that we value telecom sector because the communication field has a lot of value in the world and India should not remain backward at all in this field. We are taking a note of this but even there my colleague in the Government have shown a bureaucracy approach and with that a message has gone all over the world that nothing can happen in this country. It has spoiled the investment climate of the whole country and all channels of inflow of new capital in this country have been closed. Who is responsible for all these things. Today we find a feeling of no confidence in the minds of the world about this Government. I am happy that there has been a good rain this year. The farmers worked hard and gained good crops.

However, it has also been said earlier in the House that they would bring a new agriculture policy for the farmers at the earliest. Neither this House nor the farmers of this country have seen any concrete steps taken to bring agriculture policy during the last 12 months. If a Government is to be run, it would be necessary to take the administration too into confidence. We have also been in Government for several years. We have been in the states as well as in centre but the way in which people related to the Government went on strike in such a short span, 12 months' span, was never witnessed before. Who went on strike? Such a situation has arisen that the Doctors and the Research Scholars of the AIIMS had to go on strike. Employees of the Court went on strike and the Bank employees were compelled to go on strike. The Scientists in the agricultural field, who never talked of strike, were compelled to go on strike. The employees of the N.T.P.C have gone on strike. The employees of Prasar Bharati, for the last few months, have been going to all the Members, to the leaders of political parties and to the door steps of the Press, but this Government is not even ready to talk to them. The Government, today is not in a position to pay attention to such a large section of the society which should be taken into confidence to run the administration of the country smoothly.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Rather, they are being beaten up. They are being hurt with lathis.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Yes, of course, they are being beaten up.

Much has been said about foreign policy. This House has welcomed the good steps taken. The full House welcomed the Lahore journey. It is nice, there is a need to take some good measures to maintain good relationship with the neighbours and what Atalji has done in this regard was welcomed by the House.

Today, Agni-2 is being discussed all over the country and abroad. All the people have welcomed the work, done by the Scientists and the Technicians of this country and the steps taken to take ahead the programmes which were under process for years have also been welcomed by all. But when we take measures to improve the relations with neighbouring countries and simultaneously take the steps like 'Agni', then is this a confidence building measures? Do you want to develop an arms race in the sub-continent? On the evening of the same day, when we took such step, Pakistan declared that it would also do something and the whole world saw what Pakistan did. We sincerely want to maintain good relations with the neighbouring countries, we need those relations. Be it India or Pakistan or nearby countries, poverty and unemployment are the problems of all the countries. It required our full attention. If we pay full attention on arms race, the condition of the people of the sub-continent would not be improved. In the time to come all these will be the backward parts of the world and I, therefore, don't know if the time selected by Atalji for this was proper or not. He will have to ponder over it.

When we talk about improving relations with our neighbouring countries, the importance of China is not less than Pakistan for us. We had been making efforts for many years to improve our relations with that country. At first our President visited that country, then afterwards Rajiv Gandhi visited there during his Prime Ministership. Then delegation also came to India and the initiative was taken by Shri Atalji when he was a Minister of External Affairs. When our relations were totally cut off, it was Atalji who took initiative in improving the relations and we all did welcome his step. Some agreements were signed during the tenure of Narshimha Rao ji and an atmosphere of faith was developing in both the countries i.e. China and India. But our Defence Minister gave a statement. He is in the habit of giving statements for the last several years. He is a very good friend of mine. Since both of us came from the same city, we know each other very well. If he has to say anyone as bad, he will definitely do so and everybody in the country knows it well. It is immaterial. Whether he is right or wrong; If he has to accuse anybody, he will never spare him. He gave a statement about China which has thwarted all the efforts initiated by Atalji in improving the relations till late. Therefore, I know the contribution of this

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

Government towards the foreign policy. This Government has done nothing on any front during the last 13 months. They made many promises like social orientation, improving social environment, upliftment of women etc. I would like to mention one important point about women. Women constitute 50 per cent of the population of our society. The issue of giving them equal rights was raised in this House many a time and they have said 50 times here in the House and outside the House that they would do so. In fact there was a need to bring a draft Bill for providing reservation to women in this House but nothing has been done in this direction so far. I would like to point out a very serious matter as to how we deal with the Defence personnel and in what manner we treat them.

Today, discussions are being held throughout world about the matter pertaining to our Defence, I am not supporting anybody on the issue of Bhagwat but the way in which these issues were raised in the newspapers, the manner in which this struggle was started, is not good for the security of the country. This is a sensitive ministry. There was a need to supervise it prudently. Did it not happen earlier also? It happened in the past also. There was a dispute between the Defence Minister Krishna Menon and General Thimayya. At that time the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had paid attention to it. Pandit Nehruji found out a solution to the dispute by consulting Shri Thimayya. Whatever was required to be told to Shri Krishna Menon was told to him and he told in the Parliament that there were some temperament problems, as well as other problems too. Many questions were raised earlier also but our Prime Minister or Defence Minister did not cross the limit. But the manner in which the issue of Ex Naval Chief was handled. I think the Ministry of Defence would have suffered a heavy loss by mishandling this issue; and this loss would have been more serious as compared to the loss suffered by our Defence Ministry and Armed Forces during the China war for the last several years. This issue will be the headings in the newspapers for many years to come. Our many colleagues wanted to have a discussion on this issue. We invited them and told that being related to the Defence this issue is a sensitive issue and it will not be proper to discuss it in the House. I myself and Manmohan Singh ji met the Prime Minister and expressed our feelings and views on it. We had expected that he would pay attention to it and take some steps to boost up the morale of the Defence personnels. But one day we came to know that

[English]

Naval Chief has been expelled. I don't want to go in detail about its merits and demerits but I would like to say one thing definitely that the manner in which the confidential records, secret papers related to this

issue were leaked in the country, was not proper; The matter started from selective leakage. Some newspapers got selective leakage.

In the programme 'Aap Ki Adalat' and during the interview on metro channel and star TV Defence Minister quoted from the files of Defence Ministry. He was sitting there and was showing secret documents again and again.

[English]

Such and Such decision was taken. Such and such paper were there.

[Translation]

How we should handle the secret and sensitive papers, it has some codes but the Defence Minister has violated the codes of secrecy of sensitive documents. This is the point which I would like to say to him. Many things were said. I remember, the Chief Editor of Indian Express, Shri Shekhar Gupta wrote that both are responsible for it. he wrote -

[English]

"Documents relating to every single aspect of the controversy are now floating freely all over the capital from media offices to the diplomatic circuit. There is not one thing about the supposedly Super-secret Operation leach that the cocktail circuit does not know. Copies of the letters allegedly written by Morarji Desai to Fernandes cautioning him on his activism on among certain aspects of India's nuclear 'relations' with Libya are freely circulating. Similarly, the photocopies in the Ministry of Defence have worked overtime over the past few months making copies of adverse entries on Bhagwat's old Annual Confidential Reports."

There are a number of other things.

[Translation]

All the leading newspapers have made comments on it. The manner in which the secret information has been leaked and the relevant papers have been distributed and the manner in which the reply was given by the government, amply show the irresponsible attitude of the Government. I could understand his first statement. He said -

[English]

"You can kill me. But I will not disclose certain things in the larger interests of the nation."

[Translation]

Upto that stage, his role was OK. But afterwards from the statements and interviews given by him, it

appears from his face that he is a desperate person and is going to finish it by taking some extreme step—he has taken such steps. It is not new for Fernandesji. When he finally decides, it is his nature to fight till the end. I remember -

[English]

I think, in 1977 or 1978, he was the Minister of Industry.

[Translation]

He attended a meeting in 'FICCI' Auditorium and he used words like robbers, rats there.

[English]

He was saying so as the Minister of Industry.

[Translation]

What ever is the issue, he has the ability and the quality to put that issue before people. I remember the day when I listened to his speech in the Press Gallery. What an aggressive speech he delivered at the time of No confidence motion against Shri Morarji Desai and he changed his mind within 48 hours.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : 24 hours and not 48 hours.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I am sorry. I am ready to be corrected.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I have been a witness.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Dr. Subramanian Swamy has been a witness.

[Translation]

He changed his mind within 24 hours. If he decides to support somebody, he can support him very well but if he wants to demolish someone, whether there is some fact or not, whether there is some base or not, he can also demolish him aggressively and you will realize it yourself today or tomorrow. But at present the most serious problem is to ascertain the contents of truth the issues raised by Mr. Bhagwat, I can not comment upon it. I do not want to support it also. I will never support Mr. Bhagwat as it was not proper on his part to float on Media the documents pertaining to Defence. I think there is a need to set up an independent agency to look into the propriety of making public these sensitive issues by the Defence Minister and Mr. Bhagwat, that's why the setting up of J.P.C. was sought. But the Prime Minister already rejected this demand outside the House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir. I remember when the House was kept adjourned for two-three days for petty matters but now when the question to constitute a J.P.C to look into the matter relating to Defence of the country came before this Government, they clearly refused to do it. It reveals the intention and the defence policy of the Government and it has come to the knowledge of all the countrymen.

Sir, I would like to say that in view of the functioning of this Government during the last one year, it appears that this Government has not taken any concrete steps on any front. I would like to say that this Government has been a total failure on all the fronts, be it economic front, industrial sector or promoting social harmony and winning the confidence of the several people in the country and it is apparent from the result of the elections held in Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and also in 8-9 by elections wherein the people voted against BJP. This Government has been instrumental in provoking communal animosity. This Government has not discharged its responsibility to win the confidence of the countrymen and to make progress in all the sectors and has forced the country to go in the backward direction. Therefore, this Government has forfeited the right to rule the nation even for a single minute. So, I urge upon all the secular opposition parties to vote against the confidence motion moved by this Government and help in formation of an alternative stable Government which is poised to lead the nation to 21st century. I assure it to this House and to the entire country.

194 THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Honourable Mr. Speaker, Sir, normally wherever Prime Minister move any motion on such type of confidence motion, he alongwith this presents his views in detail. Today Shri Vajpayee did not present any evaluation of last year work of his Govt. along with the motion but whatever he said in few words, in two-three sentences, indeed that is the basic problem of the present situation, and I expected that I will get the reply of those two-three sentences in detail from the leader of opposition and he said in the beginning that it is our responsibility that while opposing any Govt. we should also suggest the alternative arrangement that time. Therefore, when Shri Sharad Pawar was delivering his speech for 45-50 minutes, I was listening him very attentively so that I may catch a glimpse of that alternative arrangement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do remember and I always give respect to former speaker Shri Shivraj Patil who may be present in the House, he is sitting in the back row. He sometimes puts a very basic thought before the house and the country for consideration. He once said one thing which was approved by the Prime Minister himself, perhaps at that time he was

[Shri L.K. Advani]

the leader of opposition, when he said that there are different provisions in the constitutions of the world and out of them, a provision is in Germany.

The provision in Germany is good. It is good because instability will never develop there. I quote from the constitution of Germany. This is -

[English]

Basu's 'Select constitutions of the world' :-

[Translation]

In article 67 of that...*(Interruptions)* It is an important thing and Shri Shivraj Patil has mentioned it, that is why I would like to give the reference of it. It states that how can the House bring a no-confidence motion against any Govt. There is a provision in the constitution of Germany that if you want to move a no-confidence motion against any Govt. then -

[English]

Article 67 says :-

"The Bundstag..." means the parliament, "... can express its lack of confidence in the Federal Chancellor only by electing a successor with the majority of its members and by requesting the federal President to discuss the Federal Chancellor."

[Translation]

Before electing a new Govt. they are required to pass a motion regarding formation of the next Government and on the basis of that, a request is made to the president for removal of the present Government.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : You have taken oath of this Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : There is no such provision, in our Constitution. Therefore, generally the provision is this much that if you do not like the Govt. here, you want to remove the Govt. we were in opposition at that time, Shri Vajpayee ji, I many people of CPI and CPI (M) were in opposition, there was no place to remove the Govt, then also we used to bring the no-confidence motion. The main objective to bring the no-confidence motion was that we are quite unsatisfied with the work of Govt. and that is why we want to show our anger. We knew that we do not have enough member and on the basis of number our no-confidence motion will be defeated. Shri Somnath ji is present here, Shri Indra jit Gupta ji is also present here, whenever we used to bring the

no-confidence motion, its result was known to us but still we used to bring the no-confidence motion. I am mentioning this because much discussion has been made on this point during last five-seven days that when A.I.A.D.M.K. will withdraw its support, no-confidence motion will be moved or discussion will be made on confidence motion etc. The President has sent a letter to our Govt. to 'Prime Minister and according to that the Prime Minister has moved the confidence motion but it should be understood that opposition knows that there is the provision of no-confidence motion in our rules of procedure, in our Constitution, but there is no provision of confidence motion. The confidence motion has been developed by tradition and that tradition was developed that time when in the beginning the President invites some one and if it does not have clear majority, he says that you should prove clear majority in so many days. In this way, this tradition was started and in due course such time has also come when during the session of House some one withdrew its support, that time also the President has said that you should prove the majority. Accordingly, it has happened today also. I do not want to go in its debate because I feel that the result of this no-confidence motion or confidence motion after the conclusion of debate after two or three days, will be the same which has happened in last one year in every House and just now in the case of Bihar in this House and you will go disappointed from here...*(Interruptions)* but the important thing is that, why request was made, that no-confidence motion should not be moved, only confidence motion should be moved? I agree that the person or the party, which brings the no-confidence motion, becomes responsible.

12.00 hrs.

It should be proved that this Govt. has not done any good work, has done bad work that its outer has become absolutely necessary. It was the thinking of complete opposition that there is nothing is say against the Govt. which conducted nuclear test at Pokhran, test fired Agni Missile, just now presented the budget, started bus service for Lahore, improved the situation in Kashmir, brought stability in country's economy when all the countries through out Asia were plagued with economic instability. Nothing is there to say. There was only one thing there that one of your allies which gave the support, on the basis of which the President had called you to form the Govt. has now withdrawn his support. Now you are in minority, so you should resign. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to remind that when the AIADMK had supported us, even at that time we had 252 members, we were not in majority. I am happy that Shri Sharad Pawar has accepted that he did not get the mandate. But he tried to say that no one has got the mandate. I do not agree with this. In this arrangement of democracy, in multi-party system whichever is the

biggest combination, whether it has majority or not. That is why when the President invited Shri Vajpayee, he was invited as a leader of the all alliance, he has respected the mandate. He did not say that first you show me 272 members, then I will invite you.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : There is no mandate...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do remember that when Samta Party, Akali Dal, Biju Janta Dal, Shiv Sena and all other parties had sent their letters, the leader of AIADMK did not send the letter. At that time we all thought that now perhaps we have 238 members. We should inform the President that he may invite some one else to form the Govt. and Shri Vajpayee had also given the hint that if you want to invite some one, you may invite if they have more than 238 members with them. He said that nobody has more than 238 members. But in the mean time we received that letter and we were invited to form Govt. on the basis of our 252 members. Still we were in minority. Today we have lost 18 members. I will count one more so we have lost 19 members...(Interruptions) Therefore, firstly, I would like to emphasise as this thing that in Lok Sabha elections of 1998, the people of India, had given a mandate under this system and it is clear from the mandate that a coalition Government may be formed in the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. This is the mandate of the country and it is different from the mandate of 1996. In 1996 too, as I remember, that mandate was also only for BJP when the people wanted to see the emergence of BJP as the largest party. That is why, that time too Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma invited Shri Vajpayee to form the Government. But it is a fact that in those days except Shiv Sena which was our election partner, no party wanted to form coalition with us and the Akali Dal had joined us immediately after elections whereas during the election even the Akali Dal was not with us. These changes are indicative of changing political activities, and political scenario of India. Ten years ago, in 1989 the BJP had only two members here but today many parties have joined us and now we have 252 members. When the trial of strength took place, we defeated Congress party, leftist, SP and RJD by 29 votes in this House and the mandate is the same as it was.

Today, I feel happy that Shri Sharad Pawar has mentioned this thing that Shri Vajpayee has passed his life not for power but for values. This life is based on morality and therefore, he said that I was expecting that when the AIADMK will withdraw its

support, Shri Vajpayee ji will resign immediately— he said it. If Shri Vajpayee had resigned, he would have hurt the feelings of the people. Today in the morning, I was seeing, I have the today's clippings, in which an opinion poll has been conducted in which...(Interruptions) This opinion poll has been taken after the withdrawal of support by AIADMK. Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to this opinion poll AIADMK...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No interruption, please.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am not yielding.

[Translation]

An opinion poll has been conducted after AIADMK withdrew its support that whether the Govt of Shri Vajpayee ji should resign immediately or should remain in power and it should try to get the support of DMK and other parties, on this they conducted an opinion poll 22 per cent people want Shri Vajpayee to resign whereas 71 per cent people do not want him to resign and desire that he should obtain support from DMK and other parties and continue his Government in the same way as he has been running the Govt. for one year. Therefore, I feel that at present by giving the respect to mandate as a democratic leader and by obeying the directive of President, Shri Vajpayee said that I lay the motion before the House and that you cast your vote on the confidence motion, I will respect your decision.

Shri Sharad ji said to Shri Khurana ji to express his grievances. In our party if some one has any grievances, he can tell about his grievances to any leader personally, he can give in writing. We do not have the situation like you that you express your grievances else where. You can not have courage to express you grievances to your leader personally or you can never have the courage to write to your leader. This party is such in which even an ordinary worker of the party can tell about his feelings to any senior leader. We do not have the atmosphere as you have in which...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Shri Khurana was not allowed to make his statement. Why did you not allow that? Please allow him to make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : If Shri Khurana ji wants to say some thing, he has no boundation he can say any time. He will expose you fully...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : You will have to go back to Baramati in a few days...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I will certainly go there...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is true that Shri Sharad ji and his many colleagues or some people of opposition parties have started saying from the very first day that this Govt. will not live long, this Govt will fall in few days. During the commencement of every session, we listen that this time the Govt. will fall. During last budget session they started saying that how they will face or complete the session and for this very reason some ppeople take it like an achievement. After 1989 there were five non-Congress governments under the Prime Ministership of Vishwanath Pratap Singh ji, Chandrashakher ji, I.K. Gujral ji, Devegowda ji and Vajpayee ji and out of these five Prime Minister's remaining four Prime Ministers did not even completed one year. Vajpayee ji completed one year in the office and it is quite surprising for you, but I think...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

I am talking to past 1989. After 1989, five Prime Ministers were from non-Congress parties. I am referring to that.

*[Translation]*

But I agree with you that to run a Government for just one year is not an achievement. We have created a different atmosphere in India during this year. We have placed India at a respectable position in the world, this achievement is the biggest achievement so far. I am surprised at the Congress party who has criticized the Pokhran II and I am astonished to hear today, that by this Agni-II we are initiating one more arms race. I have no hesitation in saying that from Pokhran II to Agni II tests this Government have strengthened India more. Your party may be apologetic on it, your party may talk about arms race...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Karnal) : I have a point of order. Whether this Pokhran explosion and Agni test is your contribution to this country. It is the result of the policies of the Congress...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : There is no point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : They will not make you Minister.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not know whether our Minister of External Affairs Shri Jaswant Singh will take part in this discussion or not but if he will speak then he will definitely say something about the statements made by the Congress party that this Government have not only isolated India, from the rest of the world but also forgotten Gandhi and Budha and have put heavy burden on the country by conducting Pokhran II explosion. So many things have been said about it. Natwar Singh ji may be present here, please read his statement what he had said and after one year, what happened? No body criticize it today.

*[English]*

Pokhran II was regarded as an achievement not only by India and Indians but even the word over, it is treated with respect.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Whether these are the present Government's achievements?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : We are not among those who criticize only while sitting in opposition. When Indira ji conducted very first explosion at Pokhran in 1974 then perhaps Vajpayee ji was the first person who had praised her and her Government. We do not behave like you and therefore it disappointed me very much. Today specially when former minister of Defence say about Agni-II that what was the need to conduct the Agni II test at this point of time when we have taken a historic initiative in regard to strengthening our friendship with Pakistan by way of bus ride then what is the justification in annoying Pakistan in such a way? I admit that India should strengthen itself, remove terrorism from the country and make friendship with Pakistan. This is not a contradictory approach rather it is a supplementary approach. I remember that several years ago, may be 4 or 5 years ago when I was the President of Bhartiya Janata Party at that time British High Commissioner in Pakistan Sir Berington visited here. When he met me, he said that he had come to discuss Pakistan India relationships and Kashmir problem with me and would like to understand as to what is my and party's approach. He said a very important thing, he said that he believe and it is his conviction and it is the conviction of elite class in Pakistan that relation between India and Pakistan will improve only, when there will be a BJP Govt. in New Delhi. He also stated by quoting so many analogies of the world that relations between America and China had been better only when Nixon became President, about whome it was understood that he was farmer a supporter and was against the China, and was also fundamentalist anti-communist, the same notion is about BJP, Vajpayee ji and me in

the Pakistan. He was sure that when our Government will come into power, that day steps will definitely be taken to improve relations between India and Pakistan. I praise and congratulate Vajpayee ji that he visited Lahore within one year in spite of Pokhran explosion and Agani test, this act was praised in the Pakistan and applauded in the whole world that no after country could have taken such superb and historic initiative. You could have done it, why you have not done it, you could have conducted explosion in Pokhran, why you have not done it?

I am surprised to see the enthusiasm with which communists are ready to form the Congress Government. It is really amazing! I have received one of your document two and a half year ago because I did not know that you are a critic on this subject. These days, when I observed it, I thought that you are not the critic of Congress Party for the sole reason that Congress party is corrupt, Congress party encourages communalism, but Congress Party is indifferent to security, it does not have any concern about security. There is a 1966 publication of C.P.I (M).

[English]

This is a 1966 publication of CPI (M), entitled :

"RECORD OF COMPROMISING INDIA'S SECURITY":

our friends from C.P.I (M) says in this -

"Betraying India's security interests and compromising with its sovereignty should find an important place in the charge-sheet against the Congress. The last five years, 1991 to 1996, have seen a systematic building up of relentless pressure on the Indian Government by the U.S and its allies.

Time and again, the Congress Government has surrendered India's vital interests. The Americans were determined to prevent India developing missile technology, curbing our nuclear technology and while taking a position hostile to India's interests by their agenda for an independent Kashmir, have succeeded in becoming collaborators with India's military establishment, thanks to the Congress (I) Government's pro-imperialist policy."

[Translation]

Whether American's are their collaborators or you are their collaborators?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : You are a greater danger!

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : They may be collaborators but you have surrendered.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Who is collaborator, that's why I am surprised. I believe that Congress Party also knows that in this House...(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (Bikaner) : Advani ji, I want to take one minute.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I always respect you.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I want to say only this much that have you forgotten Bangladesh, and 95,000.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have not forgotten.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : You should try to recollect, have you forgotten that seventh fleet also went back. Try to concentrate on these things if it would have not been there, it would have been a different thing.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Jakhar ji, I have not forgotten Bangladesh got freedom, you might have forgotten that what Vajpayee ji said about Indira ji at that time, but I have not forgotten. I am reminding you that you are trusting them, you are thinking to form the Government with their support, try to recognize them and the whole world should also try to recognize them. I want to tell only this much. I am not much angry with Communist Party rather I have sympathy for them...(Interruptions) The Party which was thinking till yesterday that...(Interruptions) We have full command over half of the world and after some years, we will have command over entire world including India but now the situation is such that the whole world has now in confined only upto two corners of India...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Not with your help, not at your mercy. Shri Advani, you have taken the help of mostly crowd, not us...(Interruptions) We shall reply to you...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have read this 1996, document, but when our leftist friends had fought the 1998 election, they had issued a manifesto.

[English]

The 1998 Manifesto of the Left Parties, it applies to all of them, says :

"The Congress Party has degenerated both politically and organisationally. It is the



[Shri L.K. Advani]

Party in decline as it has pursued, when in power, economic policies which militate against the people. It betrayed the secular heritage by compromising with communal forces and it is the Party riddled with corruption."

[Translation]

This party says you, from the Government, we will give unconditional support to you from outside...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Tell about yourself.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We would tell about ourselves, you should tell about yourselves...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I again come to that point. The debate would become more meaningful only when you would tell honestly the alternative for removing this Government. Mrs Sonia Gandhi said that days of coalition Govt. are gone now. In Panchmarhi she said that her party would form a Govt. and a few days back, I think just five or seven days back she said that Congress would form a Government only when all other parties are ready to support it from outside. We would not tolerate people saying afterwards that he or she would become Deputy Prime Minister or Finance Minister. We all are present here and I would like to tell all the people sitting here that the approach of the Congress party is more clear than you. At least their intentions are very clear. Their approach may not be clear but their intention are very clear. Six months back, till the month of September, when Panchmarhi meeting was held then what they saw that Vajpayee Government was formed. And immediately after the formation of Government, a big party said that they would not send letter of support to President. So how this alliance would go on? In the beginning he said that they fought elections jointly and now they are reluctant to send the letter and then we had to send special emissary for persuading them. Then Shri Jaswant Singh ji has to go for seeking their approval. It is all a temporary arrangement, Then they also saw that there were several people who had the ambitions of becoming Prime-Minister and there is no end to this. If nothing else point that they can found then they start working on this how to create a rift between Shri Vajpayee and Shri Advani spread misinformation constantly. And all this has been done very systematically. This I admit...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This has been done by Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Madan Lal Khurana will himself see to it...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Advani ji, I have seen such happiness on your face for the first time in the last one year...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : What sort of party is this, you will have to imagine it.

This is not Congress Party the manner in which your present president took over and ousted the former party president, we all have witnessed it and it shows how this party function, set-aside all such things but throughout India you would not find any leader of the stature of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He has created such a good impression, which I have not been able to create, inspite of the fact that we both have the same commitment in our ideologies. But most of the people call me a fundamentalist, though there is no place for fundamentalism in this ideology as such. Sharad Pawar has rightly said that if there is any speciality in Hinduism, it is its tolerance kind-heartedness and to take all the people together. If this would not have been there then the makers of constitution who were assigned this job in 1947 would not have written constitution in 1950.

SHRI AKBAR AHMAD (Azamgarh) : You are talking about Hinduism, previously you were speaking about Ramrajya...(Interruptions)

[English]

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

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not deny the fact that there are many types of people in our society but on the whole it is being said that the Government is becoming fundamentalist these days I am sorry to state that immediately after BJP's assuring power it has been propagated in the world by our own people that fundamentalism has come in India. There is no fundamentalism. Nothing such has happened and it is not at all possible. India is a secular country and secularism is a part and parcel of India ...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker Sir, I belong to that part which is now in Pakistan. I belong to Sindh province. Crores of people were rendered homeless and migrated to India. On what basis India was divided. Whether it was done on the basis of sect creed or religion or on the basis of majority of Hindu or Muslim population there. On this basis maps were drawn and Pakistan declared itself an Islamic state. It means that Muslim citizens would be first grade and others would be treated as second rate citizens. But if India would have declared itself as Hindu state then we could not have been held responsible. The people through out world would have had the opinion that Congress was opposed to the idea of partition. Congress was compelled to accept partition. World

does not dare to call us guilty but we cannot forgive ourselves.

Indian traditions, Indian history and Indian culture would never accept the concept of religious state and it would never do so in future. Neither it has done this before nor shall it can be done in future. Secularism means respect for all religions, respect for all creeds, equal justice and equal security for all. Security and secularism are part and parcel of our constitution. Government is fully committed to it. There is no question of deviating from it. You propagated such things in the entire world and I felt sorry when Shri Sharad Pawar had tried to raise the Christians issue in all over the world just to show that large scale atrocities are being committed on Christians...*(Interruptions)* I have answered it in detail and would not answer it again. But I would like to tell this much that at least, six such events have been publicised all over the world which are baseless and there is no fact in them.

All the incidents beginning right from Jhabua and then rape of a nun in Baripad, proved wrong. They were not reported and were not published, neither any contradiction was published...*(Interruptions)* I told that about six such incidents have occurred in Allahabad, Orissa and other places, I must accept that such incidents should not happen. It is the responsibility of the Government that such incidents pertaining of unjust or atrocities should not take place anywhere. Especially if atrocities are being committed on the people belonging to minorities, then we are special responsibility towards of them. But my friend Shri George Fernandes, has expressed doubts about the way these atrocities were committed, he thought that if he himself would raise such questions, nobody would level charges on him. It seems that there is some conspiracy behind it that is why for the first time in history of India Government has done so. Two children of a Australian National was killed but it was said that they were burnt alive. It was a gruesome incident. We demanded setting up of a special enquiry commission comprising of a sitting judge of Supreme Court on the lines of enquiry commission set up to enquire the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. We made a special request to Chief Justice Shri Anand that a sitting judge should be spared for this purpose. He said that there is already shortage of sitting judges, so he will spare some retired judges and he also said that why so much stress is being laid on a sitting judge. But we said that we wanted to create credibility to this. So he accepted our request and now a sitting judge is holding enquiry in this case. I would not like to say something else in this regard. But I must say that this Government is proud of the fact that the year 1998 as compared to the ten year period from 1989 to 1998 was by and large was the

year in which no communal riots took place and the number of such incidents was very less.

*[English]*

This year 1998 has been a not free year by and large.

*[Translation]*

I would like to submit that Congress is convinced of the fact that no alternative Government can be formed in this House. That is why they are instigating all, you can form a Government, Shri Devgauda can form a Government. Third front can do it, we would support you from outside. They are aware of the fact that nobody can form your Government by outside support. So first of all dethrone this Government with our help. If any proof is to be given, it should have been given in Shri Sharad Pawar's address : Shri Lalu Prasad said we will take a decision just in one minute...*(Interruptions)* You would not have to take any initiative. I am thankful of our friends from DMK party who took a right decision by saying that whatever stringent measure we may have to take we would ensure that the conspiracy to hatch the fall of Govt. does not succeed in any ways.

I thank you for giving me opportunity to speak. Till today we understand that the efforts to make us untouchable in Indian Politics...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : The same DMK told that they will not allow this *Pandaram* and *Pardesi* to enter Tamil Nadu...*(Interruptions)* The same DMK called them *Pandaram* and *Pardesi*...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I felt much delighted when he saw the statement of CPI(M) two days back.

We will not go with AIADMK. I said that what did it happen, what a strange thing had happened. Today, AIADMK too has become untouchable. No party is untouchable to us, not even CPI(M). Indian politics is democratic politics. We don't consider anybody as untouchable. This untouchable approach can be yours, sometimes it can be of anybody else and sometimes it can be of Congress. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji has taught us about ideology. In 1966 when we formed a coalition Government in Patna, Bihar, with Communists, some of our delegates raised a question to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay in Calicut that what he had done and how he had accepted this very fact that both communists and Jansangh here shared the same platform? He had said that this Government was formed on the basis of one

[Shri L.K. Advani]

programme. We have ideological differences with Communists, but if we say that we will not sit with them will not work with them jointly, will not prepare and implement any programme with them in the interest of the Nation and Bihar, this is an action of untouchability and no Jansanghi should accept it. These were his words that it's a great irony that untouchability is considered a sin and a crime in the social sphere. But there are some parties in political field which say that if you don't consider it untouchable you commit a sin. So, consider it as untouchable. I don't consider AIADMK, DMK, Communist Party, Muslim league or anybody else as untouchable. However, I believe that if Congress party imagines under the present political circumstances of the country that it would get clear majority, it is under a great illusion. Your condition in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is not hidden from anyone. Today, Lalu Prasad is with you because he is paying off the debts. You have just rescued him. Otherwise, he has no track with you. He will try that you do not make your existence there and he knows that you do not exist there, that is why he is supporting you. Mulayam Singhji and his party are worried to some extent as to what they will do. I don't know, but of course I know this that on the basis of your sorry state in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, it is mere imagination that you will get clear majority and nothing is going to happen under such circumstances. Well, it would have been better, had you clearly stated that the position which was existing six months back, is not so now because the Government is losing its popularity now and it is a non-performance Government. During these last three-four months, the way in which this Government led the Bus journey to Lahore, the way it presented the Budget, the way it did about Bihar, the way took steps in regard to the technology and the way it has created such a situation that the World Bank had to state that -

[English]

"India is now the most sought after destination in this region."

[Translation]

It is stated in the report of the World Bank that out of the investment made this time in this region, nearly 80 per cent has been made in India. Keeping in view all these things, when you realised that situation was changing gradually and within two-four months this Government will so improve its position, that till the elections in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, Congress will be eliminated, you thought it both to remove this Government at the earliest. You say to all that they can form Government,

you can form Government, anybody can form the Government, and some Government must be formed. Their intention is that this Government should go and elections should be held at the earliest. This intention should be recognised. I believe that all of you will think and consider over it and will ask them to present an alternative. As the Prime Minister has stated, the alternative what you want to do is never going to be fulfilled, because I think that even today the majority is with us. That majority will soon be proved and it depends on the hon'ble Speaker as to when, tomorrow or day after tomorrow, it will be proved. I have not explained some points because I believe that our Minister of Defence, Minister of Finance and our other partners will throw light on all those points which have been mentioned by Sharad Pawarji. I don't expect much from the Congress and the Marxists but expect from all others to consider it seriously that will this be proper...*(Interruptions)* I don't expect anything from Marxists but expect a little from C.P.I. because they sometimes speak wisely, nevertheless the condition of Congress is miserable.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You are against principled politics.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I can understand his position, can understand very well, what can I say about him because he is the leader of the opposition. I will only say that you may reconsider it. It looked some understanding and wisdom in the approach adopted by you 6 months ago and we found it's reverberations in the Panchmadhi declaration. If you work on that basis, you will be able to make much contribution for the country. The negative parties which you are playing at present is not only harmful to the country but also detrimental to your party. The point which I had said about Bihar...*(Interruptions)* I had said about Bihar that you are reinstating the Lalu Prasad Government in Bihar which would be harmful to Bihar and would be beneficial for my party. Still I request that even causing harm to my party, you do good for Bihar as well as country. Similarly, I request you to reconsider it. Whatever is said by Sharad Pawarji, but if Shivshankarji decides today that he will support Vajpayee Government, the situation will be changed. He possesses much importance, Sharad Pawarji does not possess much importance. Sharad Pawar is only a formal leader of opposition and he is the real leader and if a real man says his point, the whole atmosphere will change. With these words, I very strongly support the motion moved by Vajpayee ji and request the House that it should also support the same.

209

**SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak against the motion of confidence moved by the hon'ble Prime Minister. The hon'ble Prime Minister, prior to his speech, wanted to know from the whole opposition that what was the alternative, what type of Government they were forming and asked for something so that he could manage later on. I express thanks to the Prime Minister because he is a thinker. Four days back, at the time of Agni testfire the hon'ble Prime Minister had delivered a message to the Nation. Suddenly when we heard that the Prime Minister would address the Nation, leaving all the programmes aside, we sat in front of the T.V. and started waiting that he was an intelligent person but trapped in bad company.

12.45 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Now gained consciousness. As Rohini had said, "Jo Rahin uttam prakriti ka ka kari sakat kusang, chandan vish vyapat nahin lipte rahat Bhujanga." It means that if good persons are caught in bad company, they don't get affected with it, e.g. the poisonous snakes are twisted with sandal wood but sandal wood doesn't get affected with it, It is misfortunate for the country that those who teach us the lessons of morality, don't understand this point. The power is such a thing, the lust for power is such a thing that countless kings and rulers came in this country and continued to speak that they will capture the earth and they would not allow anybody to come. Rawana also came and he said that he would fix a ladder to the heaven, but the earth remains the same and silent. This mind is so tipsy... (*Interruptions*) that includes all of us... (*Interruptions*) I regret that you are going. Somewhere my Ghafoor Chacha is sitting and somewhere my brother Nitish Kumar ji is sitting. Now, there is the turn of religion - irreligion. Today, we had to strike with Gada at your back. Don't worry. Human mind is tipsy. Somewhere my Guru George Saheb is sitting. Hon'ble Prime Minister this mind is tipsy, innocent and dances rhythamically, be it holi or anything else. When you were busy in dancing, we were singing with teared clothes in Patna and Delhi. The earth remains the same and silent. Sufi-saints have come in this country. Advaniji was just preaching like a Sufi-Saint. You did not think that how you have been ruined and who has done so? Sufi-Saints had appeared in those days and said to those aimlests and illusioned human beings who were not considering about relation in the right manner, were not respecting other's mother as their own and other's fathers as their own father, to adopt the right path as worldly things would not go with them at the end of their lives and the man comes with closed fists and goes back empty handed, but human mind does not realise all these things. Rita

Vermaji, now you should come forward with your self esteem. She could not even be made Dy. Speaker... (*Interruptions*)

**PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad)** : You will also leave this world empty handed.

**SHRI LALU PRASAD** : We saw their condition in their 13 months rule but there is no change in the dress of our Guru George Saheb.

You see that we people wear tight clothes and you can see the dress of George Saheb but when he visits Bihar, he looks totally different. Now this is his position, it is not his fault. After all his association with the rumour floating centre is deliberate. George Saheb also apprise us his news about corruption and get the corrupt persons imprisoned. Rabri Devi is a Lady Chief Minister and though she is not involved in any case, eventhen attempts are being made to let her down Rabri Devi met hon'ble Prime Minister alongwith me. He himself admitted that it was wrong you said that the Animal Husbandry is the greatest job in the world. All are sitting here let there be full justice. Who is above board in this country. I don't want to go against anybody by touching this topic but these issues can not be hushed up. Whatever you say to Mr. Thaper on T.V, the matter can not be hushed up, records can not be wiped out. Hon'ble Prime Minister expressed concern but Minister of Home Affairs spoiled your luck. You are just like a wayward person. You are not at fault. I don't say it to insult anybody.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was born at Phulwaria village in Gopalganj District. We villagers do not know our future. Gosain people used to keep a small bull having a want on its eye, a leg on its back which is known as 'Naadiya' in Uttar Pradesh and 'Basaha' bull in our Bihar which is regarded as an incarnation of Lord Shanker. Gosain people cover the bull with a cloth sheet, wear ochreous clothes, decorate the bull with thousands of white shells and exhibit the bull here and there. Our Sadhu baba, who is sitting here, also wear this type of clothes. That 'Basaha' is a poor one. He visits the villages. One day he came to my village. My mother was sitting there and she also allowed him to sit, She asked him about the future of her son. I am not alone there are lakhs of other rural people who know about it. Gosain baba with both his clenched fists asks the bull whether he will get job or not? If a reply comes in negative, he again puts his both fists ahead and asks it, "Bhole see what is his future?" It is the nature of the bull that when we put our fists before it, then it thinks that some eatable thing is being offered to it. Sometimes it touches the left hand and sometimes the right hand. Then Bhola baba realises that he is being cheated Gosain keeps on saying something, pats on its back. When the bull

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

does not touch his hand, he pushes it from the back and Basaha rings the bells.

Though sometimes you used to take initiative in doing some particular job, but at the next moment you went in reverse gear. The condition of your Government during the last 13 months resembles the condition of 'Naadiya'. You got an opportunity in these 13 months. You could say about Congress, CPI, CPM George Saheb is sitting there. I was elected M.P, Lok Sabha from the Chhapra constituency in the year 1977. We all were together. All of us were participating in the movement. You as well as we both were in jail. We were fighting against the Congress. At that time Yashwant Babu, who is the Finance Minister now, was not in jail. Whether you were in jail?...*(Interruptions)* He never went to jail. You always get some post without fail either from this side or from the other side. You are not the only person. There are such intellectuals in Delhi who have no intellect but are surviving in the name of it. Let us leave these matters, you need not be tortured so much.

Sir, I wanted to state that this is the reality of George Saheb. We could not understand Delhi in 1977. When we came to Delhi, Raj Narayanji, George Saheb and Choudhary Charan Singh ji were there. We all belong to the same family, either it is Mulayam Singh ji or anybody else or Nitishji who has now gone to the other side. We are truthful people but Nitishji is very clever and shrewd who has crossed over to the other side. Sir, I want to recall 1977. We are fighting with you from the very beginning, it is not new, not due to any reason. Janata Party disintegrated. When we met in Bangalore, the dispute was over the name. But we had declined power in 1977, why? Because we are not after the power. We had raised that question...*(Interruptions)* You are a new Member. I am sorry that your Govt. is bowing out because of these people. In 1977, we had strongly raised the issue of dual membership i.e. whether you want to remain in the R.S.S. or in the Janata Party. George Saheb was also of the same view. Now he should speak honestly whether it is true or false? We were new. He had said that either you remain in the R.S.S. or in the Janata Party. Dual membership will not continue in this country and we would not harm the secular character foundation of this country. You might remember that only because of these things we got divided. Our slogan was "No election without Charan" and we went into the election. Our fight is with you. You said it but now tell us who is opposing the Hinduism and the Hindu? How Advaniji can be our priest? Our mothers & sisters, village people get the pooja performed through the pandit. How did you get this job? Today this country has a secular character. That's why Rabri Devi with a rural background becomes the

Chief Minister. When the unity and integrity of the country was at stake the media persons asked me about my future steps. I gave them a calendar though they were saying everytime in Delhi that it is not so and the matter has been patched up with Jayalalitha ji.

13.00 hrs.

People go on saying many things that there was a dispute between Lalu and Mulayam recently. Earlier we used to speak out. But this time we are proceeding in a scientific manner because the present age belongs to science and technology. You went on to conduct Pokhran Test by ignoring the needs of the common people, then we also used our scientific method. You are asking about its form, colour etc. It will have a strange colour to which you will have no answer. You just leave this issue. Though I have no right to give suggestion to a person of your age, still I would like to give you a suggestion. Hon'ble Prime Minister in order to win over the sympathy of the Congress men of the entire country you had said that Nehru ji had once said that one day you will become Prime Minister of the country. You had said it, it is in records. Now you have become the Prime Minister not once but twice. Nehruji has said for one time but you have become the Prime Minister two times, now please relieve the country.

You try to teach us a lesson. Advaniji has left the House, you keep on teaching us. Nehruji, Lohiaji, Jaya Prakash Narayanji etc. who were the top leaders of our country, certainly had blessed you and by their grace you have become the Prime Minister twice. But when you announced your programmes in this House recently, why did you rename the 'Jawahar Rajgar Yojana'? Why did you recompile the 'Indira Awaas Yojana'? You want to erase the history and impose R.S.S culture to lure the people of the country...*(Interruptions)* who will be what in the Government? Who will be the Minister and from which party? The ministers may come and go but if we lose the country then it will go beyond our control. Therefore, I urge upon you to go to the Rashtrapati Bhawan direct before voting takes place. You have done it earlier also. These people want to let you down by saying that we will win. But when will you win, you have already lost, do not remain in confusion. If the voting takes place, it will be a lead count we will not go for anything technical. Last time you also made a mistake and I also pressed the wrong button. So, I urge...*(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal) : Last time, there was a bogus vote, what about that?

SHRI LALU PRASAD : This time correct voting is going to take place which you will remember forever. That is why I said that this time there will be no

yellow, red or green papers. Please have a look at George Saheb, Devegowdaji is sitting behind, Nitishji, Ram Vilas Paswan ji are also sitting here. I said that when no bridge was constructed on Ganges at Sonpur, why was it got inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India. Nitishji admitted it. The Prime Minister visited Bihar Sharif earlier. It is our policy that wherever there is coal belt, thermal power project will be located there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a power project in Aurangabad. Shri Ram Naresh who is the son of my friend, Shri Lotan Singh, is an M.P. of Samata party from there. You go and see the present condition of Samata Party there because Nitishji has shifted that power plant from there to Barh. How Nitishji is going to set up thermal power, project in Barh, where there is problem of water-logging? Hon'ble prime Minister, Nitishji took you there and got that unit inaugurated. I said to the Prime Minister and suggested through the Chief Minister to ask from the Rajendra Singh ji as to when this project is likely to be completed, how much funds have been provided for this purpose? I mean to say that we should do only that which we are able to do. Thus you tell us to what extent Bihar will be duped in such a way.

Sir, on the 14th, Nitishji went to Rajgir along with Shri George. Rajgir-Nalanda is our sacred place where Jarasandh's wrestling arena is located. It is a centre of learning and there are Shanti Stupas. He announced there that he would set up an ordnance factory at Rajgir. When you know that you are going out of power, you should have come here and talked to the M.Ps. and other persons, thus making efforts to save your Government. But, you went to Nalanda (Bihar). You sent invitation also to the Chief Minister of that State Smt. Rabri Devi to attend the meeting as a chief guest. Thus you are trying to show that all the works for which inauguration has taken place so far, have been completed. I submit that most of the works for which inauguration has taken place in Bihar, have not been completed. Then, why are the people of Bihar being cheated?

Sir, there exists federal Government, federal system and a President in India. There is supremacy of Parliament. As far as the matter of strengthening the regional parties is concerned, I would like to say that you are going to inaugurate some thing and the Chief Minister of that State is not aware of the same. How will this go-on? How long will you be cheating the people of Bihar like this? Sister Mamataji will state as to what progress has been made in regard to the package given by you for W. Bengal. How long will you keep the country and specially the people of Bihar in dark by making inaugurations frequently at different places? I have repeatedly stated that the people of Bihar have always been deceived. You tell one thing. There should be

sufficient water on a place where ordnance factory is going to be set up. However, there is no water available at Rajgir and you are going to inaugurate the installation of the ordnance factory. How long will you be befooling the people of Bihar in this way? Now that your Government is about to go out of power and at that time would claim that you had started the ordnance factory but by the time our Government fell or these people removed the Government. You will ask the people to make efforts once again and bring your Government into power, then you will open up the factory again. The innocent people of the country and especially of Bihar should not be cheated like this. Therefore, I would like to know from Shri George Fernandes as to how much amount has been allocated for the ordnance factory, when it will be finally ready, how many people will be asked to vacate their lands and what arrangement will be made for their rehabilitation?

Sir, the Govt. is going to set up an ordnance factory there. Now, I would like to point out the situation in the neighbourhood of the capital i.e. from Modi Nagar to Muzaffarnagar. Our Mulayam Singh Yadav was going to, that side he saw a rally being taken out there, the whole Modipuram was packed with the slogans of Swadeshi. There was a slogan going on that India is a self-sufficient country and does not care for America and even for economic sanctions. We will make India as a self-sufficient country. We will make our security arrangements ourselves and work for our progress. However, today the situation is such, that you have mortgaged the people of India to the hands of Washington.

All Swadeshi mills, factories are closed down. There is a large number of workers who are poor and their poverty is constantly increasing. As regards other things as well as the, consumer goods, I would like to say that if this Government remains in power even for a single moment, nobody knows how much price the minorities of this country will have to pay. An assault is going to be made on the proletariat class whether they are farmers or the labourers. You had promised that at least you would make arrangement for the drinking water, for the children of India. When you were addressing, there were newspapers reports that the people of the country will raise the burning issue of drinking water. We will fight on the issue of water in every ward of the country. You have not made any arrangement for water. During the whole 13 months' tenure, everyone spoke of simple living and asceticism with no attraction for power. All your asceticism has disappeared in the lust for power during these 13 months. Advaniji, please do not blame us that we have created a rift between you and Vajpayeeji. It is because of the lust for power that a number of rifts and dissensions have taken place among you. You are not introspecting yourself. You are telling the people that you had said that you would expand the

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

Cabinet. These people are sitting. Our sister Mamata Banerjee is not an ordinary person. She is a capable lady. She has the ability to contest election from anywhere and get elected. Mamataji had said that if she had been offered the post of Minister, she would like to have the Ministry of Railways. Nitishji said that he would not relinquish the Ministry of Railways and then, Shri George went of to make requests to Nitishji to agree on the point in order to save the Government. Nitishji made his stand clear by asking Shri George to think seriously in this regard with a view to contesting again from Bihar...*(Interruptions)* This is the position. Now, you have mentioned about Shakuni Choudhary. Is 'Chacha' Shri Ghafoor an ordinary man? He has been the Chief Minister of the State. We are his sons, his voters. He belongs to Gopalganj. He is our 'Chacha', I have great regards for him. Did you give any preference to such people? You have made people to wait for the next expansion to take place. Now, the expansion of the Cabinet is taking place. When the iron was hot, Nitishji stated that it was time to expand the Cabinet.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Laluji has mentioned my name in connection with the Ministry.

[English]

I would like to have only one minute to clarify my position.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I sit down.

“ KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not true that our party wants to join the Ministry. We are grateful to the Prime Minister for what he had already said to our party. Someone had asked about the option of our party, then we had stated the same. However, it is not true that we had prepared ourselves to enter the Ministry. We can extend our support from outside but you can not do so. You require the Ministry, but we do not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Hon'ble sister Mamata has made that point justified and clear. I am not questioning her principles. Is it not true that you had demanded the Ministry of Railways?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We had not demanded.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : If not demanded, then you can never get the same...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Laluji, what do you want?...*(Interruptions)*

We tried to listen to you. Laluji was Chief Minister, he was a power broker. Now, he has no other way out. They all want to remove Vajpayee and they can do whatever they like but the people of the country will not pardon them. He speaks irrelevant and misleads the Parliament.

[English]

For God's sake, do not mislead the House.

[Translation]

It should not happen...*(Interruptions)* you express your views; you can not reject any one. If you reject any one, we will also reject you...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Lalu Prasad, please address the Chair.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Verma, that is over. He has yielding the floor to her.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDASS VARMA (Dhandhuka): The dalits have been killed in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not disturb him let him conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I said these things because honourable Advaniji said, who is the Finance Minister there, who will become, who is going to become the Finance Minister. I have seen it and saw it personally. Not only Lalu Prasad but the world has seen, I have not insulted sister Mamata, I said that this was the matter. You want to keep us under control. I, Lalu Prasad can't insult a woman. No one will give respect to woman more than me...*(Interruptions)* I have given my seat. I have given every thing, I have not taken any thing, "Na Lota na thari, Pet bhare Girdhari. We are the men of principle, you should understand this thing. The people who are sitting here...*(Interruptions)* You can not hide yourself. Every

\* Not Recorded.

body will come to know about your scandals, to whom you met, you committed scams. About Rs. 90 crores which you got in Hyat hotel, amount for horse trading which you here collected. I did not want to say this thing, I wanted to make academic discussion ...*(Interruptions)* If you interrupt, we will put these things...*(Interruptions)* Please listen...*(Interruptions)* Shri Advani ji will amend, "Sita Swayamvar" was being conducted it was announced that, who will break the Shiv bow, Sita our mother, the daughter of Bharat, came with garland, all the warriors are sitting there, thinking that I will be garlanded, I will be garlanded, after rejection from all places ...*(Interruptions)*

They will not allow to speak so today voting should be carried out immediately. Now it self I can tell the result...*(Interruptions)* Naradji was also present among those warriors. When he was rejected, he again sat in the next row, some one said that you see your face in the mirror...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk) : It is a Parliament or a place of joke...*(Interruptions)* all the Congressmen are enjoying...*(Interruptions)* one man is continuously doing drama and you all people are laughing...*(Interruptions)* You are the senior people, you had been the minister, you are listening Ramayana for one hour. So much money and time are being wasted, a fun has been created and you all people are laughing. Laluji I request you very much...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I will sit down. They are share brokers. Go to Mumbai, do the brokeship in Mumbai, sell the lotteries.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Goel, please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not disturb him.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Goel, please sit down. He is concluding.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not provoke him.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It is not the matter of joke...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I will not allow him to speak. Today, he will not be allowed to speak.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : All the people are laughing...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : They will not allow you to speak. Please go back. Sir, Prime Minister still has the temptation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, you do one thing, as the House has not been adjourned for lunch, all are facing its consequence so please finish it quickly.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Then, please keep it after lunch, first, lunch should be provided to us.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, you please conclude.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I was speaking in brief, the academic discussion. Mr. Prime Minister, I was telling this because your all friends are not informing you every thing, they are hiding the things, your Govt. has gone. They have put you in 'Narad Moh' you do not become Narad. Where you are standing, there is no land. You have insulted Jailalitaji, by imposing case after case, keep delaying the cases, keeping her in clutch. Please keep ruling on the people, therefore I give you a suggestion I once again say...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Please give suggestion to Smt. Sonia ji.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Please listen, sit down. I give you a suggestion that day after tomorrow voting will be held at 11 'o' clock. On 14, Kharwans (Pitra Paksh) has been over. The Kharwans of Hindu people is over. Hindu celebrate Satwan by eating unripe mango and Sattu, it is our culture, it is Hinduism. After that day auspicious works are done. Now Kharwans is over. Please after the speech you should give your resignation to the President without voting. Now, the President will ask us that which parties are forming alternative coalition Govt. We will inform the President about this, we will not tell this thing to Mr. Advani ji. It is mentioned in well established Parliamentary norm. In this way, you will save your face. It is better to give resignation than to get stabbed in the back. Thus, you will save your face. The R.S.S. did not allow to rule, you have destroyed the country, the country has reached to total ruination. I and Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav do not want any thing, please listen, we will fight against communalism till my last breath and this time we want that the communalism should be ended from our country for ever. Next time, you are not going to form the Govt. we will form the Govt. or they will form the Govt, we will fight with them also but the people of India will not vote you. Have there you moved the confidence motion, you have not moved it on your own, the President has asked you to do so. You have three important political parties, the party of Mr. Chautala. The party of Mr. Chautala is not an ordinary



[Shri Lalu Prasad]

party, it is Lok Dal. We have ground in all four direction in Bihar, Haryana and U.P.

We have ground in Rajasthan and Gujarat, they do not have even the moral ground. The fire brand leader of the country, Shri Subramanian Swami is also with us. He may be having not more members in the House, but he is one of such leaders as some one has said about our poet Behari :

Sat Sai ke dohre, jo nawak ke teer.  
Dekhan men choota langan ghav karein gambhir.

Three supporting parties parties of this Govt. had gone to President and withdrawn their support. Shri Buta Singh ji had already separated from you. Now, these three political parties have withdrawn their support and they are blaming us. I want to say that you have been finished, the people of the country know that by making statements in the House and by telling the people that the Govt. was fallen due to us, now it will not work out. Whose support you had, now they have withdrawn their support. You should not worry that after the fall of Govt. what we will do and what we will not do. We will drink, the milk and sell the milk of buffaloes.

You have not moved the confidence motion yourself. The Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had gone to the President and asked him not to do like this. I would like to ask that who are you to ask him. You have made perverse argument there and we have also made argument there. There is an example of Shri V.P. Singh, Shri Deve Gowda and Shri Gujral that you can not present budget without seeking confidence on the floor of the House. We have a Constituion, India is an union and the President is the same. There should not be different norms for different states. You met the President to make the perverse arguments on Bihar issue but President did not accept your views. I congratulate him for this and thanks.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, please conclude.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I am concluding. The Sadhu Babas who are sitting that side, I would like to tell them that they should have them and should make a new India. Shri Khurana ji and sister Smt. Shushma ji are present here, every body knows that what happened to them. How much torture has been given to Smt. Shushma ji, when you can not run your family, how will you run the country. We will not allow the responsibility of the country in your hands any more days. That is why we do not want to shake your Govt. only but we will, defeat your Govt. in voting in a minute and we will form the new Govt. and we will not allow any harm to unity, integrity and secularism of India. With these words I conclude.

[English]

13.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.35 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at thirty-five minutes past fourteen of the clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS - *Contd*

[Translation]

220 THE FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the vote of confidence, presented by the Prime Minister in the House.

Sir, two speech have so far been made by the opposition in this discussion. One speech was of the leader of the opposition, about which most members, who are sitting this side, were of the opinion that the speech was not at all interesting and the second speech was of our state's former Chief Minister and national President of RJD, Shri Lalu Prasad, about which members were of the view that this speech was very entertaining. Some members were saying that this was just a dramatic speech, but I do not agree with this. Lalu Prasad ji has himself said that his speech was very academic. He started his academic speech with a joyous mood. Till now only two member were representing from that side- Shri Lalu Prasad and Shri Mulayam Singh - but when they were making their speech then Swami ji was also sitting along with them. It may be that the philosophical and academic speech which was delivered by Laluji, also had some inputs made by Swamiji...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : The people like Swamiji are very dangerous. Guruswami has ruined you...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : You will also know just now. We will got rid of our Swami ji anyhow, but my advice to you as a friend is that you should not fall into this Swami's trap.

There was nothing as such in the speech of Lalu Prasad ji which could be replied. But the speech which the leader of opposition delivered had a

mention about it. He referred about the economy of the country in his speech and he was of the view that our Government did nothing in the economic sector during the last 13 months.

Sir, when I was heading towards this House for taking part in this discussion - today, several journalist friends met me, they were worried about the budget which we have presented, the entire country is also concerned about it - that what will be the fate of this budget? Whether it will be passed by the House or not? I assured them that we will win the vote of confidence and the Budget as well finance bill will also be passed. But we are worried and all the members who are sitting here in the House, at this moment are elected members.

Lalu Prasad ji was saying that we can get any post without making any concerted efforts. What I want to say is that I got elected by more vote than him and I as well as he knows that how much labour we have to put in to win the election. Though, it is a jail that I am not habitual of living in the jail like him. But I would like to say this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Tell me, how will you escape your imprisonment...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Listen to me, you have tried your best. We are sitting here, where will you go.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : \*—\*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Your malediction never afflicts anyone, because...\*—\*

The day from which the era of political instability has begun in this country how much it has affected the economy of the country, are we worried about it? The Governments may come, governments may go, but are we not collectively responsible for the present state of affair of the economy of the country? Whether the only job left for all the members sitting in the House is to ruin this country completely and to forget all about it's future. You are well aware that what has happened to Mumbai Stock Exchange and how much pressure has increased over the rupee due to this political instability. I would like to congratulate the sensible people of the country, who behaved wisely despite this political instability and the thing which could go out of control, has been controlled ultimately. Even today we have controlled the economy of the country firmly, but what happened during the last 12-13 months, several figures are being produced in this regard. I recall whenever we discussed about the economy in this House, we were told repeated that we were unable to hold the economy. We do not understand anything, we have ruined the economy, almost the same thing is being said by the leaders

of opposition. I would like to tell you with the help of figures that the recession period in the country has started in the mid 1996 and these Congress policies chalked out from 1991-96 were responsible these facts were draw our attention directly. Today Sharad Pawar ji was expressing his concern that in his constituency and other areas, private industries as well as public sector undertakings are lying closed. My Govt. has emphasised that it would take all possible steps to save Indian industries. It has been not our policy to establish new industries by closing down the old Indian industries. Today the pparties which are standing with the Congress Party and are eager to support Congress Party and want to form the Government with their cooperation, I would like to ask them what were their views about the policies formulated between 1991 and 1996 and why they have changed their mind today?...*(Interruptions)* You have changed your mind. When you will make a coalition, you are planning to form the Government with their help, you will come to know that the country is going in the same direction. I want to save the indigenous industries. I wish that the present coordination which we have with the world today should go ahead gradually, therefore we have talked about calibrated globalisation in National Agenda for Governance and have made a difference between mindless globalisation and calibrated globalisation. The G.D.P. growth during the last year was 5 per cent and this year while presenting Budget I said that it could be 5.8 per cent. According to Agriculture datas, foodgrain production was 195 million tonne. As per the latest figures we have, we will cross 200 million tonne mark and there would be no wonder if we will cross the growth rate of 5.8 per cent in 1998-99. We have been able to boost up the economy despits recession and keeping in view all these odds the present growth rate will be considered satisfactory.

Charges have been levelled against us that we do not have any control over the inflation rate and price increase we are talking about it in this month of April and by the end of March point to point wholesale price index was only 5 per cent and the decade which started from 1990, at that time in 1995-96 when this increase was 4.4 except it, by the end of the year this was whole time low at 5 per cent. All these figures of inflation are for 1990-91 decade. I want to say that in 1995-96 and in 1997-98, the inflation rate was 6.4 per cent and 4.8 per cent respectively and according to the present provisional data's during 1998-99 it may come to about 6.7 per cent which is the lowest in this decade leaving aside the two above mentioned years.

Similarly, the consumer price index which is meant for industrial workers is 8.6 per cent in February, 1997-98 and our per cent is 8.6. There

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

has been heavy decrease in inflation, we have been able to control it.

Similarly, whenever we talk about various budget deficits, our Government has tried to contain it and also to make a headway for future, and now it is under control.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Budget has already been presented.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : This, you cannot understand, for that you should go to Bihar Legislative assembly. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that increase in agricultural production has gone up by 4.4 percent and so far as our position regarding the foodgrains stock availability with us is concerned it is very much comfortable. Today we have 89 Lakh tonne of rice stock and 87 Lakh tonne of wheat stock. We have more stock than the norms laid down in this regard. Prices will come down more when Rabi crops will come in the market. According to data of industrial production and our revenue, we will have been seeing an up turn in the month of January, February and March. I would like to say that whenever everything goes smoothly, the general tendency is to start creating disturbances. It has been said in this very House that our current account deficit is going to be over three percent. While answering the Budget debate I had said that it would be 1.4 per cent of the GDP. I am happy to inform the House that the figures are at their minimum,

[English]

The current account deficit is not going to exceed one percent of the GDP.

[Translation]

As a result thereof, we have added 3.6 billion Dollars in the year 1998-99.

There was an apprehension that the Foreign exchange reserves might get exhausted. When America and other countries imposed sanctions on us after the nuclear tests, when the whole world was passing through a period of crisis, then it was said that the economy of the country would run on the foreign exchange reserves. It was apprehended that we would be unable to retain the value of Rupee and nobody knows where the country would go. At that time whatever views were expressed by us was being mentioned by Shri Advaniji just now. I would like to mention here the views of the World Bank. I do not require any certificate from the World Bank. According to the figures World Bank has stated :-

[English]

"India, the dominant economy in the region, was protected by its large domestic markets and capital account restrictions that dampened the effects of turbulence in international capital markets. The recent estimates suggest that a growth of 5.8 percent may be achieved during the fiscal year 1998-99."

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Pawarji was saying that the process of investment has stopped because foreign investors have lot interest, they do not want to come in this country. I would like to inform him about the Report of the World Bank :-

[English]

Foreign Direct Investments in South Asian Region equal 4.4 billion in 1998, down from 4.7 billion in 1997. India which received 80 percent of the Region's Foreign Direct Investments experienced an increased inflow.

[Translation]

When all this was going on in the whole world and investors were losing confidence in the emerging markets the development and performance of our country was like this as on date

[English]

\$32.647 billion is the highest foreign exchange reserves ever in this country. This is the position today.

[Translation]

Foreign exchange reserves have never touched such heights as they are now. Our Foreign currency assets includes gold and S.D.R. owe 32.6 billion and without gold and S.D.R. it is 29.3 billion dollar.

[English]

There are our Foreign currency assets.

[Translation]

I am happy to say that our economy is in such a good condition inspite of all the storms which arose in the world and all the efforts done by the countries of the world to suppress this country and efforts of our own countrymen within this House and the country to bring down our morale. If leader of opposition Shri Sharad Pawar and others are unable

to see these ground realities then I advise them that they should get their eye-sight checked so that they could see the reality. We are not satisfied with this much only. I and Shri Lalu Prasad had discussed about economy many times in Bihar Assembly. He must be remembering...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Please advise from which hospital we should get our eye-sight checked?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Except Patna hospital eye-sight can be got checked from all other hospitals. We are talking about domestic industries, swadeshi and unemployment. Leader of opposition was getting worried about sugar industry. He was saying that we have the capacity and all the requirements, of the country can be fulfilled from its domestic production which Govt. placed sugar under Open General Licence? It was the Congress Government which allowed zero duty import after placing it under open general licence? It was Congress Government.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : What did you do?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : We imposed five percent import duty immediately after coming to power. We imposed counter vailing duty of rupees 850 per tonne. Nowadays import duty on sugar is twenty five percent. We did it. What did you do? Do you have the right to say this?

Secondly, I would like to submit that World Trade Organisation...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : The whole quantity of sugar has already arrived.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Why are you worrying about it. If it has come then it has come.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : But farmers have been hit.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Shri Chavan Saheb you are considered to be an expert on W.T.O. matters in Congress Party. You participate whenever there is debate on television. You make very good comments. I respect the views but I would like to ask that what right have we got to impose a ban on the import of an item whenever we like. Would we be able to sustain it in W.T.O. Who signed the agreement in W.T.O?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : You were talking about the rate of duty.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : It is 25 percent and an additional counter vailing duty over it. Hon'ble leader of opposition is a learned person. If you are saying that export of sugar should be totally banned, is it possible? Can we do so? Till we are a member of W.T.O you yourself signed that agreement and you are blaming us. Why are you doing so? You have imposed an obligation on us and the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the topic of unemployment was discussed here. It was said that unemployment is on the rise. I would like to tell you why it is on the increase. Due to the reforms without human face during 1991-96, and the adoption of Model Growth formula, the unemployment position is working in this country. Why? In Human Development Report this formula has been called

*[English]*

This is a jobless growth,

*[Translation]*

Opportunities of employment would not increase but there will be economic growth. For this reason we rejected that model in our National Agenda for Governance. We want that employment opportunities should also grow along with the economic growth. This is our model. The Leader of Opposition is not present here at this time. We don't get satisfied only by the sensex points going up in Mumbai neither do we get satisfaction when our foreign exchange reserves go up, nor when our agricultural production is increasing. We only get satisfaction when we do something for the poorest people, the weakest people and the man who is at the lowest ladder of the society. The work done by the Government in the field of agriculture cottage industries small scale industries, and the efforts done to reach even to the remotest person is a matter of greatest satisfaction for us. I would also like to say that you do not understand the importance of 'Swadeshi'. It may be just a word for you but for us swadeshi is our spirit and also of our country. Therefore whether I should repeat this word again and again or not, you say that there is no mention of this word in the Budget while the whole budget is inspired by the spirit of Swadeshi and hence, here we have...

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMAI : But your own party men are agitated.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : There was no agitation. Nothing has happened. What do you know about our party? You say that there was agitation.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, please do not interrupt, let him speak. When you get your chance, you can speak. Do not disturb like this.

*[Translation]*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, It is a fact that once upon a time, I was with them. Nobody knows them better than me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You know them but please don't provoke, I get troubled due to this.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, while presenting the Budget, we submitted that we are satisfied that in the field of agriculture...

SHRI LALU PRASAD : You have already said that. Speak something new.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Rupees thirty eight thousand crores tead of Rs. 31 thousand crores have been made available to the agricultural sector under the loans arranged by us and the rural infrastructure fund...

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (Bikaner) : As compared to the Budget expenditure of the previous year, you have decreased it this year. You go through the figures before saying. Minister of Agriculture says that it is less. Don't say so. Why do you say so.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I quoted the figures of institutional finance as per the query.

15.00 hrs.

When we look at the agricultural sector, Jakharji and other members should know that it is a state matter and the funds being provided by the Government of India is very small part of the budget for this sector. He has stated the percentage of the reduction. My point is that we have increased the RIBF from Rs. 2500 crores to Rs. 3500 crores if there is an increase of Rs. 1000 crores in RIBF, whether it is not being used in the agricultural sector?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I did not say like this. I have said that the allocation made for this sector during the last year was not fully utilised.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Last year we had made an increase of 58 percent in the allocation for agricultural sector.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Definitely, you had increased the amount, but it was not utilised.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : A lot of amount was spent therefrom. If you want its data, I will let you know.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I have got the data. I myself collected them.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : A common man does not know about the data.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : A common man knows it only when he gets affected by the data...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagadh) : Whatever has happened during the last 50 years, you please see their data also.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, their is no need of figures. When Laluji and I

used to take part in the argument, one day I said to him, forget the figures, let's play, "Okka booka tin tarokka". What do you mean by data?... (Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : You were said -

"Taad Kato Sattu Kato, Kato re bal khwaja, Haathi par gaye ghoonghru, chamak chale raja."

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that last year, though we had a very short time, yet we distributed more than 6 lakh Kisan Credit Cards to the farmers through the banks. This year we fixed a target to distribute 20 lakh Kisan Credit Cards. We are also thinking about providing micro credit. We have strongly urged the banks to implement micro Credit System effectively in rural areas and I am happy that last year in 1998-99 we fixed a target of 10,000 for self help groups and now we have organised 15,000 self help groups in this country at the end of the year. The target fixed for this year is 50,000 for self help groups through which we will reach to the last person living at the lowest level, that's what Mr. Fatmiji wants to know. Micro Groups and Self help groups assisting the last person will have no concern with the States and therefore it is necessary for us to reach upto those people. I would like to say that there is a lot of discussion about Bihar in the House. Recently I was reviewing the performance of self Help groups in my constituency. I am glad to say that even illiterate women have also organised self help groups. Around 20-25 women collectively are engaged in one job or the, other. They get every possible assistance from the banks and you will be glad to know that though Bihar is illnamed in several issues, still it has a 96 percent recovery rate. We are very happy to know about it. Banks lend money to the people and also recover the loan amount from them, it is their duty and if the Government do not interfere in it, the country can proceed ahead very quickly. It is a matter of satisfaction for us. I would like to assure you that we will make progress in this sector very soon.

My Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not only concerned with ourselves. It will not be justified if we only think for ourselves and leave the other states in the lurch because when someone sees this country from outside, he not only sees the fiscal deficit of the Govt. of India or how the Government of India is handling its economy. He also wants to see the economy and financial management of the different states of this country. I am very happy to say that hon'ble Prime Minister had called upon a meeting of National Development Council in February. In that meeting the states put their problems and grievances before us and after deep consideration it was decided that I, as a Finance Minister, should call upon the meeting of Chief Ministers and State Finance Ministers of some selected States and decide our

future programme after deliberating with them. I am happy to say that we, without going into politics had given this responsibility to the Chief Minister of West Bengal to have a discussion with the Chief Ministers of the States and to minimise or abolish this tax war among them as they keep on reducing these rates for setting up and encouraging more and more industries in their own States. We have received that report now and it has been circulated to all the States and I have asked them to prepare budget for the next year according to it. I have information that many States are following it. But the most unfortunate point is that there are several States which have taken over draft from the Reserve Bank of India till 31st March, 1999. All of them have reached here. They are not in a position to bear the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission.

Mr. Sharad Pawar was saying about the strikes held by the employees of the Govt. of India during this period, but what was the reason behind it; the reason was that because whatever steps taken by the earlier Government on the report of the Fifth Pay Commission, they have left so many anomalies in it and due to it difficulties take place. The States also have to bear the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission. Laluji was saying that he has good regard for women. Definitely he does, that's why he got his wife elected as Chief Minister. But Laluji, what is happening in Bihar? The employees of Bihar Government have been on strike for a longer period to get their salary as per the report of the Fifth Pay Commission. They are on strike for the last four months in Bihar. The employees of Bihar Government hardly work so it hardly matters. It is unmatural they go on strike or do work. But it is going on their for the last four months. They are less bothered as to what extent the state has to bear its burden.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, then is a President Rule in Goa. While presenting the budget of Goa in this House, I said that the loss of revenue worth Rs. 20 crore in Goa during 1997-98 has increased now upto Rs. 160 crore

[English]

only because of the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission.

[Translation]

In this way we are holding negotiations with the States and it is my pleasure to say that as we had decided in the meeting of N.P.C., we are discussing with each and every state as to how we with bail out them, what type of assistance the Government of India can provide to them. We have said it after talking all these points into account. When we talk across the table, we reach of the concrete decision

and we have already talked about the State in such a way.

[English]

A major fiscal correction programme, in the whole country, has been started by the Government of India and the State Governments. I am sure, within this year, it will be possible for us to show every worthwhile results in this regard.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the economic condition of the country is in a good position. It seems to be progressing. But we are also concerned about the world alongwith the country. It is so because if something happens in other country, our country also gets affected. Thus, I would like to assure this House that when the international institutions discuss about the new financial architecture, India is playing its role in it. Today, India's voice is being heard in these institutions with a regard because I said to them that India is not only—

[English]

We are neither the victims nor are we are cause of this crisis. Therefore, our voice is being heard. We are making our contribution at the international level.

[Translation]

Before concluding my speech I would like to say one thing more. We are watching all the developments from International level to national level and from national level to the state level but we are worried about the utilization of allocations made to the State Governments by the Union Governments which should be utilised properly. This is our duty to ensure its proper utilization. But I am really sorry to say that in the report of Comptroller and Auditor General, the reports of several States are very disappointing. That report, after doing all the calculations, states that this amount is being misutilised in the states due to slackness and lack of control. I would like to request all the members here that this money is a hard earned money of our countrymen and none has got a right to misuse it.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I don't know what he is speaking.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Whatever I speaking, you are understanding it very well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is necessary that all the Members sitting here should consider about proper use of this fund and it must reach to the right person for the right work. I would like to say that according to the new arrangements being made, some method would be worked out under which more

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

fund would be released to those states who would work properly in this direction and less fund to those who would misuse it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition to this, I would like to say that we are seeking the vote of confidence here. After listening to the meaningless speech delivered by Shri Laluji on the vote of confidence, our journalist brothers will also be in a fix, as to what should they leave out and what should they print?

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mine was a 'Swadeshi' speech. You are not understanding it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Laluji was himself saying that it was 'Videshiya', then when it become 'Swadeshi'?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : When 'Videshiya' would be came 'swadeshiya' then it would be shameful for 'swadeshiya'.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Yashwant ji has become 'Videshiya'.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The economy of this country is not the responsibility of any particular party alone. It is the responsibility of this entire House. We are collectively responsible for the economy of this country and we should try to understand this.

[English]

We must realise that each one of us has to make his contribution. This whole House, Parliament as a whole, has to make its contribution to improve the economic situation of this country. I would like to submit to all parties and all members that despite all the problems this country has faced, we have brought the economy lack on the rails. Feel-good factor, as they call it, in the economy has improved and the country is ready to take off.

Let us not do anything in this House for which we might have to repent later.

[Translation]

I would like to urge upon all the Members and all the political parties to ponder over the issue of economy of the country forgetting our political differences. It is necessary to reply to a point raised by Laluji. He said about Bihar that we should not cheat Bihar. The Prime Minister went to Bihar and laid the foundation stones for some programmes and schemes there. Yesterday we went there, The Chief Minister of Bihar was also present there. Foundation stone for an ordnance factory was laid there near

Rajgir. For the first time in the independent India an ordnance factory is being set up in Bihar. Lalu ji, if you have slightest concern for Bihar then you should have provide and satisfaction on it Rs. 25 thousand crore is going to be invested in that state. After the Bokaro Steel Plant, investment of the Central Government in Bihar in almost nil. Have you thought about it? who has thought about it?

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Shri R.L.P. Verma ji was saying that while survey was being conducted in Koderma for the last 15 years, the foundation stone was laid in Rajgir ...*(Interruptions)* R.L.P. Verma ji was lamenting today ...*(Interruptions)* He will be sitting somewhere, you should ask from him...*(Interruptions)* All the formalities had been completed...*(Interruptions)* He is sitting there...*(Interruptions)* My Deputy Speaker, Sir, please you just tell...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Raghuvansh Babu, this is the problem among us. If Bihar is backward today, if Bihar is not progressing today ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Yashwant babu, I did not talk about opposition. Where in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt. You are a senior Member.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Raghuvansh Babu, he is sitting behind you, you should persuade him...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are you yielding?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister is not yielding?

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Why it took place on 14th in KHARVAS? You are concerned about farmers and labourous, but I tell you that it is totally on eye wesh...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : May I make a request to the hon. Minister. Whenever you are yielding, you have to say that. Then only, I will allow him to speak.

SHRI YASHWANT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on my legs.

[Translation]

But if normal courtesy is not here...*(Interruptions)*  
I am on my legs and he is speaking continuously  
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I am also standing on my  
bench...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I am standing on my  
legs, Laluji, please sit down...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is what I am  
saying. This has to be observed.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you are yielding,  
them only I will allow him to go on record. Otherwise,  
I will not allow him to go on record.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I am not  
yielding...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let there be some  
norms.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I was saying that after  
decades, a good works, is being initiated in Bihar  
and it is being questioned in this House. It is being  
said there that nothing will happen, it is a  
disappointing situation. Due to this, Bihar is lagging  
behind. Bihar is lagging behind due to internal  
conflict. We don't have trust on each other. Bihar will  
not progress without doing anything. I would like to  
tell you that this Government is committed to the  
development of the states as well as particular areas  
and so much concession has been given in this  
budget, for the development of the entire area, if all  
that is done, all the backward areas of the country  
will develop from industrial point of view. It was a  
matter of concern. Laluji was not present at around  
mid-night on that day when I was answering the  
budget debate...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-  
Central) : When fall of the Government is imminent,  
how will you develop Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale,  
he is not yielding. Please resume your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt.  
He is not yielding.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I recall, when I was  
answering the Budget debate at 12.30 A.M. on that  
day, you were also present here, I had said at that  
time that the tax package which I had announced for  
the north-eastern states, I would implement the same  
tax incentive package in Lakshadweep, Andaman  
Nicobar and Jammu & Kashmir. What kind of concern  
is this? This concern is for our far flung areas so that  
these areas should develop. I was in Leh for two  
days recently. Our Minister of Defence was of the  
opinion that we should go there and meet the defence  
personnels of our country at the border who are  
protecting our country. I went to meet them. There I  
saw the condition of Leh which is a far flung area.  
Who is talking about Leh? What concern we are  
showing about Leh. Did you think over those areas  
where electricity and water are not available and  
land is barren. Today Shri Sharad Pawarji is teaching  
us lesson as to what would happen to the problem  
of unemployment, what would happen to the  
development of the country and what would happen  
to the closed industries of the country. I want to ask  
this question from the Congress party as to what  
happened during the last 50 years. Do they want to  
remain in power for another 50 years to solve all  
these problems. How much time do you need? There  
were two United Front's Govts. for a short period,  
Atalji's Government is for 13 months, some Govt. for  
11 months, some other for 22 month and you our  
making a comparison of them. Even after combining  
all of them, we do not even reach nearer to the  
period ruled by the Congress party. I feel sorry, when  
our leftist friends, members of Loktantrik Morcha,  
and others sitting here are requesting them to form  
the Govt. to be a part of the Govt. by hook or by  
crook. For what they should come to power. I want  
to know from Congress party as to what happened  
during the last 50 years. Do they want to remain in  
power for the next 50 years to repeat the same.  
Today Mr. Chitambaram is not here. I want to express  
my sympathy with him, he had also presented the  
budget and we had to face the same dangerous  
situation which has come up here while presenting  
this year's budget...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : What are you saying,  
nothing has been done during these 50  
years...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are you yielding to  
Shri Balram Jakhar?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I am not yielding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Balram Jakhar,  
the Minister is not yielding. Please sit down.



[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : If anything we have achieved during this 50 years period than it is Smt. Sonia Gandhi...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record unless, Shri Yashwant Sinha yields.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Why are you so irritated. It is but natural, they are going out, that is why they are furious...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, If the fifteen year old boy has the height of two and a half feet, do we call it development?... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please stop this running commentary.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : This is the second Govt. led by Shri Vajpayee is the independent India which completed more than one year without the support of Congress. The first Govt. was a Janta party Government and this was led by Shri Morarji Desai. But what is happening in this country. The Congress party is like a fish which when remains out of power for some time it becomes restless without water. If they remain without power for 6-8 months they start playing their game...(Interruptions) They try to make use of all the legal and illegal methods so as to give way to horse trading and politics of defection and this is what Laluji is saying, he is quite confident that within one month's time he can throw this party out of power and can do anything. Why he is doing this, what is our fault. Some other people were instrumental in filing case against him and he was sent to jail by the order of the Court. High Court stricture is coming against us that we are not expediting the case. Those people are tying their best to do something and I want to warn these people not to fall prey to the ill designs of the congress, we have had such experience in the past. Shri Chandra Shekhar ji is not present here. When Shri Devegowda was in power as I remember that I had written an article in Indian Express. I had pointed out there all about the experience of the Govt. of Shri Chandra Shekhar ji that Shri Devagowda has formed a very strong Govt., but it will not run, it will not complete even a year. The people asked to me that what I was predicting, it will not prove to be correct, it is quite wrong...(Interruptions) I said that the Govt. of Shri

Devegowda will not complete even one year because before that congress would start feeling uneasiness and the same thing has happened. The Govt. of Shri Gujral had also fallen in the same way. Shri Lalujji is saying that they will form Govt. just in a minute.

What you will form, will you form a house of playing cards friends, remember one thing, the person who will support the congress party, will be ruined. If you do not have the experience, please take lesson from our experience and after that also if you do not want to take lesson then do whatever you like.

15.26 hrs.

[English]

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA (Tura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the 20th of March, 1998, when the Prime Minister sought the confidence of this House, I had reminded the House and I quote :

"This is the fifth Motion of Confidence during the last 22 months. I do not know how many more Motions of Confidence would be coming up before this House in the near future but I am quite sure that there could be at least one more in less than one year."

Well, I was wrong. I expected a Confidence Motion in less than one year but here we have today another confidence Motion in slightly more than one year.

15.27 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

This morning, while participating in the debate the hon. Home Minister referred to article 67 of the Constitution of Germany wherein he pointed out that the Motion of No-Confidence has to be accompanied by a proposal for an alternative Government. I do not think today this House is discussing a No-Confidence Motion. We are today discussing a Confidence Motion moved by the Prime Minister himself. So, where is the question of the Opposition presenting before this House an alternative? I had expected the hon. Prime Minister to have told this House as to how this Confidence Motion has come about. What are the reasons for it? Why did the President of India direct the Prime Minister to seek the confidence of the House? I think the whole country was expecting that the Prime Minister in his initial observations, after moving the Motion, would tell this august House the reasons for seeking the Vote of Confidence. The Prime Minister said that instead of speaking first, he would prefer to listen. I

think there is a confusion between the Confidence Motion and the No-Confidence Motion. Today we are not discussing the No-Confidence Motion but the Confidence Motion.

During the General Elections of 1998, the slogan of BJP was, 'an able Prime Minister and a stable Government'. This Government assumed office on the basis of a National Agenda for Governance. In the last 13 months of this Government, I have neither seen the stability nor the governance. I think these 13 months have been a period in our country where the country has witnessed a rule of non-governance. While participating in the debate on the Confidence Motion last time, though I elaborately dealt with the prevailing political instability in this country, I emphasised that as far as our nation is concerned, more than stability, it is the governance which is more important. I would like to quote :

"Is it enough for our country to have a stable Government if that Government does not govern? I think the important thing today is not merely stability. It is the good governance which is the issue today."

I further said :

"I am not worried about the stability of Mr. Vajpayee's Government. I am only worried about the governance by this eighteen-party Government."

I would have liked to go into the matters relating to finance. But then I do not have much experience of finance. Whatever the Finance Minister has claimed just now about the economy, I think tomorrow somebody will reply to all those things. I have something with me. I do not want to waste my time by contradicting the Finance Minister. But who does not know what is the state of affairs in this country today? You talk of economy or you talk of foreign policy. Of course, again, I am not going to deal with the foreign policy. Though the hon. Home Minister made a reference to this in the morning, my colleague Shri Natwar Singh will be dealing exclusively with the foreign policy tomorrow or may be late this evening.

Look at the law and order situation in the country and look at the morale of the nation as a whole. I do not think anybody need to explain all this with the type of electronic media and print media that we have and with the information technology that is available today in this country. It does not matter what Shri Sangma is speaking on the floor of the House. People already know; people can judge whether Shri Sangma is speaking truth or not. It does not matter. I am not going into all this and make a reply to these points.

Today, I thought I will deal exclusively with one area of concern. That area of concern is the denigration of institutions that is taking place in our country. The way our institutions are being weakened, the way our institutions are being destabilised and the way our institutions are being denigrated, this is the cause of worry for us. If we are able to preserve, promote and strengthen our institutions and if we are able to strengthen and preserve our systems, the country will move even with instability of the Governments. I am told Italy had 51 governments in 50 years. But it is moving. So is the case in many parts of the world. Therefore, what is important in our country to remember is that how do we preserve, protect and strengthen our institutions. I am sorry to say that in the last thirteen months, a lot of damage has been done to our institutions and I have no courage to blame the hon. Prime Minister for this. I have faith on him. But how has it happened? Is it deliberate or accidental or conscious or unconscious? Perhaps, it is due to lack of experience in governance. Look at the institution of the office of the President himself! The President's name was being dragged on the floor of the House to facilitate a debate so much so that next day, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs had to intervene saying that the Speaker will go through the records and will expunge all those remarks. It was in a very bad taste. The President of India and the Government communicate with each other. Secret correspondences are there; confidential correspondences are there but today, we find that even the secret communications between the Government and the President are being leaked to the Press. Are we not denigrating the office of the President?

Look at the manner in which Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat had been dismissed! The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces but we are told through the Press that the President of India was not even consulted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Mindapore) : He had not signed it.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : It was not the question of approving or signing it. What did the Government do? This is what we read in the papers, Mr. Prime Minister. If it is not true and even then we are deliberating it, it is because you never told the Parliament about it. This is another charge I want to level against you. You never tell the Parliament as to what is happening and we come to know about it through the electronic and print media. But the allegation is that the President did not sign it. The President was simply "informed". I am worried about it. Again Mr. Prime Minister, I want to say that I have no allegations against you because you would not

[Shri Purno A. Sangma]

have done it deliberately and it cannot be so. You may come to the Parliament itself.

What is happening in Parliament? I am sorry to say that today Parliament has become non-functional. In the last Session, 17.29 per cent of the time had been lost because of disorder. I know that you will ask as to who created disorder. Is it not the Opposition? You can ask me this legitimate question. If the Opposition was creating this problem, was it not your failure of floor management? Do you ever think as to how the floor has to be managed? If the Treasury Bench has no patience to hear the Opposition, if the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs provokes the Opposition, does not even talk to the Opposition Leaders and wants to impose decisions and his will, then how do you manage the floor of the Parliament? The management of Parliament is the sole responsibility of the Treasury Benches. Today, if the whole country is witnessing slogans, if the whole country is witnessing the Members coming to the well of the House and if the whole country is witnessing disruptions in the proceedings of the House, then I hold the ruling party responsible for this. It is the failure of the Government's floor management.

Then, what is the Parliament of India? The Parliament of India consists of the President and the two Houses...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYASHANKAR (Mysore) : About the bogus voting also, do you want us to take the responsibility?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I am raising serious issues. I am not blaming you fully. Perhaps, we are also partly responsible. But I am holding you more responsible. These are the serious issues of the country. We must apply our mind. I am sure, the hon. Prime Minister is with me a hundred per cent.

I said, right at the beginning, that what has happened has not happened deliberately because Shri Vajpayee would not have consciously allowed all these things. That is why, I attributed it to lack of governance and lack of experience in governing the country. That is what I am attributing to you. Therefore, you should learn this.

What happened to the Prasar Bharati (Amendment) Bill?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN (Nilgiris) : You have got fifty years of experience. You are talking of good governance. But why did you go to the Well of the House?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt him.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : What happened to the Prasar Bharati (Amendment) Bill? It was passed in the Lok Sabha. The Government decided not to send it to the Rajya Sabha. Is it not a violation of the constitutional obligation and constitutional requirement? Can the Government just take the Parliament for a ride? It thinks that the Upper House of Parliament is just nothing. Did the same thing not happen with regard to the imposition of Article 356 in regard to Bihar? Was it not the duty of the Government to see that after having passed it in this House, it should automatically have gone to the Rajya Sabha? But the Government decided not to send it to the Rajya Sabha because technically the Government can withdraw its decision. Are we going only by the technicalities? Is the imposition of President's Rule in any State a matter of a mere debate in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha? Do we not have a Constitution of India? Why are you doing it?

What happened in the last thirteen months? I do not want to hurt my friend Shri Pramod Mahajan. What is happening in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry is because of him only. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is here. She was a very very good Minister of Information and Broadcasting after me...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : Why do you not say that she was better than you?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I am not touching Commerce. I am not touching exports and imports. Today, there is no CEO. There is no Director-General, Doordarshan. The employees are on strike. Only Shri Pramod Mahajan is there. So, I was asking somebody this question : What is happening in Doordarshan? He said that there is no more Doordarshan. I asked why it is so. He said that it is the Sarkar Darshan now. It is no more Doordarshan but it is giving the Sarkar Darshan...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is Shri Mahajan's Darshan...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I am talking about Parliament. Shri Yashwant Sinha, you remember that when you presented the 1998-99 Budget, for the first time in the history of this Parliament, the Demands for Grants of all the Ministries had to be guillotined. The Demands of only one Ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture, were discussed for exactly 15 minutes. Shri Balram Jakhar spoke for 15 minutes. If the Parliament of India has to deny the people of this country a debate on the Budget proposals and if we have to just guillotine everything, are we doing justice?

Is the Government functioning? Is the Parliament functioning? I am asking these very serious questions.

From the day you took over, till today, this Government have promulgated 35 Ordinances...*(Interruptions)* Yes, 35 Ordinances. They have not been ratified by Parliament of India. Is it a Government by Ordinance only? Where is the relevance of Parliament of India? I am talking of the weakening of our institutions and Parliament is the most sacred institution in the country. If the laws of this country have to be only promulgated and in 13 months you have promulgated 35 Ordinances that could not be ratified by the Parliament of India, are we doing justice to the Parliamentary democracy? I am asking this very simple question.

Come to the institution of Governorship. Come to any other institution. I do not want to name them. Today, anybody can become a Governor. You only have to be a loyal party man and after having occupied the post, you continue to be a party man and declare yourself to be a party man. Where is the impartiality of the office or of an institution? It is all right. One can have an ideology. I have an ideology. Tomorrow, I can become a Governor. But the moment I become a Governor, I think, I am a Governor and that is all and nothing else, if I have to do justice to my job. Therefore, anybody can become anybody in this country today. I think, we are not doing justice to the institutions. Institutions are suffering...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : What do you think about Shri Romesh Bhandari? You had send him there...*(Interruptions)* You had made him the Governor of U.P. What was his behaviour, what you have done for that.

*[English]*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : You do not know what I did...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

What I did on the issue of Shri Romesh Bhandari as a Speaker you may see that.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : That has been done by Speaker not by congress party...*(Interruptions)* At present he is not speaking as a Speaker.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : Come to bureaucracy. I do not want to go into the details. What happened to the Enforcement Director, Shri Bezbaruah? What

happened to the Secretary, Urban Development Ministry?

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : What happened to the Vigilance Commission?

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : Whatever it may be, Mr. 'a' or Mr. 'b' is appointed Secretary to the Government of India and the Minister says, 'She will not exercise the power of the Secretary and I will not give her any work'. It is not correct to do so. We are denigrating the established system, the established institutions? I can go on and on to many other thing. But I do not think I need to because I promised my party that I would take only half an hour.

In the last debate, I also spoke about a hidden agenda, a hidden agenda for saffronisation of educational system. My apprehension was, how RSS is going to work in every school of India? Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi promptly stood up and said, 'You are wrong, Shri Sangma, we do not have any hidden agenda'. I told this House that well, I am only expressing my suspicion. I used the word 'suspicion'. Have we not seen in 13 months? Are we not seeing in 13 months what is happening to the HRD Ministry? Was this country not stunned when in the Conference of the Education Ministers of this country. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi introduced as RSS man saying that here is a person who will formulate our education policy and here is a person who will brief what will be the future policy of education where *Saraswati Vandana* is going to be compulsory.

We only remember that. I do not think anybody has forgotten it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Who was the expert?

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : That expert's name is Shri Chitlangia. It is a very difficult name to pronounce.

Sir, I have information as to how people are being selected for institutions in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, how people are being posted, how the syllabi are going to be changed, how the history is going to be refined etc. We know how the Indian Council of Historical Research was reconstituted. They may deny all these things. But I strongly feel that we are heading towards a situation where there will be a danger for our democracy as such.

Then, there is the example of handling the issue of Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat's dismissal. We read in the Press that he was a threat to national security. The official statement issued on 30.12.1998 said that the Admiral Bhagwat's conduct threatened national security. It went on to say that Vishnu Bhagwat has taken a series of actions in defiance of the established system of Cabinet control over the Armed Forces.

[Shri Purno A. Sangma]

Sir, I have already referred as to how the President was ignored. I have also read about Shri Brajesh Mishra claiming that the Opposition people were consulted, Shri Sharad Pawar was consulted, Shri I.K. Gujral was consulted etc. I know that Shri Sharad Pawar has described it as a total falsehood. We read everyday statements and counter-statements being issued by Admiral Bhagwat and Shri George Fernandes. Yesterday, I received a big booklet explaining as to why he was sacked. I want to ask how a courageous person and a person with a clear conscience like Shri George Fernandes, who is very close to me, — I have a lot of admiration for him; he helped me so much when I was the Labour Minister and he was a trade union leader — is frightened today. He is going to the Press everyday to defend himself and he has now come out with a booklet to defend himself. If the Defence Minister has become so defensive, what will happen? Instead of defending the country, he is now defending himself. How will the country run?

Sir, I am not going into this matter further because we are expecting a debate on this issue and I will be participating in that debate. Therefore, I am not going into the whole issue of the dismissal of Admiral Bhagwat. But I only want to ask this question that when the matter is before this House, when the hon. Speaker has admitted a Motion and it has to be discussed on the floor of the House, why has the Government been going to the media everyday? Why did the Government not come to Parliament earlier and tell us what had happened? We came to know everything from the Press. The Parliament has not been told anything about it. Why is the Government trying to justify his action through the media and not through the Parliament of India? I take a strong objection that when a matter is lying before the House and when the hon. Speaker has admitted the Motion, I think, the Government should stop going to the media. Whatever the Government has to say, let them say it on the Floor of the House. Otherwise, the whole thing is going to be prejudiced.

I never talk that I have some element of being a prophet. But on the 28th March, 1998, here is what I have said. I was reading my speech. And I found that whatever I had said on that day is happening. I spoke so much about non-governance.

Another thing I spoke about on that day was very interesting. I referred to the national agenda for governance where it had a reference to the National Water Policy. I attributed that this National Water Policy has been included there to please somebody in the South. I wished the Prime Minister all the best and success. I would like to quote that :

"I wish you well in your effort to please somebody in matters of Cauvery water. I wish you success in solving this problem. But having known the South Indian river, which is as mighty and as sacred as *the Ganga*, I am only afraid that the Cauvery and the riparian water issues may wash away your Government."

That is how, I think, you are here today. And that is precisely the reason why we are discussing this Motion. I cannot wish you all the best second time. I have to oppose the Motion moved by the hon. Prime Minister.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have appreciated Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee if he would have stepped down from the office instead of seeking this vote of confidence after our leader had withdrawn support to his Government yesterday. There are reasons for seeking the resignation of the Prime Minister. In the forenoon, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs had stated that when this Government was formed in March, 1998, the President had asked Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to form the Government even before the letter of support from our party was given to the President. The fact is not like that. Only after the receipt of our letter, His Excellency, the President, had invited the Leader of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri Vajpayee, to form the Government. Thus, we were the prime cause for the formation of this Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BALLU (Madras South) : The speech can be laid on the Table.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : I have to mention the facts...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. What is this?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : The practice of Shri Baalu is always to disturb the House. He is doing it even now.

16.00 hrs.

Not only for the formation of this Government, but, for the formation of the alliance which BJP had established for the last Lok Sabha elections we were the root cause and our leader Puratchi Thalalvi was the cause for electoral alliance from State to State. Advaniji would recall that after the 1996 General Elections there was nobody to support them in this Parliament when they sought a Vote of Confidence, except Shiv Sena. On the contrary, did you get these many parties in this House to support you when you had sought a Vote of Confidence during 1998? Is it

not our leader this root cause for everything? What reward have you given to her?

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot read the entire text. You can just quote a few sentences.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am not reading everything.

Have you not ill-treated us? Have you not humiliated us? With all faith we have formulated our National Agenda and in the National Agenda we have included so many things pertaining to Tamil Nadu. Have you fulfilled all of these aspirations of Tamil Nadu? In our National Agenda, we have assured the country the constitutional protection of 69 per cent reservation which is prevailing in Tamil Nadu. We have assured to make arrangements to declare all the national languages of the country, including Tamil, as the official languages of the Union Government. We have assured 33 per cent reservation for women in the Parliament and in the State Legislatures. We have assured amicable solution to the river water disputes, as my predecessor the former Speaker of Lok Sabha himself pointed out, including Cauvery water dispute. We have assured to implement the Sethu Samudram project of Tamil Nadu in a fitting manner.

Now I am asking our Prime Minister what steps he has taken for the implementation of all those scheme which we have assured to the country in our National Agenda. Shri Vaiko is going to speak. We have included the Sethu Samudram project even in this Budget. Just a mention is there; but not a single rupee has been earmarked by the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget. A single word is there; that is all. Now everybody is speaking on behalf of the BJP. Their Spokesman was saying that we have withdrawn the support because, you have not dismissed the DMK Government in Tamil Nadu. The dismissal of the DMK Government is not in our hidden agenda. We have assured the people of Tamil Nadu during the elections itself that if we come to power, if our allies come to power in the country, we shall dismiss this anti-people DMK Government from power.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : How can he dismiss it?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : We have assured the people in front of the hon. Prime Minister; in front of the hon. Home Minister himself, our leader had assured the people of the country and people of that State if we come to power, the anti-people Government headed by the DMK shall be dismissed ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, that is the hidden agenda which they have...*(Interruptions)* That would be their hidden agenda...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Baalu, please.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : I would like to warn Shri Sharad Pawar that this is their hidden agenda ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, we had not demanded the dismissal of the Tamil Nadu Government during our personal talks, but we have demanded that in this House itself. We have assured the people of Tamil Nadu that we would dismiss the Government of Tamil Nadu...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi) : It will be done by the Congress people.

*[English]*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : We were not in alliance with them in the elections. In the elections we had an alliance with the BJP. In front of their leader and all the people we had assured the people of Tamil Nadu that we would dismiss the DMK Government in Tamil Nadu. It is not in our hidden agenda. We have openly told the people...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It would be the agenda of the Congress...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Muthiah, Please address the Chair.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, on so many occasions we have put forth this demand openly in this House itself. Now, these people are saying that because of the non-dismissal of the DMK Government, we have withdrawn the support. The reason is not that alone, Sir.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Not alone, but along with other ones also...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Yes, even now we are saying that the DMK Government ought to be dismissed. We have been demanding this Government. We had even demanded this when Shri Indrajit Gupta was the hon. Home Minister. In the Rajya Sabha we had demanded it from him. It is not only with this Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Now, we can understand all this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Even with the United Front Government we had demanded this. We have demanded with this Government also and even we would demand with the future Government ...*(Interruptions)* Yes, openly, we will demand. It is not in our hidden agenda like you have ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, when we had asked for justice in the Cauvery Water issue, we were betrayed. When we had insisted

[Shri R. Muthiah]

for constitutional protection of 69 per cent reservation for the OBCs, we have been betrayed. When we were eagerly waiting for the steps to be taken to treat Tamil as the official language of this Union Government, we were betrayed. These are the things pertaining to our State alone. There are so many things.

When our leader had raised the issue of Vishnu Bhagwat in the Coordination Committee itself, it had been neglected and the neglect itself has revealed clearly the failure of this Government to uphold the security of the country itself. They are saying that only after all these things our leader had insisted on the Bhagwat issue. But I would like to inform the House that as early as 2 January 1999, our leader had issued a statement insisting the hon. Prime Minister to take action in this regard and to have a thorough enquiry on this issue.

After all these demands of ours were neglected, we decided to...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : She demanded something about the Defence Minister also...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Yes. On 2-1-1999, she had given a statement stating that this should be thoroughly inquired into. After that, what all these things, we came to understand that as long as this Government is going to be allowed to remain in power, that shall be a security risk for this country and because of the failure of this Government, we have decided to withdraw our Ministers from the Cabinet and to stay away from this Government. From yesterday, we have withdrawn our support to this Government.

Today morning, Shri Advaniji has stated so many things but he never cared to state something about his Home Ministry. As to what negligence this Home Ministry is having, I am having one instance of one Mr. Madani, who had been arrested under the NSA in connection with the Coimbatore bomb blast. Due to the negligence of the Home Ministry, a hard core terrorist who had supplied arms to the terrorist involved in the Coimbatore blast had been let off from the NSA. Sir, then to what conclusion can we come to? Today, he has appreciated the DMK for their support which they are going to lend to this Government when the voting is going to take place...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Are you our spokesperson?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Yes. What is the hidden agenda between the Home Minister and your Party for the past one year? Sir, he had rewarded them

like anything. For what? You have to tell us...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : You are not appointed as our spokesperson...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : For the past one year, he had done his level best to bail out Shri Karunanidhi from the Jain Commission accusations. That is why, the DMK is going to reward this Government. This Government had rewarded all these things to the DMK. That is why, after all these facts having come to light, we have withdrawn our support to this Government and as such, I am opposing the motion moved by the hon. Prime Minister; we are opposing this Government wholeheartedly and all the 18 Members from our Party are opposing this motion.

Somebody is spreading some rumours; some managers of this Government who have not attended this House are spreading some rumours outside that there is going to be a split in the AIADMK. No. All the 18 Members are wholeheartedly with our leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Jayalalitha in opposing this Motion of Confidence in this House...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : In Hyatt Regency hotel they are doing it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I call upon Shri Vaiko to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

248 MR. SPEAKER : Order please.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. The hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has moved a motion calling upon this House to express confidence in the Council of Ministers headed by him.

Sir, with all sincerity, I am here to support the Motion.

Sir, some of my friends have been telling about the mandate. The mandate was given by the people of India in their own wisdom. It was not an absolute majority to any political party. Bharatiya Janata Party became the single largest party. In the year 1996, the mandate was given. At that time also, the Congress was defeated...*(Interruptions)* Yes, they are the real culprits. That is why, I am pointing at them. Again in the year 1998, the people had rejected Congress outright. The Congress had been voted out. The mandate we sought from the people was on the plank of stability under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. That was the mandate given by the people. This side only focussed the leader. Here is the leader to lead the country. But in the other camp, they were in total confusion. They could not project a leader from their ranks. Therefore, now it is

an attempt by the Congress Party, which has been their *modus operandi* for all these years in this country, to destabilize this Government. It is an attempt to destabilize the mandate given by the people. It is an attempt to destabilize democracy.

When Shri Sangma was referring to the parliamentary democracy, I recalled the words, "The devil quotes the scriptures of the Bible". Sir, I am looking at my friends from non-Congress (I) political parties here. There is not a single non-Congress political party either in this House or in the country which has not been a victim of the destabilization game of the Congress. In the 1996 elections, on the floor of this House, when Shri Deve Gowda took the reigns of the Government after the fall of the 13-day Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then President of the Congress Party, Shri Narasimha Rao, gave an assurance that their party would give unconditional support for its fullest term of five years. After some time, some strange theory of relativity was discovered by the destabilizers of the Congress Party and the time compression took place that that tenure of five years was suddenly reduced to 10 months. Shri Gowda was thrown out. Then, my esteemed friend, Shri Inder Kumar Gujral took over the reigns of the Government. It was only for six months. When they, the Congress Party, speak about parliamentary democracy and the norms of democracy, this country has not forgotten and the people of the country will not forgive for what has happened all these years.

The Congress Party does not allow any other party, any non-Congress Party to rule any State in this country and also the Centre. That is why, let us recall, what happened in the year 1959 to the Namboodiripad Government in Kerala. Out of 104 time when the State Governments were toppled, it was the Congress Party which dismissed 95 times.

In a democracy when a ruling party becomes an opposition party by the verdict of the people, if the members of that party have got any respect for democracy, they should wait for the next term. But as Shri Yashwant Sinha, our hon. Minister of Finance has stated, they cannot survive without power...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram) : Two theories of democracy are being promulgated!...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Yes, I can. I support them. You please listen.

SHRI A.C. JOS : I am listening to you.

SHRI VAIKO : It is your party which killed democracy in this country. When there was a threat to your Government due to the verdict of the High Court of Allahabad, it was your party which killed democracy, a model democracy. And to uphold

democracy, along with some of our friends, we suffered in the dark cells of the prison...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is not yielding.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : You have no right to speak about democracy.

SHRI A.C. JOS : You got elected through Ms. Jayalalitha's support...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : I do not want to enter into that muddle now.

You can answer me. Would you answer me whether you destroyed democracy in the 1975 or not? In the year 1975 you murdered democracy. You were thrown out. Again, you were thrown out by the people of India in the year 1977. The Congress Party was thrown out, lock, stock, and barrel. They were rejected by the people of India in the year 1977.

What happened? Again, they played the same trick when the Morarji Desai Government was there. They instigated, they gave false hopes, they totally misled Chowdhary Charan Singh and then they pulled down that Government. Then what happened? Chowdhary Charan Singh had to face the same music on the first day when Parliament commenced.

Again, in the year 1990 when the V.P. Singh Government was there, what happened? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, let there be order in the House.

SHRI VAIKO : Because they are afraid of my arguments there is a problem. They cannot face the argument. They are terrified.

When Shri V.P. Singh's Government was there again, what did they do? They misled them again, they instigated Shri Chandra Shekhar as Shri Sinha explained the terrible experience which he had to undergo. At the sight of two Policemen from Haryana State, they raised a hue and cry and that Government was toppled. They had to go.

About the Congress, Shri Lalu Prasad and Shri Mohan Singh also know...*(Interruptions)* I have got respect for you, Shri Lalu Prasad.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I had been instrumental in making several Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VAIKO : Shri Lalu Prasad, do not play into the hands of the Congress! At least do not play into



[Shri Vaiko]

the tentacles of the octopus. You will be finished. That has happened previously.

Why the Congress Party started the destabilising game now? What is the reason? This Government, headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, brought glory and credit to the country before the eyes of the world when Pokhran tests were conducted. It was demonstrated to the world that India is a nuclear weapon State. We have proved our might and demolished the myth that the so-called powers of the world is having that they are the nuclear weapon State. So, that myth was demolished. On the one hand, proving our might and establishing this country as a nuclear weapon State in the world, he extended an olive branch to Pakistan for peaceful coexistence, on the other hand. The world has witnessed many defining moments and many defining occasions of history.

Sir, at Camp David when Mr. Anwar Saddat and Menachem Begin shook hands and entered into an agreement, the world was jubilant; when the Berlin Wall was demolished, the world was jubilant; and when the Palestinian side and the Israelis entered into an agreement in the lawns of the White House, the whole world congratulated it. Likewise when Madam Indira Gandhi entered into an agreement with Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto—the Shimla Agreement—the world cherished it and congratulated it. Likewise when the bus crossed the boundary and entered into the territory of Pakistan, the whole world congratulated Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Here is a message for peace and here is a message for peaceful coexistence.

These people are raising hue and cry that this Government is against the Muslims and the Minorities and when that argument was demolished, they were terrified. The Government consolidated in every field. Therefore, they wanted to pull down the Government. Now, my friends are playing into their hands. The mandate was given for Shri Vajpayee.

We inherited a legacy particularly from the Congress. But all the ills in economic fields are the legacies inherited by this Government. The hon. Minister of Finance elaborated in detail as to how we have overcome the crisis which is reflected due to the global economic crisis and the East Asian economic crisis. Therefore, in every field when the Government is succeeding and consolidating, they decided to pull down the Government. Their attempt will end to fiasco and they will not succeed. When the voting takes place, what happened in the case of Bihar, the same thing is going to be witnessed by the House and the world.

All these years, during the last five decades, when the Congress Party was in rule, scandal after scandal and scam after scam took place. That was the experiment with the Congress Government. For example, right from Mundra Corruption to Securities Scam, Urea Scam, Sugar Scam and Bofors, a number of scams took place.

I am coming to Bofors. I have got respect for my comrades, my Marxists friends. What have they stated on Bofors in 1987 when the debate on Bofors took place on 20th April? This is what Shri Somnath Chatterjee said on the floor of the House :

“Charge after charge of corruption and charge after charge of bribery is there. This Government is trying to place the cart before the horse. We are disclosing facts without involving the Parliament but they are trying to put everything under the carpet.”

This was the speech of Shri Somnath Chatterjee. When Shri Indrajit Gupta, the leader of the Communist Party wanted to seek a clarification as to what was the total amount involved in the contract, again Shri Somnath Chatterjee interrupted and said: “What was the total percentage of bribery?” Again in the year 1988, that is, the next year, when the debate on Bofors took place on 15th November, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, when he was referring to an insinuation and criticism by the Congress friends against Shri V.P. Singh, said : “As if he was sharing bed with the Opposition”. These are the words of Shri Somnath Chatterjee. He was referring to Shri V.P. Singh sharing bed with the Opposition. He said: “I hope he does not share bed with the Congress people. I repeat, I hope he does not share bed with the Congress people because then he will have AIDS”. This was the statement made by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. Even in the year 1979, when Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu tried his level best to contact Shri Jyoti Basu when he was on vacation in Warsaw in Poland, we felt very sad when Marxist Communist Party did not support the Government and they abstained themselves. Now the Congress Party is trying its best to destabilise democracy, to destroy the norms of democracy with the help of hammer and sickle. This is what is happening here.

We are seeing all these scams and corruption charges one after another. The money which has been looted in the name of the Bofors contract, has been deposited in five accounts in the Bank of Switzerland...(Interruptions)

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : What is your participation in Sri Lanka?

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt. Please take your seat.

SHRI VAIKO : My participation is known to the whole world. It is transparent. It is not hidden...*(Interruptions)*

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

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Vaiko's speech.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, they have looted the country in the Bofors contract, they have looted the country in the Security Scam, they have looted the country in the Sugar Scam, they have looted the country in the Urea Scam. Today, the Government is freed from the clutches of blackmailers. Today, the Government, headed by Shri Vajpayee, is liberated from the clutches of blackmailers and pressure groups. There was a ridiculous statement about Defence that this Government, particularly the Minister of Defence and the Minister of External Affairs have prevented the launching of *Angi-II*...*(Interruptions)* When that ridiculous statement was in the print media, already *Agni-II* had been launched and it had crossed the east coast.

AN HON. MEMBER : Now Agni-III will be launched in Delhi...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Who made that statement?

SHRI VAIKO : You know better than anybody else. Those who are capable of making such ridiculous statements, have made it.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri Sharad Pawar, the Leader of Opposition spoke at length. Shri Sangma also spoke. There was not even a single charge of corruption against the Prime Minister of this country, against this Government.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : What does Guruswamy say?

SHRI VAIKO : On Shri Mohan Guruswamy issue, their whole case was demolished on that day they did not have the face on that day...*(Interruptions)* There are no case at all. All their arguments were totally destroyed.

Sir, our Prime Minister had put a very interesting question for argument sake : 'what will be the post-Vajpayee Government scenario?' Is there any unanimity among them? The Revolutionary Socialist Party and the Forward Bloc have categorically stated that on any account, they will not support any

formation headed by Congress. There are more than 18 people aspiring to become the Prime Minister of this country. For argument sake, if this Government falls, there is no option other than election.

What is the opinion of the people? The mandate of the people should be respected and honoured. The will of the people should be respected and honoured. Even the people who had not voted for the BJP and alliance, even the people who did not exercise their franchise in favour of BJP at the time of election in the year 1998, those people also want this Government to continue. That is the verdict of the opinion poll. In the morning our Home Minister read out the opinion poll of *India Time*. There was a question : 'will Sonia be a better Prime Minister than Vajpayee?' 'Yes' was said by 19 per cent, 'no' by 77 per cent and 'cannot say' by 4 per cent. This is a magazine which is always critical of the BJP Government. This is the magazine which is not a supporting magazine. In this magazine, there is a report about the opinion poll. This is April 19, 1999 edition. The question was : 'Should Vajpayee continue or resign?' This opinion poll was taken in six metropolitan cities including Chennai. Sir, Chennai has not voted for the BJP alliance. In all the three constituencies, we were defeated at the time of election. Even then, the opinion poll taken in six cities including Chennai says that Vajpayee Government should continue. 63.9 per cent people say that he should continue. 26.2 per cent say that he should resign. That is the will of the people.

Sir, we are committed to democracy. We have never compromised even an inch on the question of corruption. Corruption is the cancer in public life. Corruption is the biggest evil in the public life and all these years...*(Interruptions)* when the Congress was holding the reins of the Government, they were involved in scandal after scandal. But the whole year of 1998 was a scandal-free year for India, scam-free year for India. Therefore, those who have looted the coffers of the people, those who have looted through corrupt practices, it is their design and *modus operandi* to utilise the executive authority for their own personal agenda. What is the hidden agenda? There is no hidden agenda at all.

The Government is committed to implement the National Agenda for Governance.

There was a mention about the Sethu Samudram Canal Project. I would like to pose a question to my friends on that side. All these years, why did you not forward to implement this project? You were in power for 45 years and there were so many Prime Ministers. It is only Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, when he visited Madras on the 15th September to participate in the rally conducted by the MDMK on the eve of Anna's Birthday, he had assured the people that the long pending Sethu Samudram Canal Project would be

[Shri Vaiko]

implemented by the Government. So, Sir, these people have no right to criticise about those things.

They talked about communalism. The country has not forgotten as to what role they have played. It is the Congress Party which played the communal card when the elections took place in Jammu and Kashmir for the first time. They played the Hindu card. We are committed to secularism. When we extended support and when we became a party in the alliance, we have categorically stated that secularism and the places of worship, whether it is a Church or a Mosque or a Temple or a Gurudwara, should be honoured and respected...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They have demolished the Babri Masjid.

SHRI VAIKO : I will come to that point.

We are second to none. Whenever any attack on minorities takes place, it is deplorable and condemnable. These were the words used by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. You kindly go through the speech of Shri Vajpayee, when he moved the No-Confidence Motion in the year 1992. He expressed his sadness and unhappiness. But what has happened?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : In whose presence was it demolished?

SHRI VAIKO : What was the Congress Government doing? The Al-Aqsa Mosque at Jerusalem is being protected even today. Shri Acharia, please listen. In Jerusalem, even today, the Al-Aqsa Mosque is being protected. What was the Congress Government doing with 128 companies and what was the Army doing? What was the Congress Party doing?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Who have been charge-sheeted for the Babri Masjid demolition?

SHRI VAIKO : Who allowed it? It is the Congress Party which allowed the *shilanyas* to take place. It was Shri Rajiv Gandhi who allowed *shilanyas* to take place.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : It was Shri Kalyan Singh.

SHRI VAIKO : It was your Government and it was the Congress party, which was in power, which allowed a temple to be erected. So, you have no moral right to speak about all those things.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Wardha) : It was the BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

SHRI VAIKO : Democracy should be protected and we are committed to democracy. Today, there is unanimity, cohesion, mutual and cordial understanding between the BJP and its called parties. With one will, one heart and one determination, we are for the stability and prosperity of the country. The Government headed by Shri Vajpayee and the allied parties are committed for that. Could you say like that? Every party has a different agenda. Whatever happens, Sir, with all sincerity, I would again like to say that during these thirteen months till this minute, they have not been able to pinpoint a single accusation of corruption against this Government. This Government is for transparency and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, why have some people withdrawn their support?...*(Interruptions)* It is because the Government could not compromise on the question of corruption, and that is the reason...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please conclude.

SHRI VAIKO : It is a question of corruption involving not one or two crores of rupees but thousands of crores of rupees...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Janarthanan, please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Muthiah, please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Vaiko's speech.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, did not name any political party...*(Interruptions)*

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

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : I did not name any political party but those who are guilty are jumping in their seats...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, you have taken more than half an hour. Please conclude.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, there are many paintings hung on the inner walls of Parliament House.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, please conclude.

SHRI VAIKO : I am going to conclude, Sir, but they are interrupting me...*(Interruptions)* I did not name any political party. But, if some people are guilty, they become panicky...*(Interruptions)* Sir, at least the Government is free from the biggest blackmailers now...*(Interruptions)* I did not mention the name of any political party...*(Interruptions)* I did not mention the name of AIADMK...*(Interruptions)* I did not mention the name of the General Secretary of AIADMK...*(Interruptions)* Why are they so nervous? Why are they becoming panicky?...*(Interruptions)* Why do they have to become so panicky if they do not have any skeletons in their cupboard?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, you have taken nearly forty minutes. Please conclude now.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, it is they who have looted the State of Tamil Nadu. It is they who have minted crores and crores of rupees using the executive authority when they were ruling the State.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, how can you allow him to go on saying things like that?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Muthiah, please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : I never justified the corruption of AIADMK in any political platform...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Shri Vaiko's speech.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI VAIKO : Why do they become so panicky and nervous when I talk about corruption. What is happening now is that some people are building castles in the air. Those castles will be demolished when the voting takes place.

I support the motion moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It is going to meet with success and victory on the floor of this House.

57 SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers moved by the hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

This House is witnessing the second Confidence Motion. The first one was discussed after the inception of the Government and within 13 months, this House is discussing the second Confidence Motion.

\* Not Recorded.

16.51 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

The Home Minister and those who spoke for the Government have blamed the Opposition for pulling down the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. First of all, what is the reason for this Confidence Motion to come to this House? I would like to discuss on this point. It is not due to the blame or the activities of the Opposition. This Government has come to power only because of the letter of support given by AIADMK. His Excellency the President has invited Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to form the Government, as per the letter of support given by AIADMK supremo and she has withdrawn the support only yesterday.

So, my first submission is this Government has no moral, legal or constitutional right to continue in office. It is better for this Government to resign and not to seek the confidence of the House. It is due to the inner contradictions among the partners of the Government that Shri Buta Singh, Dr. Subramanian Swamy and now AIADMK and also the Indian National Lok Dal and all these parties have withdrawn their support and they have specifically and emphatically made it clear that this Government is lacking majority. How can the BJP blame the Opposition for having this confidence motion in the House? We are not discussing a no confidence motion. The Opposition has not moved a no confidence motion. As directed by His Excellency, the President of India, this Government was forced to move the confidence motion.

The Partners of the BJP-led Government have withdrawn support not due to the fault or the activities of the Opposition. Now, BJP is very anxious about its next course of action. What is the next action when this Government falls?

The BJP Government has no moral right to continue in office. It is because it was only a fractured mandate that was given by the people when election to the 12th Lok Sabha took place. No clear majority has been given to any party. Being the single largest, BJP has come to power with the support of some allies largest party, BJP has come to power with the support of some allies and AIADMK was the biggest party having 18 MPs and now that party has withdrawn its support. AIADMK has to give the reasons for its withdrawal to the people of this country. Government also has to speak to the people of this country because the people of this country want to know the reason for the break up of this alliance.

I would like to say that this Government which is continuing in office over the last 13 months is also

[Shri N.K. Premchandran]

without majority. It is as of necessity that they have come to power. It is better for it not to seek confidence, but to resign from the office. It is a moral obligation on the part of the Prime Minister and also on the part of the Government.

The first confidence motion was also elaborately discussed in the House. What was the main slogan of BJP during the last election? Not only in the election, but subsequent to the election also, they have formed a national agenda for governance of the country. All the 13 parties have signed it and the first main slogan which was raised in the last election was a stable government. The second promise was an able Prime Minister and the third promise was good governance of the country. They have also put forth the national agenda for governance.

On page 3 of the National Agenda for Governance, it is stated as follows and I quote :-

"Our first commitment to the people is to give a stable, honest, transparent and efficient government capable of accomplishing all round development."

"For this, the Government shall introduce time-bound programmes on needed administrative reforms including those for the police and other civil services."

So, the commitment of these people was to form a stable, honest and transparent Government. When we analyse about the stability of this Government, for the last thirteen months, has the Government found any time to govern the country? During all these thirteen months, the inner contradictions had started between the partners within the Government. The Government is Governed by pressure groups.

What are the pressure groups? One is from Calcutta, that is of Kumari Mamata Banerjee; another from Chennai, the AIADMK; another from Patna, the Samata Party and another from Chandigarh, the Shiromani Akali Dal. So, it is being regulated and controlled by pressure groups. In order to satisfy the pressure groups, how many times have the hon. Minister of External Affairs, Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Pramod Mahajan and as Shri P.A. Sangma has already stated, the Defence Minister have flown to Chennai, Calcutta and Patna? They have no time to govern the country, always trying to settle the issues and disputes between the partners. The coalition Government run by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee for all the thirteen months did not find any time to perform the governance of the country. This Government has spent most of the time in order to satisfy the pressure groups.

We have had allegations in this House itself when the Secretary (Revenue) and the Finance Secretary were transferred and the Enforcement Director was removed from office. What was the reason for this? For whose satisfaction have they been removed? The BJP Government has to spell out frankly the reasons in this House. It had also come up in this House that some cases which were pending in the Special Courts had been transferred. For whose satisfaction has that been done?

Some packages have also been announced. A Bengal package has been announced in order to satisfy Kumari Mamata Banerjee of the Trinmool Congress. The Bihar Government was also dismissed and this House discussed it elaborately. It took hours of discussion. For what reason was the Rabri Devi Government dismissed in Bihar? It was done in order to satisfy the Samata Party in Bihar. That was the sole reason for which that Government was dismissed. Now, the AIADMK is asking, 'Why are you not dismissing the DMK Government? If you are able to dismiss the Government in Bihar, why are you not dismissing the DMK Government?' This is the question put by the AIADMK. The BJP has to answer it and it has to be answered by none else.

In order to grab power, in order to remain in power and in order to administer the country, they have surrendered all political and ethical values. Everything has been surrendered and now the Government itself is in difficulty because of the inner contradictions among the allies and not because of the fault of the Opposition. The Opposition has not tried to destabilise this Government. How can this Government say that the Opposition is destabilising this Government? I am of the opinion that this Opposition is giving all sort of support. Even the major Opposition party has voted in favour of certain Bills in order to overcome the difficulties which are faced by this Government. How can the BJP and the Government blame the Opposition that they are destabilising the country? How can Shri Vaiko say that the Opposition parties are trying to destabilise this Government? Maybe, in the earlier cases, it was all right but in the present case, it is solely due to the compromising politics and surrendered politics of this Government. There are no political, ethical or democratic values.

In order to remain in power, they have formed an unholy combination of 13 or 14 parties with outside and inside support. When a pressure group demands something, it is accommodated. After such accommodation for thirteen months, the Government has come to this position now. So, it is absolutely and solely due to their inefficiency in running the Government. They have absolutely failed in running a coalition Government. They cannot run the Government and it has been proved over these thirteen months.

I would like to say that above these pressure groups — the Samata Party, the AIADMK and the Trinmool Congress — from three sides, that is Patna, Chennai, and Calcutta, there is another major pressure group which is located at Nagpur. That is the Sangh Parivar comprising the RSS, the Bajrang Dal and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad. They are remote controlling this Government.

17.00 hrs.

The crucial decisions are taken by the Nagpur Headquarters. That is an external power. This is what is called back seat driving. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is an eminent person of this country. There is no dispute about it. But his hands are tied and he is put in a prison. Who is the watchman? The Vishwa Hindu Parishad is the watchman. They will decide the policies of the Government as to what should the Government do. That is being decided by the Nagpur Headquarters, that is the Headquarters of the Sangh Parivar.

Educational policy has already been highlighted here. A person who was deputed by Nagpur Headquarter attended the Educational Ministers' Conference. A person who was not known to Education Ministers, the eminent Secretaries of the Central and State Government Departments was present there. A person who was not known to the audience or to the official bureaucracy or to the representatives of the public was sitting in the Ministers' Conference. For what purpose? It was on the direction given by the Nagpur Headquarters.

This Government has no will power to take a decision. Though Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is an eminent personality of this country, his hands are tied and he is put in a prison. He is watched by so many persons. So, the ability of the Prime Minister is also questioned here. That was the second slogan of the BJP during the last election, stability, being the first one. Stability has gone. This Government could not provide stable system to the country during the last thirteen months. What about the ability of the Prime Minister? We are not disputing the ability of the Prime Minister. But the decisions are being taken by somebody else. The decisions are taken or controlled by somebody else. So, the ability of this Government is also in question. So, this Government has failed on these two fronts also — ability and stability.

We opposed this Government from its inception itself. We are opposing this Government at the political level also. What is the main agenda of this Government? The main agenda of this Government is not solving the problems of the people. There is a National Agenda for Governance. What have they done out of this Agenda? I am not going to quote all the programme that have been stated in the National

Agenda for Governance. Nothing has been implemented. What they have done is the Pokhran Test and the Lahore bus journey. Except these two, what are the contributions of this BJP Government? What has been happening in the economic front? It has been already cited here.

Coming to the communal harmony, now they are claiming that there is no big riots in this country. That itself shows who is behind all these communal riots. In 1992 the Babri Masjid was demolished. Who were behind it? Though the Congress was in power, it was done under the leadership of the BJP. The present Home Minister was chargesheeted. The chargesheeted person is in power now. Now, they are saying that there is no big riots in the country. Is that an achievement of 13 month-old Government? Is it an achievement, Sir? What has been happening during the last thirteen months as far as the protection of the minorities is concerned? The Christians and the missionaries are being brutally attacked. So many charitable institutions, Churches and other places or worship have been desecrated and minorities are brutally manhandles. Is it the policy of the Government? Is it the communal harmony? The Australian Missionary and his children were burned to death. India is very proud of its secular credentials. But what is the message going out to the world? The secular credentials of this country are damaged during these thirteen months.

What is the main plank of this Government? It is Hindutva. They are saying that they believe in Hindutva. What is Hindutva? We cannot understand. What is real Hindutva? It is the cultural tradition of our country. Nobody disputes that cultural tradition of India which is *Sarva Dharma Sambhav*. That is the hallmark of Hindutva. *Vasudeva Kudumbakam* which means the whole world is one family, that is the universal brotherhood, is the cultural tradition of India. Is this Government following the real principles of Hindutva? Let us examine as to what has happened during the last thirteen months. In so many places, like Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and in various parts of the country, minorities were brutally attacked. To a certain extent we can understand the attacks on minorities, because communal passion leads to some unhappy incidents taking place. But what were the statements made by the responsible persons? Especially, the All India General Secretary of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal leaders were openly making provocative statements against the minorities on the conversion issue. So, the message which has gone to the whole world during the last thirteen months of the BJP rule has adversely affected the interests of the country. The country's secular credentials are lost. So, this Government has to go on the political principle and political philosophy also.

[Shri N.K. Premchandran]

Another issue that has been mentioned here is that of corruption. Is it a corruption-free Government? During the last 13 months of this Government, Shri Mohan Guruswamy, an official in PMO, has vehemently made a number of serious allegations against the Finance Minister. He is supposed to be a responsible person in the Prime Minister's Office. This House will have a discussion on this issue also. For the first time in the history of India a Chief of the Naval staff has been removed and nothing has been disclosed to the Parliament. No discussion has taken place on the dismissal of Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat so far. It was supposed to be taken up today. Who was the first person to react? One of the partners of the Government, the AIADMK, demanded a Joint Parliamentary Committee probe into the matter. What is the harm in having a Joint Parliamentary probe into this? In the case of Bofors gun deal, it was on the initiative of the BJP that a Joint Parliamentary probe was ordered. Why is this Government afraid of a Joint Parliamentary probe into the matter? It is very clear from the statements being made by the Government that definitely there is something that this Government is afraid of. I can cite a number of such things.

This Government has absolutely lost the moral right and the legal right to continue in the Office. This Government has disrespected the secular principles of this country. It is not a corruption-free Government. If the Government has any belief in the democratic norms and ethics, it should resign without even seeking the confidence of the House.

With regard to the second phase of operation, I would like to say that when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the Prime Minister for the first time and had to resign after 13 days, no future course of action was spelt out. Since that Government had lost the confidence, it had to resign. Various political parties are responsible to the people, to the country. We will sit together and discuss the future course of action on the basis of some agenda and programme and I have no doubt that something will come out of it. We are all responsible to the people. Our BJP friends should not worry about the second phase. It has now become very clear that the Government will not win the Confidence Motion. It has lost from all angles. I strongly oppose the Confidence Motion moved by the Prime Minister. I am sure, at 1100 a.m. on Saturday, second time this Government will lose the Confidence Motion and the Prime Minister will have to resign. With these words I oppose the Motion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the ninth motion of

confidence that has been moved in this House during the last ten years. This has been moved at such a time when an alliance party has declared to withdraw its support.

As regards the situation prevailing in the country, discussion is going on in this House since the morning. Most of the discussion has been particularly about the stable Government and the able Prime Minister. People have expressed their respective concerns in regard to the stable Government and to able Prime Minister but everyone stated that there is no doubt or suspicion about the ability of the Prime Minister. As there is no doubt or suspicion about the ability to the Prime Minister, how can the stability of the Government be disturbed? They could not remove the ability of the Prime Minister. However, unsuccessful efforts are, of course, being made to see how the Government can be destabilized, how it can be harassed and how this message can be passed to the people of the country that this Government is not stable. This is true that the Congressmen or the leaders of other parties sitting in opposition know it well that the result of the discussions being held for two days, will not go in their favour. They also know it very well that whatever they have thought over, and understood and conspiracies they have hatched, will be retorted by the people. At the same time, they will not get any success in this House too.

Today, this Government is running for the last 13 months and at the time of formation of the Government, the Congress leaders, the people of Samajwadi Party, the people belonging to R.J.D. and all such people become worried and were telling the Muslims and the minorities of the whole nation that after formation of this Government, there would be incidents of blood shed in the whole country, there would be files of dead bodies, there would be harassment for the people in the whole nation and there would be insecurity for the minorities. However, they are completely disappointed to see the working pattern of our Government during the last 12 months. They have felt that there is an increase in confidence in the minorities. They have realized that there is a sense of confidence building up in other people and among the weaker sections of the country. They have felt that the image of India is improving in the world to a great extent. They have realized that India has been recognized in the whole world as a strong nation and after this realization, they rightly felt the embarrassment. Afterwards, Jayalalitaji came to Delhi with 40-50 suitcases. I heard that nobody went to meet her for the whole day. All the people waited for what the inside the suitcase but thereafter, people came to see her in large number on the second day and now, the result has come before you that there has been an attempt to create a situation in the country during the last three days. It is being tried to

create such situations in which it can be felt that now, this Government cannot run.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the conditions of the country are much better than the same during the ten years. In this House, we are newcomers but there are many such people who are very senior. They must have seen the House for a number of time prior to this. They must be knowing that this House always expressed its concern over the way the people were terrorized by way of the riots and the incidents of bloodshed. There always used to be discussions in this House about the number of people killed in communal riots in a certain place, the behaviour with the Muslims in a certain place and the way of behaviour with the Dalits. This House has seen such types of environments. It has been only once that Shri Arif Mohammed Khan got conducted discussion and he had begun that discussion on the issues of Christians in Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Apart from this, nobody ever stated in the House that today, the Muslims of Hindustan are insecure and that they are lacking confidence and that they are now feeling themselves aloof from the mainstream of Hindustan. Nobody ever stated this and at the same time, nobody ever raised this issue in the House. This is a matter of pleasure that only artificial issues were raised in this House during the last 13 months. Sometimes, the issue regarding Bhagwat and sometimes, some other issues and at times, such other issues were raised which had no substance. These issues were, of course, popularized in the entire country but they lost their importance very soon just like the balloon which loses its air quickly.

However, such issues have not been raised so far which had the authenticity and which could show that they were real issues and they were being raised in the right perspective. It means that we have got success in solving the issues which we had raised at the time of taking over the governance and the reins of this country. We have been able to create confidence among the people. Today, the buses and trains are plying on the borders where fires, bombs blasts and bloodshed used to take place. Today, there is an environment of peace and harmony on the border areas where the people lived with fear. This is not an ordinary achievement. This achievement is enough to confuse and bemuse the people of congress and all other people. The Congress has unsuccessfully tried to play the same game again which it has always played. I am quite sure that those who have been illusioned to go their side, will ultimately get disappointed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a question is striking the minds of the people everywhere and at every level in the country. Everyone is disturbed by this question. The elections were held a year ago and we all were elected to this House. However, no party was having a clear majority in this House. In the past also, it has

been the case on a number of occasions that no party was in majority. The Governments have been formed earlier with the help of alliance parties. In the past, the Governments of the opposition and non-congress parties have been formed and today also, there is a non-congress Government. The whole House knows how the congress has hatched conspiracies to pull down the non-congress Governments in the past and everyone is clearly noticing how the same congress is now hatching conspiracy to pull down this non-congress Government. This is certainly a matter of concern to the entire country. Today, this is not the question whether it is the motion of confidence or the motion of no-confidence. Also, this is not the question as to who is running the Government in the country. Today, this question stands whether the democracy will remain intact or not. If the democracy remains in existence, then who will look after it. Today, the whole nation is noticing how a situation of confusion was created in the country in the name of secularism and all such artificial questions were raised which proved to be wrong. No political party has ever been able to run the Government in the country in the name of casteism and religion and no political party can ever get success in running the Government on these lines. I admit that secularism should exist in this country and it should be strongly preserved here. Whoever is there in this country whether it is me who is a Muslim, a Member of this Parliament and a Minister. There are all types of people here belonging to different castes, religions and political parties and there are such people who are of foreign origin but are Head of prominent parties. Such thing is available only in this country. But I am surprised to notice that those who are following the foreign ideologies are now expressing concern and views about the Swadeshi. Today, in these circumstances, this country stands firmly with the Indian civilization, Indian principles and Indian ideology. These who are conspiring, should feel that the expenditure of all the elections held during the last ten years and the expenses of one election on one person, is such that it causes harassment to every person.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Sharad Pawarji was stating that this time a very good crop has been recorded. This is a matter of happiness. Everyone of this House should welcome this. As the crop has been very well, the prices of essential commodities will decline after two months and the goods will become cheaper. I can state one thing clearly that the prices of lands have declined in big cities during the last 10 months. The reason behind it is that we have dealt strictly with those involved in black-marketing, hoarding and corruption. At the same time, we have dealt with firmly against those people who were engaged in improbity. We have kept control on such people who have ruled over this country in connivance with these



[Shri Mukhtar Naqvi]

types of people during the last 50 years. Today, these people are certainly finding themselves disturbed and their patrons are getting worried.

Sir, so far as the minorities in this country are concerned, they are feeling the sense of security. Such people who used to deal with the votes of the minorities, are now worried because we have explained to the minorities the realities of those people and have shown how they took advantage by diverting them from their real issues to the artificial issues and kept them in dark. Today, the Bhartiya Janata Party has shown that the real issues of the minorities are the means of livelihood and the education and not the conflict of the Mandir-Masjid. Today, in the entire 13 months' period of the Government, no Minister or person of our party has been charged with any act of corruption in any way and anywhere whereas the previous Governments faced allegation one by one after every one or two months and the cases of scams against them came into light. The whole nation knows the transparency of this Government whereas the scams of the previous Governments are coming daily before the people.

Sir, today the whole world is watching that this Government is a clean, honest and far from the influence of power brokers and look after the interest of the General public. It wants the minorities of the country, weaker sections of the society and backward people to get their proper rights. The people conspiring to pull down such a Government, can never succeed in their mission. The people who want that there should not be brotherhood, affection and progress in the country, will not succeed in their conspiracy. These people, who standing on the heap of corpse want to play their politics, will not be able to succeed in their intention at any level. Those people, who are trying to mislead the minorities by raising artificial issues before them, will never succeed in their conspiracy. They have ruled the country for the last 50 year, by raising false issues before the minorities and so called secularists have told that secularism would only exist in this country when Babri Mosque would exist and when Saraswati Vandana and Vande Matram would be opposed, only then the secularism would exist in this country. In this way these people have diverted the attention of the minorities from their basic issues. Today, the Bhartiya Janata Party has explained that Temple-Mosque, Saraswati Vandana are not the real issues of the minorities, these are only artificial issues and their real issues are the rights to earn livelihood and getting education. Uptill now they have been misguided and during the last years, rulers of this country have been engaged in misguiding them, but now the Bhartiya Janata party has told them that they should not be misled. So, such so called

secularists in trouble because they can not succeed now in their game with artificial issues.

Sir, so far as Kashmir is concerned I would like to say that for the last several years there has been firing in Kashmir, bomb blasts were taking place in Kashmir and the places of worship were being burnt. Charar-e-Sharif was set on fire, everyday our youths were being set on fire, our people were being gunned down, criminal assault was being made on their prestige, they were being burnt alive and there was incidence of arsoning and looting everywhere.

During the last one year an atmosphere of peace and security has developed in Kashmir. Flowers has bloomed again in the gardens of Kashmir. The message of love is again spreading among the people in the valley of Kashmir, and such an atmosphere has developed in Kashmir that it can be said with pride that Kashmir is an integral part of the India and the people of Kashmir are also of India. Now, the people have started to realise the truth. Today, the people in Kashmir are going on strike for the common causes and common issues. Now they are getting conscious for their livelihood and not for the terrorism. Pakistani flag is never hoisted there, rather Hindustani flag is being hoisted there. The Indian flags are not being burnt there. Previously, the Indian flags were being burnt there and the flags of Pakistan were being hoisted. During one year of our regime we have succeeded in creating this confidence among the people of every part and every corner of the Hindustan that we want to get the right to equality to every group every caste and every individual of the country and want to make him felt of equality, and we have got success in this regard.

At the same time there are a number of questions on which different types of discussions are going on at present in the country, different types of atmosphere are being created, but I just want to say that any single political party cannot be able to make the condition of the country better. Political party or the Government can display their strong will power, can display their strong political will power and we have done it on every occasion. However all the political parties should make efforts to advance that strong political will power firmly and honestly in the interest of the Nation. When Pokhran test was conducted, it was not the propriety of any single political party. When Agni-II missile was tested, that was not a test of any single political party. Prior to this, sometimes Dawood Ibrahim and sometimes Hazi Mastan were portrayed as the Muslims of the Hindustan. We have shown, within one month the picture of the Muslims of Hindustan as a scientist such as Abdul Kalam who is a main architecture in the whole process conducting Pokhran test. We have tried to make them felt that Muslims, Sikhs and Christians of this country are as much nationalist as the Hindus. Nobody's patriotism can be questioned. But the people, who boast of themselves as secular,

have repeatedly tried to show that the Muslims of the Hindustan would have to prove their patriotism, the Christians of the Hindustan have to prove their patriotism, Sikhs of the Hindustan have to prove their patriotism — what type of patriotism. They want? Why did you make them apprehensive, why are you threatening them? Only for this reason that you could fetch and buy their votes, but I feel that these tricks would not work now. I would like to assure this House that a tenure of four years is still left and there is no worry at all.

Lalaji was just saying that it was very scientific. Our's is a much scientific system. There is no need of any problem or misunderstanding in the scientific system. We will create self-confidence amongst the people of this country in four years, we will present this country not only as developing nation but also as a developed nation before the world. We shall create such an atmosphere in this country as the people of the whole world could feel that India is really a strong country and any other country which would extend the hand of friendship towards India, will get friendship in turn and if somebody extends the hand of hostility then it will get the reply in the same manner. We want to present the picture of such India before the whole world.

This Government is working under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. Noone has questioned his leadership till now. None of our allies has said that there is any doubt on the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Today you have no leadership. Who is your leader? There is no leader and there is no leadership. But the preparations are on to form the Government. You are not fully accepting any leader whether he/she is a foreigner or an Indian. We are fully, unanimously and jointly agree on this fact that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is the leader of the whole country, there is hardly any doubt anywhere on this fact that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is the leader of our alliance as well as our party. Nobody has any doubt anywhere. Today you are betraying the country. Society, House as well as the crore of people of the country by hatching constant conspiracy against such a person against whose leadership nobody has raised a finger as yet, and I would like to clarify that if such a betrayal would also be continued in future the public will in turn betray these people in such a manner as they will never be able to move a motion of confidence or no-confidence in this House. With this I strongly support this motion and also urge those people, who have nationalist feelings, who are concerned about the country, who feel that the pride, unity, nationality, integrity are safe in the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, must support this motion. Thanks, Jai Hind.

**SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (Thane)** : Mr. Chairman, Sir, enough discussion has taken place, now please go on for voting

...(Interruptions) Secular, non secular, corruption, non-corruption, and what else ...(Interruptions) There is no other issue.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : You take your seat.

**SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE** : It has been five and a half hours now. Take the direct voting. There is full attendance in the House at present, so go on for voting...(Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : His words will not be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : Your suggestion is rejected please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English] 270

**SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda)** : Mr. Chairman, I rise, on behalf of the Communist Party of India, to oppose the Motion moved by the hon. Prime Minister today for confidence in his Government. The hon. Prime Minister moved another Motion of Confidence 13 months back in this House and at that time, we, from the Opposition, explained why the BJP Government cannot rule and what are our doubts and apprehensions. After 13 months, unfortunately all the apprehensions of the Opposition parties have become true. Today, after 13 months of the misrule of the BJP Government, the people of this country are disenchanted. In 1998, a section of the people were having illusions about the BJP Government or, at least, in the able leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, as the Prime Minister of this country. After 13 months now, it is proved beyond any doubt that the BJP has only given an unstable, inefficient Government and a weak Prime Minister who could not deliver the goods which they promised before the elections and through the National Agenda. We accuse the BJP Government of inefficiency and inability to control the prices. We accuse them of communalism. We believe that they do not have any right to continue in power morally and politically. They have lost majority in the Lok Sabha. In fact, the people in this country lost the confidence in them long back. And here is this House, today only by discussing this Motion, we are formalising the loss of confidence of the nation in the BJP Government.

Thirteen months back, the BJP Government made several promises. Last month we heard that the BJP had gone round the country with one year's victory rule in this country. I heard that they gave three main points: they made an atom bomb; they settled the Cauvery dispute; and the bus diplomacy of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in restoring good relations between India and Pakistan and now, of course, 'Agni'.

\* Not Recorded.

[Shri S. Sudhakar Reddy]

I would like to ask whether the atom bomb has given more security to the nation or more danger to the nation. When there was a debate in this House on the question of having an atom bomb for India, this Government told us that it was for the security and for the defence of this country and against the onslaught of the foreign invasions and aggressions. But they provoked a neighbouring country, Pakistan, to manufacture atom bombs. They provoked them to manufacture missiles. Now, the threat to the security of the nation is more than what it was earlier. Today, the danger to this country is much more than it was before 1998. We are told that the atom bomb is the cheapest weapon which one have. It is true that manufacturing an atom bomb may be cheap. But because of the atom bomb and its consequences in the last one year, Rs. 10,000 crore are spent extra for the defence of this country when 32 per cent of the population in this country is living below the poverty line. Thousands of villages do not have drinking water. Crores of acres of land do not have irrigation facilities. Millions of people do not have medical facilities. But the priority of the BJP Government is to satisfy their ego to manufacture an atom bomb.

Our hon. Minister, Shri L.K. Advani, was telling this morning that today everybody in the world is appreciating it. We heard only abuses and criticism from every quarter of this world asking why India has made an atom bomb. Everybody felt that it was not necessary for us to have an atom bomb today in this world of nuclear knowledge. It is not a very great achievement. We had this knowledge even earlier. We had kept the option open. But by manufacturing an atom bomb, today, we have brought the country to more serious threats from the security angle.

We accuse the BJP Government for its miserable failure in controlling the prices. The people of this country unequivocally gave their option that onions were more important than an atom bomb. There were elections in Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and Rajasthan. Out of these three States, two were ruled by the BJP Government. I would like to know who appreciated it outside the country or inside the country. Only the ego of the BJP is satisfied with it.

The prices of essential commodities, namely, foodgrains, edible oils, and vegetables have gone up and the life of the common people of this country has become miserable during the period of the BJP Government, and that was the result of defeat of the BJP which we have seen in some of the States. The BJP Government wants us to believe that in this one year, the inflation rate has come down. It is not true. The inflation not only increased, but the exchange rate of dollar and rupee has fallen. The real value of the rupee has fallen. This is the reality. On the

economic front, on the agriculture sector, on the industrial sector, and on every other sector, the BJP Government has miserably failed. I would like to ask the Government what is the situation in the industrial sector. The Cement Corporation of India is closing factories after factories. In Andhra Pradesh, from the State where I come, Ramagundam Fertilizer Factory is closed just because the Government could not provide Rs. 30 crore. They have provided Rs. 40 crore to keep the factory intact. Now, the Government is promising another factory with Rs. 600 crore. The Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited Hyderabad is closed and the bulk drugs are being imported so that the fate of the IDPL is once for all closed.

Here is this Parliament, this Government had brought the Patents Bill. It also brought the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill. In whose interest, they have been brought? By doing so, you are going to hand over the most important and vital financial sector to multinational corporations. This is to satisfy the masters in the United State of America, the imperialist, and the multinational corporations. Factories after factories, and industries after industries in the public sector are being destroyed systematically. By means of privatisation, you are making millions of people unemployed. No new industry is coming up in this country.

As far as agriculture sector is concerned, in Andhra Pradesh unfortunately, last year as also this year, there were more than 350 suicides by the farmers, particularly, the cotton farmer. The mills in Coimbatore and Ahmedabad are closed. The demand for cotton is reduced and a lot of cotton is being imported. There is no remunerative price for the peasants. The tall promises of the BJP Government, and the promises of the Prime Minister from the Red Fort on 15th August about Crop Insurance have not been implemented. It is a betrayal of the nation. It is most unfortunate that the agricultural sector in this country is getting destroyed. Millions of farmers are getting uprooted. They are going and working as labours in the towns. They are going for small work outside. They are leaving their lands. What is the priority of this Government? The priorities of this Government are bombs, missiles, and rockets, not drinking water, water for irrigation, crop insurance and so on. This Government has miserably failed to control the attacks on minorities in this country. I accuse the BJP Government of unleashing terror, the psychological terror against the minorities in this country, particularly, by carrying on the Sangh Parivar's attacks on Christian minorities and missionaries. We have seen how a section of this Sangh Parivar even tried to describe the most inhuman rape in Madhya Pradesh on nuns as a backlash of Hinduism against the conversions. Can there be more shameful explanation than this? In Gujarat, in Orissa, we had seen how the Churches

were burnt down, how the minority community were attacked. A Christian Missionary was burnt alive along with the children of six and eight years of age. This is done in the name of defence of Hinduism. What is the danger that a six year old child going to create as a threat to Hinduism? When this inhuman thing has been criticised by everybody inside and outside the country, our hon. Prime Minister goes to Gujarat, goes round and gives a clean chit to the BJP Government there and says that we should go for a national debate. A national debate on what? On the cruelty, on the unleashing terror against the minorities or on the question of secularism, I would like to ask. No, the Prime Minister wants a national debate on the question of conversions. This is only to try to divert the attention of the nation, as if the conversions are the biggest danger for the country.

I challenge them. Let them come with the facts and figures, how these conversions which were a continuous process for the last several years have suddenly become a threat. The reason is not because of some foolish madman has done some attack somewhere on some minority individual, but the question is that the Sangha Parivar for the last several years systematically injected venom, poison against the minorities, of intolerance to other religions. That is the result of that and today they see that their Government has come and they can take vengeance against the minorities, against other religions. This is the most unfortunate situation.

I would like to say that thirteen months back, the promise which the BJP Government has given, of giving a stable Government, an able Prime Minister and a Government with a difference, a clean Government, it has failed in all these spheres. They failed miserably. Today, what we feel is that everyday continuance of this BJP Government in this country will go against the interest of the millions of people in this country. This Government should go.

I would like to refer to an important fact. Shri Vaiko was explaining that there was not a single accusation against the Vajpayee Government. I am saying that it is not me but Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat, who was the head of the Navy and was also the Chairman of the Joint Council of Chiefs of Staff of this country, who accused the Defence Minister that the continuance of him as a Defence Minister is a danger and threat to the security of this country.

It is a very serious allegation. Why this Government is not ready for a discussion on that issue? They say Defence affairs are very important, secret and very sacred. Yes, we do understand that. We are not discussing the strategy of the Indian Military. We are not discussing the capacities of the Indian Army. We are discussing about the scandals and the scams which have come on the Defence Minister of India.

During the World War, when Churchill was the Prime Minister of Great Britain, there was an accusation about a Defence scandal there and the British Parliament did discuss that. Churchill allowed it. They were not afraid of it. Why are they afraid of it here? We are saying that Defence deals and other things are not secret. They should be transparent. The scandals and the accusations against Shri George Fernandes, the Defence Minister, should be discussed here in the House. He cannot go free just because he is the Defence Minister and he cannot be above the law and above the discussion.

I would like to say that while in all the spheres the BJP Government failed, how is it that they can say that would continue in power even after today's debate. Here, I would like to make an appeal. The BJP Government was again and again saying that there was a conspiracy from the Opposition. We were telling them for the last thirteen months that if at all this BJP Government falls, it is because of the internal trouble from their own party. They are unable to make up relations among themselves. They are unable to keep their 19 political parties with them. It is because several individuals and the political parties one after the other started getting disenchanted with them, coming out and from them, because of this now today the danger to BJP Government has come.

So, who do you accuse that the Opposition parties are going in for some sort of a conspiracy? There is no necessity for the conspiracy. The BJP Government is falling today not because of the lack of number of Members of Parliament but because they ruled against the wishes of the people of this country. They lost the confidence of the people of this country. That is the reason why, the BJP Government is losing today.

I would like to appeal to some of the secular parties who still continue their support to the BJP Government inside the coalition to come out and save yourself from the sin. And even at least today it is not too late; let us all come out. The inevitable fall of the BJP Government will be celebrated by the people. There will be no tears in this country for the fall of the BJP Government.

Once again, I would like to say, on behalf of the CPI, that we oppose this Motion of Confidence.

[Translation]

274  
**SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH** (Maharajanj) : Mr. Chairman Sir, today Hon. Prime Minister has moved a motion to get a vote of confidence in the House, so the public is feeling uneasiness. They are eager to know as to what mistake have been committed by this thirteen months old Government led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the centre due to which opposition is attacking the Government time and again on this

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

or that pretext so that they can be removed ...*(Interruptions)* People of the country are eagerly watching television to listen to the speeches of all leader. We also heard the speeches of leader of opposition Shri Sharad Pawar and Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, but nothing concrete has emerged which can prove that charges are levelled against the Government. This restlessness which is in mind of the people at present cannot be done away with through the medium of Parliament.

Sir, this situation to seek the vote of confidence had emerged due to Miss Jayalalita's withdrawing support. I do not want to make any comment on the big leaders. But it seems...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN : It should not be recorded. This will not go in the proceeding. It is not as per rules.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I have made no comment on Hon'ble President.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no scope as such for any argument.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : When the Government presents Finance Budget, and the Government presumes that it has got the majority than many such opportunities come when Government gets full opportunity to prove its majority, but since this motion has been moved under pressure, I do not think that it is correct from any angle. Today the opposition parties are at the centre feeling restless that the coalition partners at the centre had prepared a national agenda and devised a policy as a result thereof. They framed a policy for the upliftment of poor and safeguarding our borders. It also framed a policy to develop harmonious relation with various foreign countries and started implementing it, due to which congressmen have become restless and it also resulted into withdrawal of support by a former ally Miss Jayalalita. Leaders of their party were not telling about the main reason for withdrawal of support but I would like to tell here that what were the charges levelled against the alliance Government. It has been said that the first and biggest achievement after independence of our coalition Govt. that we have solved the Cauvery Water dispute. The problem which has been there right from the period of independence; many Prime Ministers came to power and went; but no one could find any amicable solution to it. Even High Court could not solve this tangle. The case was pending before the Supreme Court for many years but of no use...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : That is our observation but they have betrayed the people...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central): But you must appreciate it. It is an achievement.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : It is an achievement.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : You had appreciated it...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : The Government formed at the Centre under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee as proved that it is capable of pending dispute, has the capacity to run a Government; we would like to know whether this is the charge against the Government? Regarding Pokhran bomb explosion even at that time opposition leaders were creating uproar, what were its reasons? This was not the first explosion. One such explosion was also conducted during rein of Indiraji. The Prime-Minister has proved that he has the will-power and tried to tell all the big nations that we would not launch attack on any nation by ourselves but if someone attacks us then we would give them a befitting reply. Whether this is the only charge against the Prime-Minister that he travelled in a bus to Lahore? Before his journey apprehensions were raised by the people? People were saying that this is merely a drama? The way this visit was planned and welcomed by the Pakistani people has paved way for building confidence among poor muslim people of villages. This has become an unprecedented example after independence. He has created confidence among the Muslims of the country as well as muslims living in Pakistan...*(Interruptions)*

The Muslims of this country have welcomed this journey and muslims of Pakistan have also welcome it, but Pakistani terrorists and their agents are not feeling comfortable in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can continue tomorrow. The House now stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the clock on Friday April 16, 1999, Chaitra 26, 1921 (Saka).*