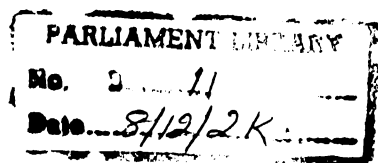


LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 9, 1999/Phalgun 18, 1920 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri George Joseph Mundackal.

Shri Mundackal was a Member of Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabhas representing Muvattupuzha Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala from 1980 to 1989.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Mundackal was a Member of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House from 1982 to 1985, Committee on Estimates in 1987 and 1988 and Committee on Public Undertakings in 1989 and 1990. He took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and lost no opportunity to highlight the problems faced by the poor and the downtrodden.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Mundackal actively participated in the freedom movement.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Mundackal was a well known political and social worker. He was associated with various organizations in different capacities. He took keen interest in agriculture and agricultural research. He was a member of the Indian Coconut Council and was also Visiting Farm Professor of Kerala Agricultural University.

Shri Mundackal passed away on 2nd March, 1999 at Kothamangalam, Kerala at the age of 68.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

11.02 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Satellite Cities

*182. DR. ⁺ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to develop new satellite cities around the metropolitan cities to reduce the population pressure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said plan is likely to be included in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) A scheme for new Township Development was posed to the Planning Commission for an allocation of Rs. 100 crores as seed money in the Ninth Plan.

(b) The Scheme aims at developing 100 Model New Townships during the Ninth and Tenth Plans to decongest metropolitan/large cities and create satellite towns as engines of economic growth.

(c) The Scheme has not yet been cleared by the Planning Commission due to paucity of funds. Therefore, at present no such scheme is in operation.

(d) does not arise.

[*Translation*]

DR. ASHOK PATEL (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you that he has mentioned in part-C of his reply that the Planning Commission has not approved this scheme far due to paucity of funds. Keeping in view the importance of this scheme I would like to know from the Government that the funds allocated for the schemes, which lapses due to non-utilisation and the amount received from other sources why not the same are allocated for this scheme and what is the problem to get this scheme approved?

[*English*]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I can only assure the hon. Member and the entire House that the Government will exert all its skill to see that the Planning Commission finds fund or we will explore alternative sources of fund and see that this scheme comes into operation some day in the very near future, but I cannot say really when. We are convinced that this scheme alone will relieve the dangerous congestion which is taking place in the urban areas.

[*Translation*]

DR. ASHOK PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, keeping in view this important scheme, will the hon. Minister urge upon the Planning Commission again to get this scheme approved.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Yes, Sir. I have already given an assurance that we will do our best. We will not only persuade the Planning Commission but we are seeking alternative sources of funds and perhaps I will succeed. In that event, the scheme will be brought into operation as early as possible.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha): Mr. Speaker Sir, as the hon. Minister has first informed that around 100 crore rupees were required and as the funds were not allocated by the Planning Commission, no work was undertaken in the entire National Capital Region (N.C.R.) on account of which we the members of Parliament who are elected from the surrounding areas of the capital of the country, Delhi have to face a lot of problems. As there are neither good schools and good roads nor good hospitals due to which one of my men is engaged in

getting the patients admitted of my constituencies in hospitals and this is not only my individual case, this is the problem with all the hon Member who are elected from the surrounding areas of the capital. There are no facilities, neither there are trains nor there are good bus services. There are single track roads and no good planning has been done.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chauhan, Please ask your supplementary.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Sir, I had written a letter to the hon. Minister requesting him to call on a meeting of the hon. Members belonging to the satellite towns to discuss the problems of these towns and to solve them and not to depend merely on the officers for the development of these towns. If the representatives of the people are called on then, we the Members, at least would be able to contribute some funds though the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme and help out the goal to some extents.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Is it a suggestion or a supplementary?

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, the matter is a serious one. 50 percent people would not have potable water and power in near future. The areas surrounding the capital are not being developed.

[*English*]

I would like to know whether the Minister has any plan to call the Members of Parliament of the adjoining satellite towns and take our suggestions also so that something could be done to develop these satellite towns.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I am in constant touch with all the Members of Parliament who take interest in this subject. But, Sir, the hon. Member is very very ill informed. He thinks that it is a problem of some hundred crore. If it was the problem of a hundred crore of rupees, I would have gone round the country begging and borrowing and would have produced this hundred crore. It is not a question of hundred crore, thousand crore or

lakh crore but it is a question of Rs. 150 lakh crore which needed for this scheme. Do you think that five or six Members of Parliament can join and produce Rs. 150 lakh crore?....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: We can at least plan it....(Interruptions) We are only requesting you to call a meeting of the Members of Parliament to solve this issue....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Hon. Members should have at least some ideal of the magnitude of the problem.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker Sir, the scheme is to be implemented in a phased manner. So much funds, as are being told by the hon. Minister, are not required immediately. We can manage it in a phased manner....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I invite every Member of Parliament, whoever is interested, for a meeting. We will sit together and discuss ways to find some solution to the problem.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This question has generated a number of ideas and I think the House is well agitated about it. The hon. Minister knows the answer. Whatever we may plan or do, until and unless we solve the root cause of this problem, that is the population explosion, it cannot be solved. We had discussed it earlier also. You might remember that we had discussed about the housing problem. Almost two crore of population is added every year to this country. How long can we continue with this? This is a national problem which is of interest to all of us.

We have never attempted to do something positive for our country. Until and unless this Government or this House as a whole decides to manage this population explosion, nothing will come out. You had promised me that you will call a meeting of all the parties to discuss this very acute problem. So, I request you to answer it in a positive manner as to when you are going to do this. Let us all—all the political parties—sit together and do something positive which may usher in a new era for this country. Otherwise, we cannot solve any problem whether it is housing or satellite towns or anything else. Hundreds and crores of people are getting unemployed in villages. Where will they go? They will come here,

create slums and create problems for us. Apart from this, there will be a lot of criminal activities. You know the problem. You have to solve it by a positive answer.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, there is not a single word which has fallen from the hon. Member with which I can disagree. I wholeheartedly agree with everything that he has said. Whatever we do for economic development or for de-congestion or whatever other economic steps that we are taking, they are all doomed to failure until and unless we solve this fundamental and basic problem. I am always reminded of:

[Translation]

"Tej Hawa ne Mujhse Poocha Ki Reit par kya Likhte Rahte Ho."

[English]

We are all writing on the sand all the time and nothing is going to happen. I am prepared to call a meeting as soon as you like. But first make up your mind that all the political parties will have the moral courage to support this. Last time, in your speech you spoke about population control. In the same speech you talked of repeal of Urban Land Ceiling Act. But yesterday, your whole party walked out and did not support me....(Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH: (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, it is not the proper reply....(Interruptions) Please give the reply....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, this is the problem....(Interruptions) . I am trying to establish some rapport for future action.

Sir, I assure my friend that we are going to call a meeting of this kind. It will be done earlier than my friend expects.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, long ago Dr. B.C. Roy thought of satellite cities in and around Calcutta named Kalyani as also the Salt Lake now known as Bidhan Nagar. Now, the present Government have started thinking of a satellite city by the side of Eastern metropolitan bye-pass of Calcutta named Rajarhat. I am asking the hon. Minister whether there is any specific plan for the city of Calcutta and what is the plan for

developing the already existing satellite cities like Kalyani and Salt Lake so that population explosion in Calcutta could be tackled? I also want to know whether anything is there in the Ninth Plan regarding this subject, i.e., population explosion of the city of Calcutta and satellite Towns as solution.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, the scheme which has been submitted to the Planning Commission and which has not yet been okayed by it, is a scheme which covers all the metropolitan and big cities in India. It includes Calcutta, Mumbai and the capital city of Delhi. It includes every city. But the problem still remains that we are not able to find funds. The funds required are a mind-boggling figure which I have just now mentioned. As soon as it becomes available be assured that Calcutta will not be left out because Calcutta is an important city about whose welfare we are specially concerned.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, Shri Panja's question was very specific. The question was that the Government of West Bengal has formulated a plan for a satellite city in Rajarhat.

It is named as New Calcutta. I understand that this proposal has already come to the Central Government and Government of India has received that proposal. May I know from the Minister the action which the Government has taken in regard to the specific proposal sent by the Government of West Bengal to develop New Calcutta in Rajarhat? This is a very specific question. So I want a very specific reply from the Minister.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: The question is very specific and hence, it calls for a specific answer. But a question of this kind also calls for a specific notice...*(Interruptions)* I am not equipped with the answer but I promise that I will write to the hon. Member tomorrow itself.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, the Minister is an eminent lawyer and so, he can rule out everything without telling the real answer. The written answer which he has given says:

"A scheme for new township development was posed to the Planning Commission for an allocation of Rs. 100 crore as seed money in the Ninth Plan."

But now he says that it is Rs. 150 lakh crore. Is the amount of Rs. 150 lakh crore going to be generated out of this Rs. 100 crore or what is the real plan about it? How far is the Government of India coming into the picture

while starting satellite towns? What is the overall plan of yours? Let me also know the brief plan which is there in the mind of the hon. Minister. You may take the House into confidence while replying.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Let me tell you the broad features of the scheme. The broad features of the scheme are that there should be a planned development of new townships around metropolitan large cities adopting innovative public-private partnership. Experience has shown that self-contained township at a reasonable distance from large cities—about 40-60 kilometers is the distance that we estimate—with fast track and efficient public transport could be the solution to the deteriorating civic situation. In fact, I have told the Planning Commission that it should be a six-lane road available so that people can, with minimum amount of wastage of time, travel to their places of work and they should have access to places of employment in metropolitan cities. Accordingly, in the Ninth Plan, a provision of seed money for development of new township, as engines of economic growth and for decongesting the existing cities, was conceived. Now, Rs. 100 crore is the seed money. Seed money is not that money which you put into the ground and out of that Rs. 100 crore, Rs. 150 lakh crore will spring out. That would be too absurd an idea to be attributed to me. This Rs. 100 crore of seed money is for detailed project report and a plan to be prepared. It is an engineering feat with 100 townships all over the country and 100 projects have to be prepared for which proper survey has to be done and all kinds of resources have to be found out. You also know the kind of labour involved in it. An amount of Rs. 100 crore is required as seed money for this purpose. So, we say that Rs. 100 crore of seed money is only for preparing project report and to execute the project, the cost would be Rs. 150 lakh crore. That is the amount which would be required. Be sure that I am looking for funds and by chance, if I do succeed, you will have the scheme going much much earlier than you expect.

DR. SAROJA V.: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would invite NRIs to contribute generally to generate this expenditure of Rs. 150 lakh crore to plan and develop new satellite towns in and around metropolitan cities.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: The NRIs were invited as far back as 1992 to invest in infrastructure. The Direct Foreign Investment by the NRIs and companies in which persons of Indian origin have a substantial interest were allowed to come here and invest hundred per cent in these kinds of projects. They were given concessions.

they were told that their profits were immediately reportable and there would be no restrictions except that their capital would be locked in for a period of about three years. But, unfortunately, the response to this Scheme has not been very heartwarming. From 1993 to 1999, all that we had got was a sum of Rs. 550 crore...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Why are they reluctant to come?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: They were reluctant probably because of poor publicity. Second, invariably they had pointed out three problems in this country and these three problems are the following. Wherever I had gone, I had come across this. Last month, I was away for twenty days. I had toured Canada, the United States of America and Europe. I talked to the NRIs and all these companies which are interested. They had pointed out three big stumbling blocks in the way. One is that they are bewildered by the plethora and the complexity of our laws. Second, they are bewildered by the complexity of our procedures in getting any plans passed and even having their projects approved. And, third, they have been complaining very seriously about the kind of treatment which is meted out to them at our immigration counters, the insolence and almost unresponsive attitude of the people with whom they have to intermingle or interact in India. We have been assuring them that all these three roadblocks have been substantially removed and we would be prepared to give them a red carpet treatment. After my tour for twenty days, the NRIs have already come here. The construction companies are here. I am sitting and negotiating with them. I am trying to work out of the projects. One single NRI has come here now with rupees thousand crore in his pocket. He says that he wants to invest. I am trying to find out on which project to put him. The point to be noted is that only Rs. 550 crore has come during the last five years. Due to my trip for twenty days and assurances to the NRIs, I have succeeded in getting a number of NRIs who are already sitting in my office. I am trying to negotiate with them. I am doing my best.

Rehabilitation Programme for Scavengers

*184. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE:
SHRI BUTA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made in the Budget estimates for supporting the programmes meant for liberation and rehabilitation of Scavengers during 1998-99;

(b) the amount utilized out of this amount so far;

(c) whether the remaining amount has been surrendered back to the Ministry of Finance;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A sum of Rs. 90.00 crores was provided in Budget Estimates for the year 1998-99 in respect of this Scheme.

(b) An sum of Rs. 5.90 crores have been utilised.

(c) Of total allocation of Rs. 90.00 crores, an amount of Rs. 35.00 crores has been reappropriated to the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Metric Scholarships for SC/ST. However under the Revised Estimates for 1998-99 the allocation under this Scheme has been fixed at Rs. 20.00 crores out of which no money has been surrendered.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The State Governments are periodically advised to spend the unspent balances available with them under the said Scheme.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: Mr. Speaker Sir, Mr. Minister has stated that a provision of Rs. 90 crore has been made in the 1998-99 Budget. Only Rs. 5.90 crore has been utilised out of it. Rs. 35 crore out of Rs. 90 crore has been utilised for post matric scholarship and for liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers. Through you, I would like to ask from the Government that when a provision for Rs. 500 crore can be made for the animals and for cowsheds etc. then why a total sum of Rs. 90 crore cannot be spent on the scheme meant for the liberation and liberation of scavengers. Approximately only Rs. 6 crore out of it has been spent...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA: It is a very important matter. Now, this Budget has been diverted to other funds. It is an injustice meted out to the Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes and Scavengers. It is a shame on the part of the Government.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: We are really happy that you are making such a huge provision for the animals and for the cowsheds but our scavengers are not being treated even equal to animals. You have allocated Rs. 90 crore for the liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers but out of it you have diverted a sum of Rs. 35 crore towards post matric scholarship.

MR. SPEAKER: You please ask the question, don't give a speech.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: I am asking the question.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kawade, you have to only ask your question. Otherwise, I will disallow your question. Please understand. How can you give a speech.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: Out of Rs. 90 crore you have diverted Rs. 35 crore and only Rs. 5 crore 90 lakh has been spent for the liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am telling you that you have to only ask your question. Otherwise, I will disallow your question, what is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: My question is that why a sum of Rs. 35 crore was diverted.

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, the way this scheme operates is that the State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation of each State is the channelising agency and they have to ask the Centre for money. Now, their demand for this particular scheme in 1998-99 was Rs. 86.19 crore. However, they had a previous unspent balance of Rs. 139.38 crore. There were two States which had a less unspent balance than what they had asked for. They were Assam and Maharashtra. But in their particular figures, there were some discrepancies. Everyone else, every other single State has no money lying in their account as unspent money than they had demanded.

I will give you an example. Andhra Pradesh asked for Rs. 2.64 crore. They have an unspent balance of Rs. 5.5 crore. Bihar asked for Rs. 11 crore and they already have an unspent balance of Rs. 11 crore lying in their account. Kerala asked for Rs. 13 crore. They already have Rs. 34 crore lying as unspent balance.

Maharashtra asked for Rs. 9 crore. As I said, they already had Rs. 4 crore lying unspent. However, there was a discrepancy in their accounts. Therefore, we did not release any money because the State Scheduled Castes Corporation had diverted the money, which is misused.

Madhya Pradesh asked for Rs. 12 crore. They already have Rs. 28 crore lying in their account. Orissa asked for Rs. 12 crore. They had Rs. 6 crore lying in their account. We released them money. As long as the balance is less than what they have asked for, we have released the money. Rajasthan asked for Rs. 9 crore. They have Rs. 17 crore lying in their account. Uttar Pradesh asked for Rs. 22 crore. They have Rs. 53 crore lying in their account...*(Interruptions)*

The second part of the question you have asked is: Why was this money diverted for Post-Metric Scholarship for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

It went in because we had spent Rs. 65 crore with us. But the demands from the States were more. This is an area in which I and my Ministry have keen interest, which is education for the Schedule Castes. We diverted

Rs. 35 crore more, because the States had asked for Rs. 125 crore as against Rs. 65 crore which we had. So, we put in Rs. 35 crore more which came to Rs. 100 crore.

[*Translation*]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: Mr. Speaker Sir, if the provision made for Post Matric Scholarships for the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was less than it could have been enhanced in the budget. But it is not proper to divert the funds towards Post Matric Scholarship out of the funds meant for the scavengers. It has been stated in the reply that instructions were issued from time to time to the State Governments to spend the remaining amount under this scheme, but the State Governments did not heed to the instructions issued by the Central Government. They did not accomplish the task as per the instructions issued and did not do anything for the welfare of Scavengers. Whether the hon'ble Minister or the Central Government asked State Governments as to why they did not work as per the instructions issued by the Central Government we want to know that if the State Governments did not work according to the instructions issued by the Central Government then what action was taken by the hon'ble Minister against such State Governments.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, as I have said, we have repeatedly written to the States. We have called separate groups of officials and Ministers from the States to ask them why it is not being spent and the action that I have taken is, I am not giving any more money until that money is spent. I do not like wasting this country's money.

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU (Kakinada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister said something about Andhra Pradesh. I am sorry, I did not hear it. Is there any unspent money with the State of Andhra Pradesh?

MR. SPEAKER: It has already been answered.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU (Kakinada): Sir, the State of Andhra Pradesh is also inhabited by a large number of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she would impress upon the State Government to spend the allocated amount fully with proper monitoring mechanism, including interface with public representatives like local MLAs and MPs.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, as far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, the assistance that they had asked for was Rs. 264.82 lakhs and what they have in their balance as unspent amount is Rs. 5,05,44,000.

The hon. Member's suggestion is very well taken. There is already a monitoring and evaluation mechanism. The mechanism is, there is a Central monitoring committee in which our officials go all over India to see what is being done; there is a State level monitoring committee; there is a district level monitoring committee and there are also local body level monitoring committees. The Central monitoring committee, for instance, headed by the Secretary of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with members from the Ministry of Urban Affairs, Departments of Small Scale Industries, Rural Development, Education, Banking and the Planning Commission and four Secretaries of the State Governments. Now, certainly the suggestion of the hon. Member that MPs should be involved is an excellent one. I will look into it

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an important question and all the hon'ble members of this House are also eager to ask a supplementary question. Through you, I would like to ask from the Minister, as to who is responsible for this unspent amount? You have first told about the monitoring mechanism, that all the officers and Inspectors do its monitoring and the entire amount has not been spent in many States so I would like to ask whether you are going to take any action against the responsible officers? Secondly whether the hon'ble Minister is going to make any provision for proper utilisation of the entire allocated amount?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, as I said, we have taken action not to give any extra funds. You know that the people involved are the State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation of each State. Now each Corporation is being called separately...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: My question is that whether would you take any action against those officers?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar, what is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister reply and do not disturb.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: In special cases, like Maharashtra, where we have seen discrepancies, we have asked for action to be taken against specific officials.

In other cases, we have written to the Chief Minister asking them to take action and to speed up the process. Now all the Schemes are prepared by the State Corporation. We are constantly in touch with them all the time.

DR. ASIM BALA: Sir, this is a very important and serious question so far as social system is concerned...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, all the hon'ble members are serious therefore, half an hour discussion may be made on this issue.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA: I want to ask a specific question. Is the Government going to set up a Committee to look into the matter regarding the lapses that are there?

Secondly, is the Government going to take some action against those officials who are answerable to the State if lapses are found on their part? What action has the concerned State Government itself taken? What procedure do they adopt to speed up the project?

I would also like to know from the Minister about the diversion of Budget. It is passed by the Parliament. Which

is the authority that diverts those funds to other sectors or other projects?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, would you like to reply?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, the question is not of diverting the funds. The question is that we have revised the scheme to make it more broad based. As I said, the amount this year is Rs. 20 crore. ...*(Interruptions)* The question that you asked me again is: What action has been taken against the officials? Now, the Maximum action that I can take at this point is that we have constantly sent our teams to them.

DR. ASIM BALA: No, Madam, I can explain it again.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Asim Bala, this is not good.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

Integrated Rural Development Programme

*185 SHRI VITHAL TUPE:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) the number of villages benefited under Integrated Rural Development Programme in the country with State-wise break-up;

(b) whether the achievements of the programmes have been satisfactory;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken by the Government for the implementation of the programmes; and

(d) the funds provided to Maharashtra and Karnataka for the said programmes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme is being implemented in all the villages of the country, State-wise specific number of villages actually covered is not monitored.

(b) and (c) The achievement of the programme has by and large been satisfactory. There has been a significant increase in per family investment in the past few years as well as in the credit mobilisation and subsidy credit ratio. The programme is constantly reviewed through concurrent evaluation as well as in various committees. Based on these, several initiatives have been taken to improve the implementation of the programme such as emphasis on higher level of per family investment, abolition of fixation of physical targets and emphasis on credit mobilisation, extension of Family Credit Plan, encouragement to group activities, enhancement of limit for collateral free loans, extension of Cash disbursement scheme and implementation of back-end subsidy system.

(d) Central share of funds released to Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Maharashtra	Karnataka
1995-96	3991.26	2883.11
1996-97	4717.02	2285.61
1997-98	4566.80	2542.08

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE (Pune): How much percent of the fund allocated by the Union Government to the Maharashtra Government was utilised in the last three years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, for Maharashtra, during 1995-96, Rs. 3996 lakh was released, during 1996-97, Rs. 4717 lakh was released, and during 1997-98, Rs. 4566 lakh was released. So, the focus is on quality, not on amount.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: You are not stating the percentage, but at least state the amount of expenditure incurred by the Maharashtra Government in the last three years?

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir, he is looking at the main answer. The supplementary is different.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: During 1996-97, families assisted in Maharashtra were 1,61,018, subsidy component was Rs. 94 crore, and credit component was Rs. 174 crore.

SHRI A.C. JOS: The Minister is not answering his question.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: I have asked you a specific question that the amount allocated by the Union Government has not been fully spent in Maharashtra, please tell us about that.

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir, please protect the Member. He is asking something and the Minister is answering some other thing.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has a specific question, and the hon. Minister is giving a specific reply.

SHRI AJIT JOGI: No. Sir, kindly protect the hon. Member. He is asking a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I am protecting you also.

SHRI A.C. JOS: He asked how much money had been allotted, and how much money had been spent. The hon. Minister's answer is different.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I am answering his question. The money released during 1996-97 for

Maharashtra on subsidy component was Rs. 94 crore; in 1997-98, the money released on subsidy component was Rs. 93 crore, and the credit component was Rs. 188 crore; and in 1998-99, the money released on subsidy component was Rs. 63 crore, and the money released on credit on component was Rs. 124 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount allocated in the entire country is not fully utilised. Rs. 1133.51 crore were allocated in the year 1997 and Rs. 1086.59 crore were spent, Rs. 47 crore were not spent. What action is taken by the Government against the States who do not utilise the amount after allocation.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, as the hon. Member knows very well that the bankers are reluctant to give credit to the beneficiaries. We have, recently, constituted a Committee to suggest measures for its remedy.

SHRI C. GOPAL: Hon. Speaker, the IRDP Scheme is being adopted particularly in the States through Block Development Officers. Last time the hon. Minister said that for this scheme a Committee will be formed and these committees will be headed by Members of Parliament. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that for adopting the scheme through the Block Development Officer whether any committee will be formed or whether the Government will come forward to form a committee headed by Members of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gopal. this has already been answered.

SHRI C. GOPAL : No Sir...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, barring 40 districts, all districts have constituted committees recently. I have received letters in this regard from all the States...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: Sir, MPs are disrespected, particularly in Tamil Nadu. That is why I am asking for a committee headed by Members of Parliament.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I have received letters from the State Governments...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: And they have answered that so far there is no committee. Members of Parliament are

being insulted by the Government of Tamil Nadu ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, out of 516 districts, barring 40 districts, all the DRDOs have constituted a monitoring committee involving the hon. Members...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: What about the Member of Parliament?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, the Committee involves Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislatures.

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK (Raichor). Sir, the Government is implementing the IRDP Scheme to uplift the poorest people of the country, whose annual income is Rs. 11,000. Since 1980 onwards, the Government has spent about Rs. 11,000 crore as subsidy on the implementation of the Scheme. But the position of the beneficiaries is the same as it was before 1980 because most of the funds are taken away by the middlemen.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has made any survey for proper disbursement of Central funds; and secondly, whether the Government is considering to make any changes in the guidelines for its implementation.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, the Government periodically evaluates, monitors the schemes and takes action against the misuse of funds.

As regard the second part of the question of the hon. Member, we are going to restructure the programmes because some people are getting credit but they are not getting the training and there is no market linkage between the programmes also. So, to facilitate the self-employment programme and to give more flexibility to the implementing authority we are restructuring the programme.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI: Sir, the original question was that what is the number of villages benefitted under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in the country alongwith State-wise breakup. Hon. Minister has not stated the State-wise number thereof rather he has only stated the amount of contribution given by the Centre to Maharashtra and Karnataka. I would like to

know from the Hon. Minister the position in Madhya Pradesh in this regard, how much contribution it has received from the Centre and how much amount has been utilised? The problem is that these schemes are sponsored by the Union Government and the State Governments are accountable for utilization of funds which they are not utilizing. The funds released for an item are diverted elsewhere. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister how much amount was allocated to Andhra Pradesh under this head and how much was spent?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: His supplementary is with regard to Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, his supplementary is with regard to Madhya Pradesh. So, I need a separate notice for this.

DR. RAVI MALLU: Sir, in the implementation of the IRDP, continuously the Administration is only concentrating on the distribution of the IRDP funds to beneficiaries. The so-called committees, which are formed at the district level, where the MPs and the MLAs are also the members, are only seeing how the money is distributed but there is no Committee to see whether the distributed money is properly implemented, grounded, utilised by the beneficiaries. That is the reason why, since 1980 the IRDP schemes implemented in all the States are not giving good results.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal or scheme to form a Committee to see the money distributed will be properly utilised by the beneficiaries.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I understand the feelings of the hon. Member. We are constituting Committees. Already the State Governments have written to us that they have constituted the Committees involving the MPs and the MLAs. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAVI MALLU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I explained everything. There are Committees for distribution of the IRDP money only. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ravi Mallu, about the Committees only, he is explaining. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: We have asked all the State Governments. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, I am always asking you to address the Chair, not to the Member. This is the problem.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: All the State Governments have answered. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Sir, this is a serious matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ravi Mallu, please take your seat. You have asked your supplementary, Why are you standing now? The hon. Minister is here to reply to your question.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: They have written to us that they have constituted Committees involving the MPs and the MLAs. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAVI MALLU: Sir, my question is not answered. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Committees are going to be constituted and the MPs are the members.

Shri T. R. Baalu.

SHRI T. R. BAALU: Sir, during the recent visit to my constituency, I could see the rural poor people and also poor farmers who were visibly weeping and crying in front of me for non-compliance of their loan applications in time by the banks. Sir, the Block Development Officials and the Panchayat Officers sort out and recommend their applications; they are sending the application to the banks but the banks are not coming forward to extend the loan facilities in time. What is the reaction of the Government to this?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: That is the general complaint, So, we have recently constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jayant Madhav for the North East Region to suggest remedies for this.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Maheshwar Singh.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, in spite of these Committees of the State Government, they are not coming forward. What are you going to do? What is the mechanism that you have for this?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Sir, as per the policy of the Government today most of the developmental works in the rural areas in the country are being carried out by the Department of Rural Development and the Panchayats but on the Department of Rural Development level.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri T.R. Baalu, please take your seat.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the State Government is giving the subsidy. So, he should reply. I want a categorical reply from the Minister as to what he is going to do. Sir, the rural poor people and poor farmers are crying. What is the use of implementing the IRDP?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, after receiving the report from the Committee, we would take action.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Sir, I was saying that most of the developmental works in the rural areas are being carried out through the Department of Rural Development and Panchayats following the present policy of the Government but due to shortage of technical staff and supervisory staff with the Department of Rural Development these schemes are not implemented in time, whether it is Jawahar Rojgar Yojana or any other Scheme of the Department of Rural Development.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your supplementary? There is no time. Please put your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Besides, there are other schemes like Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. I would like to know from the hon.

Minister, through you that what steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate staff to the Dept. of Development so that all the Schemes of the Government are implemented in time?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: There is a separate programme for that. For skill upgradation, we are having a programme called, 'TRYSEM'. They are giving training to the IRDP beneficiaries.

Contracts with Foreign Universities

*186. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of educational organisations have signed contracts with foreign universities in their own way during each of the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government have any check/control of their activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) The phenomenon of the operation of the foreign universities is comparatively of recent origin. The specific details in this respect are not available with the Government. The Government however cognisant of this phenomenon *inter-alia* set up a Task Force to look into the aspects of the University regulation to cope with such emerging situation. The Task Force has since submitted its recommendation for examination by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Ahmednagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the Minister as to what are the main recommendations of the task force constituted by him. This matter is under discussion for the last three years. Recently Delhi University also has signed an agreement with Sophia University of Japan and even some private institutions

are signing agreements with American, German and French Universities. Are these registered? Is there any system of registration for it in the department of Human Resource Development.

[English]

Are you going to introduce the registration system? In addition to that, what are the main recommendations of the Task Force Committee?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no registration is done with regard to mutual agreement signed between Indian Universities and foreign Universities in the Department of Human Resource Development because the Universities are run by the State Governments. However, we get the information about the agreements signed by the Central Universities. But only that agreement is legal which is signed in accordance with the Act of Universities. The problem crop up when some foreign Universities run their course through private agents. So far we had no power to ban it. There was no provision of this kind in University Grants Commission Act. That is why we formed a task force to suggest the way to check irregular activities of these Universities. In the recommendations of the task force, proper amendments have been suggested in the University Grants Commission Act, over which we are considering and would soon bring a legislation in this regard.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked as to what were main recommendations of the task force? I would also like to know whether Government are contemplating to de-control the education. If not, what are the reasons for it?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The Supreme court has passed a judgment that the education should not be commercialised. The second aspect of the problem is that the foreigners come to India and run an institution or a University and go back to their countries after two to four months or years. Therefore we have to make an arrangement to check fly-by-night operators and see that our students get admission only in those Universities which are having mutual relations with us. In other words we have to see whether the degrees of those universities can be recognised in India or not and whether the degrees of Indian Universities are recognised in those countries. The recommendations have been made in details in this regard. We have to keep in mind that our

students are not deprived of the extension of the education and we have to provide what is called training of Universities and in which the Universities have mutual relations. At the same time we have to keep in mind that our student do not suffer unnecessarily, they do not pay huge amount of money as fees and our money may not go to foreign countries unnecessarily. Some reports have been received that an amount of 2000 crore rupees is going out of the country on this account. Considering all these things, we are considering over the recommendations of that task force and will soon check and control it.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in how many days are you going to take decision with regard to the recommendations. All agree that education should not be commercialised but there are also good institutions. Have you fixed any time limit for taking decision in this regard? Have you prepared any time bound programme in this regard?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We have got the report of task force recently and it is being examined. We have to consult Department of Legal Affairs, University Grants Commission and contact foreign institutions which were seen functioning in India. We are also studying the laws of the Universities.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Please specify some time limit of six month or a year in this regard.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We want to do it as early as possible. Therefore, we want to impose ban in this regard by doing all these works at the earliest.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sale of Lotteries

*181. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lotteries run by private organisations are much in operation; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the sale of lottery tickets run by such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) Lotteries can be broadly divided

into the following two categories:

- (i) Lotteries organised by the Government of India or the Government of a State under Entry 40 of List I—Union List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India; and
- (ii) Lotteries organised under Entry 34—Betting and gambling—of List II—State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

2. So far as lotteries under the first category are concerned, the Central Government has already enacted The Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998. Lotteries organised by the private individuals, institutions, organisations, etc. are covered under the second category. The State Governments are competent to authorise such lotteries. However, a proposal to impose a comprehensive ban on the lottery trade in the country is under consideration.

Ban on the Outflow of Crude Oil by ULFA

*183. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "ULFA 'bans' crude oil outflow" appearing in the *'Asian Age'* dated February 5, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ULFA—a banned outfit—has demanded stoppage of exploration of new oil fields in Assam and announced a 4-point oil blockade programme, viz., obstruction to drilling of new oil fields; resistance to pumping out of oil to places outside Assam; ban on construction of pipelines and drillings on private or public lands; and resistance to any forcible drilling work.

(c) The State Government and the Oil industry have been advised to tighten security and take necessary precautionary measures.

Assistance for Education of Handicapped

*187. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes which are in operation for the benefit of handicapped;

(b) whether there are any special schemes for providing education to the handicapped boys and girls;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government received any special proposals from the State Governments regarding special allocation of funds in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) The Scheme in operation under this Ministry for the benefit of the disabled are (i) Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances; (ii) Assistance to Voluntary organisations for the welfare of the disabled; (iii) Assistance to Voluntary organisations for establishment and development of Special Schools (iv) Assistance to voluntary organisations for rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons; and (v) Assistance to Voluntary organisations for Manpower Development in the field of Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation. However with effect from 20.1.99 the schemes at (ii) to (v) have been brought under one comprehensive umbrella Scheme to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities. Besides, Department of Education (under Ministry of Human Resource Development) has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC).

(b) and (c) The Central Sector Scheme under this Ministry for the establishment and development of Special Schools envisages financial assistance to voluntary organisations upto the extent of 90 per cent for

establishment of Special Schools in four major disability areas—Orthopaedic, Speech and hearing, visually and mentally retarded children. Both recurring and non-recurring expenditure is supported under the Scheme. During 1996-97 and 1997-98, an amount of Rs. 0.78 crore and Rs. 1.33 crores have been disbursed to 26 and 38 organisations respectively for this purpose.

The Department of Education (under Ministry of Human Resource Development) is also implementing the Scheme of Integrated Education for disabled children. Under the Scheme 100 per cent financial assistance is provided for the education of disabled children which includes assistance towards books, stationery, uniform, transport allowance etc. Assistance is also given for setting up and equipping resource rooms with aids and assistive devices. At present, this Scheme is being implemented in 27 States/UTs through nearly 15000 schools.

[Translation]

Price of Pulses

*188. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "pulse set to go onion way, as farmers switch crops: chamber" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated February 9, 1999.

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the price rise and to make the pulses easily available to the consumers at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing Statewise production of pulses during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 crop years is enclosed.

(c) For increasing the production of pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is being implemented to provide support to the farmers. Under the scheme, financial assistance is given to States on various inputs like production and distribution of certified seeds, seed minikits rhyzobium culture, micronutrients sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, plant protection equipment etc. Besides, field demonstrations and farmers' trainings are also being organised for the effective transfer of improved pulses production technology.

(d) Apart from long-term measures to increase the production of pulses, import of pulses has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) at zero import duty in order to augment the availability of pulses in the country. These steps are likely to result in checking the steep rise in the prices of pulses.

Statement

Production of Pulses

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Likely)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	838.0	575.1	691.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.7	6.6	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	68.4	64.5	73.0
4.	Bihar	745.4	646.4	666.0
5.	Goa	7.9	7.6	N.A.
6.	Gujarat	663.8	613.3	739.0
7.	Haryana	345.0	374.7	500.0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.4	12.6	30.0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17.0	17.0	22.0
10.	Karnataka	722.2	480.8	662.0
11.	Kerala	14.6	14.6	19.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3544.0	3254.0	3135.0
13.	Maharashtra	2036.8	1244.1	1974.0
14.	Meghalaya	2.5	8.0	N.A.
15.	Mizoram	6.8	1.5	N.A.
16.	Nagaland	13.6	12.6	N.A.
17.	Orissa	225.9	282.2	350.0
18.	Punjab	80.1	59.5	53.0
19.	Rajasthan	1844.6	2634.9	2477.0
20.	Sikkim	6.0	5.9	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Tamil Nadu	232.8	271.2	445.0
22.	Tripura	5.6	5.3	N.A.
23.	Uttar Pradesh	2625.4	2317.6	2725.0
24.	West Bengal	171.5	149.7	171.0
25.	A & N Islands	1.0	1.7	N.A.
26.	D & N Haveli	2.7	2.7	N.A.
27.	Daman & Diu	1.0	1.0	N.A.
28.	Delhi	0.1	0.1	N.A.
29.	Pondichery	3.1	3.1	N.A.
30.	Others	—	—	56.0
TOTAL		14243.9	13068.3	14788.0

[English]

Free and Compulsory Primary Education

*189. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:
SHRI JAYARAMA J.M. SHETTY:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a legislation to make primary education free and compulsory in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such a legislation is likely to be introduced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Constitution (Eighty Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 6 to 14 years a Fundamental Right was already introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997.

New Drug Policy

*190. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD):

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to know the efficacy of drug policy and price control system to check the undue profits by the drug manufacturing companies and to increase production and availability of life saving drugs at a cheaper price;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the implementation of drug policy and price control system and lacuna found therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Misuse of Grants by N.G.Os.

*191. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the fund allocated to Non-Government Organisations during 1998, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that at least 40 Non-Government Organisations have been receiving grants from the Government by adopting fraudulent ways including forging of signatures of senior State Government Officials;

(c) if so, the details of those organisations and the money involved in such cases, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against those organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A Statement-I is attached herewith.

(b) to (d) Instances have come to notice where certain NGOs have indulged in misutilisation of funds released by this Ministry or have sent fake recommendatory letter from State Governments. In such cases, after due verification, further release of grant is stopped and the State Governments are asked to take appropriate action against the NGO. Statement-II showing the names of organisations in whose case requests for Grants-in-aid have been refused or further releases suspended on various grounds is enclosed herewith.

Statement I

Statement showing the funds released to Non-Governmental Organisations, State-wise, during 1997-98, and 1998-99 (upto Feb. 1999)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount released to N.G.Os.	
		1997-98	1998-99 (upto Feb. 1999)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	994.47	1066.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	112.05	138.15
3.	Assam	27.84	66.94
4.	Bihar	332.31	222.45

1	2	3	4
5.	Chandigarh	8.94	9.97
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.96	7.50
7.	Delhi	572.30	1165.98
8.	Goa	16.87	9.31
9.	Gujarat	159.34	182.03
10.	Haryana	241.51	252.68
11.	Himachal Pradesh	12.25	20.34
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	19.28	76.35
13.	Karnataka	466.44	354.98
14.	Kerala	363.61	325.43
15.	Manipur	143.76	330.05
16.	Madhya Pradesh	187.36	254.39
17.	Maharashtra	255.01	344.65
18.	Mizoram	49.55	65.36
19.	Meghalaya	127.62	114.29
20.	Nagaland	22.18	44.15

1	2	3	4
21.	Orissa	442.39	680.83
22.	Pondicherry	10.82	14.84
23.	Punjab	119.62	242.85
24.	Rajashtan	353.73	424.85
25.	Sikkim	2.06	—
26.	Tamil Nadu	365.41	301.23
27.	Tripura	28.68	43.14
28.	Uttar Pradesh	847.41	1349.74
29.	West bengal	627.05	776.65

Statement II

Statement showing the names of organisations in whose case requests for Grants-in-aid have been refused or further releases suspended on various grounds

S.No.	Name of the organisation	Reasons/Remarks
1	2	3

ANDHRA PRADESH

1.	Mass Eudcational development Society, Punganuru, Distt. Chittoor	Foreged signature. State Government investigating the matter.
2.	Mallikarjuna Seva Samiti, Distt. Chittoor	—do—
3.	Vijayapuram Praja Seva Samiti, Vijayapuram, Distt. Chittoor	—do—

1	2	3
4.	Vasavya Mahila Mandali, Vijayawada	Mis-utilisation of funds. Matter under investigation.
5.	Pragathi Youth Sangham, Guntur	Blacklisted by CAPART
6.	Indira Priyadarsini Mahila Mandal, Guntur	—do—
7.	Shri Subramaneswari Mahila Mandali, Guntur	Complaint under investigation.
8.	Praja Abyudaya Seva Samithi, Chittoor	—do—
BIHAR		
1.	Indira Gandhi Samaj Sevashram, Patna	Blacklisted by CAPART
2.	Institute for National Development, Integration and Awareness, Kankarbagh, Patna	Fake recommendatory letter of State Government.
3.	Gramin Bal Vanita Vikas Niketan, Korawah, Distt. Nalanda.	—do—
4.	The Women's Relief & Welfare Society, Vidyapuri, Lohia Nagar, Patna.	—do—
5.	Vananchal Vikas Sevashram, Sahebganj.	—do—
6.	Navin Bharatiya Pratishthan, Balughat, Muzaffarpur	—do—
7.	Indira Gandhi Samaj Sevashram, Patna	—do—

1	2	3
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8.	Pandit Bachan Pandey Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Gopalganj	Misutilisation of funds/ misrepresentation of facts. State Government asked to recover the grants released and seize assets.
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9.	Gulab Singh Mahila Evam Bal Kalyan Sangh, Rukundipur, Daraunda, Siwan	—do—
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10.	All-India Santhal Welfare & Cultural Society, Sahebaganj (Regd. Office: New Delhi).	Fake recommendatory letter of State Govt.
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DELHI

1.	Sushma Siksha Samiti	Adverse Inspection Report
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HARYANA

1.	Kamala Mahila Evam Bal Kalyan Samiti, Haryana	Criminal case registered by Haryana Police. Report awaited.
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HIMACHAL PRADESH

1.	Manav Kalyan Kendra, Salogora, Solan	Adverse Inspection Report.
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KARNATAKA

1.	Bhanu Educational Society.	Adverse Inspection Report.
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MADHYA PRADESH

1.	Mahila Parishad, Morena.	Complaint received. State Government requested to investigate.
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MAHARASHTRA

1.	Padamshree Annasaheb Jadhav Bharatiya Samaj Unnai Mandal, Thane.	Misutilisation of funds. State Government requested to investigate.
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2.	Shahid Abdul Hameed Education Institute, Dherwaha, Khatipura, Yuvatmal.	Misutilisation of Funds/ Misrepresentation of facts. State Government asked to recover grants and seize assets.
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1	2	3
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NAGALAND

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Nagaland Progressive Society, Dimapur. | Fake recommendatory letter. Black-listed. |
| 2. | Tribal Welfare Society, Diphupar, Dimapur. | —do— |

ORISSA

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Association of Moral Guide & Service to Poor, P.O./Distt. Nayagarh. | Misutilisation of funds/ misrepresentation of facts. State Government asked to recover grants and seize assets. |
|----|---|---|

RAJASTHAN

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | Asha Bal Mandir Shiksha Samiti, B. Krishnapuri, Jaipur. | —do— |
| 2. | S.L. Adarsh Vidyalaya Samiti, Rajasthan | Blacklisted by CAPART |

SIKKIM

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Shradha, Pakyong East, Sikkim | Misrepresentation of facts/ Misutilisation of Funds. State Government asked to recover grants released and seize assets. |
|----|-------------------------------|--|

TAMIL NADU

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 1. | Social Welfare Society, Tittagudi, South Arcot Distt. | —do— |
|----|---|------|

UTTAR PRADESH

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Akhil Bharatiya Samaj Kalyan Prathisthan, Swea Puri, Deoria | Misutilisation of funds/ Misrepresentation of facts. State Government asked to recover the grants released and seize assets. |
|----|---|--|

1	2	3
2.	Sarvodaya Gram Avam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Milak, Rampur	Misutilisation of funds/Misrepresentation of facts. State Govt. asked to recover the grants released and seize assets
3.	Ambedkar Shiksha Prasarak Samiti, Nichlaul, Maharajganj	Forged recommendatory letter of State Government. Blacklisted.
4.	Taradevi Shiksha Samiti, Deoria	Blacklisted by CAPART
5.	Jan Jagran Parishad, Allahabad	—do—
6.	Bharatiya Samajothan Seva Sanstha, Deoria	Averse report from State Government.
7.	Banjara Vikash Parishad, Aligarh	Blacklisted by CAPART
8.	Sanskrit Bhasha Vikas Parishad, Deoria	Adverse report from State Government.
9.	Gram Seva Sansthan, Deoria	—do—
10.	Adarsh Janta Shiksha Samiti, Allahabad.	—do—
11.	Urmila Samaj Kalyan, Hardoi	—do—
12.	International Buddha Education Institute, Hapur.	Complaint and adverse report
13.	Samaj Kalyan Seva Samiti, Maharajganj	Complaint of forged recommendatory letter.
14.	Kapil Bal Evam Mahila Sewa Sansthan, Basti.	—do—
15.	Samaj Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Deoria.	Compliant against the organisation.
16.	New Public School Samiti, Daliganj, Lucknow.	Complaint of misuse of funds. State Government requested to investigate.
17.	Samaj Kalyan Seva Samiti, Faizabad Road, Lucknow.	Forged recommendatory letter of State Government.

1	2	3
18.	Gramin Samajothan Sewa Sansthan, Lucknow	Forged recommendatory letter of State Government.
19.	Akhil Bhartiya Samaj Kalyan Evam Mahila Vikas Seva Sansthan, Distt. Maharajganj	—do—
20.	Shri Ma Durgajee Grameen Seva Sansthan, Sant Kabir Nagar	—do—
21.	Manava Kalyan Seva Sansthan, Lucknow.	—do—

WEST BENGAL

1.	Haldia Samaj Kalyan Parishad, Midnapore.	Complaint received. Under investigation.
2.	Seulipur Udayan Club, Bhagwanpur, Midnapore.	—do—
3.	Satya Bharti, P.O. Nbagram, Hooghly.	—do—
4.	Bhagra Diamond Club	Adverse Inspection Report.
5.	Shishu Manzil, Calcutta.	—do—

[Translation] *Food & Consumer Affairs*

Export of Onion

*192 DR. SUSHIL INDORA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently allowed the export of onion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the agencies allowed to export onion alongwith quantity thereof;

(d) whether any assessment of the price of onion has been taken into consideration before deciding the export of onion; and

(e) if so, the present price of onion in the country and the price after allowing the export of onion?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS
AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) The ban on export of onions was certainly lifted on 21.1.99 by allowing export of Bangalore Rose onion and Krishnapuram onion as well as export of 3000 MTs of onions to Sri Lanka on a Government to Government basis. Subsequently Government on 9.2.99 decided to permit the export of 25,000 MTs of onions per month for the next three months through the agencies to be designated by the Government of Maharashtra or by the Associate Shippers registered with the designated agencies.

(d) The lifting of ban on export of onions, subject to a quantitative ceiling, was to ensure that onion growers get remunerative prices for their produce and also to prevent large quantities of export so as to keep the prices and availability of onions at reasonable levels in the country.

(e) The wholesale prices of onion at Nasik, which is the major producing centre, were in the range of Rs. 251 to Rs. 411 per quintal on 1.2.99, declined to Rs. 150 to Rs. 331 per quintal on 1.3.99. The decline in prices even after lifting of ban on export of onion could be due to large scale arrival of fresh onions in the market from producing areas.

[English]

Amendments to Laws concerning Women

*193. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the National Commission for Women regarding the amendments to various laws concerning women including the Dowry Prohibition Act to make them more stringent and effective,

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the women particularly in dowry cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORT, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of National Commission for Women regarding amendments to laws concerning women

are under process in consultation with various Ministries and Departments of Government of India and State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

(c) According to the provisions contained in the VIII schedule of the Constitution of India, "Police and public order" including crime against women is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Government of India has issued instructions to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations regarding appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officer and setting-up of Women's Cells in Police Stations. The Department of Women and Child Development is also implementing a programme of information and mass education to generate public awareness about various issues concerning women including the evil of Dowry to prevent atrocities on women. Assistance is being given to Voluntary Organisations for organising camps for creating awareness amongst rural and poor women about various issues concerning women including Dowry etc.

Rural Libraries

*194. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National workshop on Rural Libraries and information centres under Panchayati Raj has been organised by the Centre for Rural documentation at National Institute of rural Development (NIRD) Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details of the agenda discussed and the recommendations finalised for consideration; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken for strengthening and expanding Network of Rural Libraries rejuvenating the rural information system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (c) Libraries is a State subject. The National Institution of Rural Development, Hyderabad an autonomous body of this Ministry took initiative and held a National Workshop on Rural Libraries and Information Centres in September 1998. The details of the agenda discussed and the recommendations finalised are at Statement-I and II respectively. The recommendations of the National Workshop are of a recommendatory nature only. Implementation of the recommendations is left to the discretion of the State Governments.

Statement I**Details of Agenda discussed in the National Workshop on Rural Libraries**

1. Information Technology and Village Development.
2. Towards New Paradigm to meet rural information needs.
3. Rural Libraries and information centres—present scenario.
4. Panchayati Raj — Role, functions with reference to literacy and information needs.
5. Panchayat finances: How funds for information centres can be accommodated.
6. Rural Libraries—Case Studies—Discussions.
7. Integrated Rural Library Development.
8. NIC and its role in information dissemination at village level.
9. Recommendations of the workshop and finalisation of the draft discussion paper.

Statement II**Recommendations of the National Workshop on Rural Libraries**

1. There is an urgent need to draw up a plan to augment or supplement the existing information collection and dissemination mechanisms in the rural areas, such as rural libraries, reading rooms or community centre.
2. As only 10 States have enacted library legislation hitherto, the Panchayati Raj functionaries, peoples, representatives of other States and UTs may be galvanised by the local NGOs, library professionals and others into enacting library legislation for a planned development of library system in the country.

3. the library cess collected by the authorities of various States under the legislation should be released to local library authorities without delay for the development of libraries.

In view of the Gazettee notification of the "Action Plan of National Task Force on IT" by the Government of India, it is essential to start immediately, computerised community information resource kendras or centres at an appropriate level of rural administration. The resource centre does not collect baseline data, but gathers already available information from different Governmental and non-governmental institutions/organisations and develop databases in easily retrievable formats to act as information dissemination/delivery mechanism for decision making.

5. The information resource centre may be established preferably at Mandal level to start with, for the viability of the institution as well as the availability of the necessary infrastructure like buildings, personnel, electricity and other services.
6. Information resource centres may also be developed by upgrading the existing public library system at the mandal level wherever possible. However, augmentation of infrastructure and training to its personnel would be necessary
7. In the light of the recommendation of the IT Task Force to allocate 3% of the development budget to IT related activities, a general directive may have to be issued by the Planning Commission and specific directives by the respective Ministries at the Centre and State level allocating separate budget head for smooth functioning of these information centres, basically founded for the benefit of the elected representatives and the rural public.
8. The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment may also include in the guidelines for several of their rural development schemes, to

allocate 3% of the grants under training for the development of information centres at Mandal level as "united funds".

9. Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation may come in a big way supporting the information centres by supplying computer equipment, accessories, peripherals and information resources like CD-ROMs and other soft copies under the existing "non-matching scheme" of the foundation.
10. According to the Action Plan of the IT Task Force, there would be a IT revolution by the year 2002 in the country. Hence, it is imperative to establish the community information resource centres at least experimentally one in each State and Union Territories to begin with, to understand the problems and pitfalls in running such centres using IT as well as in understanding the mechanisms of information management and needs at the mandal or lower levels. They should have internet connectivity besides facilities like Fax, STD/ISD.
11. National Institute of Rural Development is requested to take lead in establishing at least two such centres on an experimental basis under the supervision and guidance of Central on Rural Documentation (CORD).
12. The other centres in different States may be established under the supervision of State Institute of Rural Development (SIRDs) which have linkages with National Institute of Rural Development. This may enable the SIRDs and NIRD to develop these centres on an uniform pattern. Wherever such SIRDs are not available, the assistance of any local Research or Training Institution of standing may be taken. This exercise should be completed in the next twelve months. An evaluation report prepared by NIRD for further necessary action at the appropriate level.
13. The personnel to man the centres (at least one per centre) may be identified locally and trained in handling the new communication facilities by organisations like NIC and NIRD at appropriate levels. A working manual may be prepared by NIC and NIRD for the day to day functioning of these information

centres. This may be made available in the regional languages for the use at the mandal level.

14. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may, in addition to printed material, also provide information in readily usable format and all its publications in computer compatible form like CD-ROM etc. either free or at minimal cost for the use of village libraries and information resources centres. Ministry of I&B may also put this information on their website.
15. The information resource centres should concentrate in obtaining literature in the local languages with the help of the resources of the organisations providing such literature like National Book Trust, National Literacy Mission, DAVP, Publications Division, DPEP, Yuvak Kendras, Mahila organisations, besides having linkages with State level institutions, and universities in the region.

[Translation]

PDS Beneficiaries

*195. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI ADITYANATH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of card-holders beneficiaries under the Public Distribution System living below poverty line throughout the country as on date, State-wise; and

(b) the amount of subsidy being provided by the Government on foodgrains, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) (a) The State-wise number of families living below poverty line issued cards throughout the country under the Targeted Public Distribution System as on date as reported by the States/ Union Territories are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The details of the amount of subsidy being provided by the Government of India are not maintained State-wise.

Statement*Number of Ration Cards for BPL Families (BPL Cards) for State/UTs*

State/UT	Ration Cards (In Lakhs)	Reported As on
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	113.02	Nov. 98
Arunachal Pradesh	0.78	Sept. 98
Assam	18.72	Dec. 98
Bihar	84.26	Nov. 97
Goa	0.07	Dec. 98
Gujarat	33.62	Jun. 98
Haryana	5.62	Dec. 98
Himachal Pradesh	2.84	May 98
Jammu & Kashmir	4.96	Feb. 98
Karnataka	62.55	Dec. 98
Kerala	20.60	Dec. 98
Madhya Pradesh	42.68	Dec 98
Maharashtra	57.70	Aug 98
Manipur	1.13	Jun 97
Meghalaya	0.97	Mar 97

1	2	3
Mizoram	N.A.	Feb 97
Nagaland	0.96	Nov 97
Orissa	42.21	Aug 98
Punjab	4.88	July 98
Rajasthan	21.16	Sept 98
Sikkim	N.A.	Oct 97
Tamilnadu	55.00	Dec 98
Tripura	2.31	May 98
Uttar Pradesh	95.48	July 98
West Bengal	47.07	April 98
Andaman & Nicobar	0.12	Oct 98
Chandigarh	0.00	Nov 98
D&N Haveli	0.17	Dec 98
Daman & Diu	0.02	Feb 98
Delhi*	—	Dec 96
Lakshadweep*	—	Nov 98
Pondicherry	0.89	Nov 98
Total	719.79	

N.A.— Not Available

*Delhi and Lakshadweep Have not Implemented TDPS as Identification of BPL Families and Issue of Special Cards to them has not been completed there.

[English]

61-66

Non-Formal Education

*196. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN:

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

(a) the names of the projects for which assistance has been provided to Orissa and Gujarat and other States under non-formal education programme by the Government during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount spent thereon and the number of persons made literate through such centres during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard and to ensure proper utilisation of funds by these centres?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non Formal Education financial assistance is provided to educationally backward states, including Orissa, for running NFE centres for out-of school children. In other States, including Gujarat, assistance is provided for NFE centres in urban slums, hilly, desert and tribal areas and pockets with concentration of working children. Voluntary agencies are also provided assistance under this programme.

Amount of grants sanctioned and number of children covered under the NFE programme during the last three years, State-wise, is given in the attached *Statement*.

Proper utilisation of funds provided under the scheme to State Governments and voluntary agencies are monitored through Quarterly Progress Reports, Audited Accounts, Utilisation Certificates, reviews and visits. Release of funds is contingent upon utilisation of funds already provided.

Statement*Non Formal Education Programme**Number of Learners and Grants Released During 1995-96 to 1997-98*

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Year					
		1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		No of learners covered	Grants released (Rs. in Lakhs)	No of learners covered	Grants released (Rs. in Lakhs)	No of learners covered	Grants released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10,40,750	690.07	10,31,125	546.25	10,79,250	3,128.96
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2,500	7.84	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	3,55,325	753.03	3,56,575	1,012.15	3,59,075	528.53
4.	Bihar	13,13,750	2,007.59	13,38,250	2,790.74	13,41,000	3,793.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Gujarat	37,000	59.24	37,000	83.84	37,000	66.04
6.	J&K	69,275	99.86	69,275	21.99	73,025	75.35
7.	Madhya Pradesh	8,99,625	2,453.67	8,99,000	2,819,000	9,33,500	2,554.21
8.	Manipur	64,625	138.29	1,00,300	295.09	1,00,300	311.26
9.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	12,500	17.35
10.	Mizoram	5,000	6.55	5,000	8.70	5,000	8.70
11.	Orissa	8,04,450	1,256.23	8,27,600	1,912.84	8,83,350	1,205.48
12.	Rajasthan	4,79,925	703.64	4,81,150	1,423.47	4,89,275	1,544.01
13.	Tamil Nadu	79,000	108.99	81,500	212.49	1,00,875	254.01
14.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	7,550	13.49
15.	Uttar Pradesh	16,30,775	3,895.81	16,29,525	4,303.46	16,56,400	4,252.50
16.	Chandigarh	2,625	3.52	2,625	5.65	2,625	0.14
17.	D&N Haveli	2,500	3.17	2,500	4.55	2,500	5.06
18.	Haryana	18,750	36.89	16,000	48.01	15,375	54.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Himachal Pradesh	11,250	6.70	8,750	12.00	8,750	22.16
20.	Karnataka	42,750	5.62	20,675	33.76	39,925	46.43
21.	Maharashtra	47,500	57.38	54,125	153.84	78,400	163.38
22.	West Bengal	22,750	13.39	25,250	103.36	25,250	140.46
23.	Delhi	6,250	12.32	6,250	23.38	6,250	105.09
24.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	1,250	3.28
Total		69,36,375	12,319.80	69,92,475	15,814.85	72,58,425	18,294.75

[Translation]

Burden of School Bags

*197. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHAYAY:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

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

(a) whether all the States have implemented the recommendations of Prof. Yashpal Committee in regard to reducing the burden of school bags for children;

(b) if not, the names of States which have not implemented the said recommendations till date and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have issued directives to State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) In the 50th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) State Governments have expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee. The implementation of these recommendations has been initiated by most State and Central agencies.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government have been impressing upon the State Governments for early implementation of the recommendations of the Committee. It has recently reiterated the need for expeditious implementation of the recommendations.

[English]

Indian Prison Laws

*198. SHRI MADAN PATIL:
SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Prison Laws formed in 1884 has become outdated and colonial in nature;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the said laws;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) 'Prisons' is a State subject as per Entry 4 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. It is essentially for the State Governments to carry out such amendments in the Prison Act as they consider necessary. However, guidelines for a Model Prison Bill have been circulated to the State Governments.

[Translation]

Uniform Education System

*199. SHRI V.K. KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures for implementation of uniform education system in the country to build up national unity and integrity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 as adopted by both the House of the Parliament provides for a National System of Education which implies that, up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality.

The basic objective of NPE has been to build a National System of Education based on a common structure and a National Curriculum Framework with a core. The concept of National System of Education, however, does not mean a rigid uniformity in every aspect. Adaptation to suit local conditions and

requirements is provided for within the broad framework. The National Curriculum Framework lays stress on the promotion of national unity as a major objective of school curriculum alongwith other components that are flexible which are designed to promote values of India's common cultural heritage, egalitarianism, democracy and secularism, equality of sexes, removal of social barriers etc. The NPE, 1986 (and revised in some aspects in 1992) identified common core elements of the school curriculum which are designed to promote national goals. These common core elements have been emphasized in the National Curriculum Framework.

Maintenance of broad uniformity in the schools of the country has been sought to be achieved by (i) making available to all schools a broadly uniform pattern of syllabi/textbooks designed on the basis of National Curricular Framework for elementary and secondary education brought out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training, and (ii) requiring all the schools sending their students for Board Examination to be affiliated to the concerned State Boards, the Central Board of Secondary Education or the Council for the Indian Schools Certificate Examinations, as the case may be and thereby to follow the syllabi/textbooks prescribed by the respective Board designed on the basis of National Curricular Framework. The National Council of Teacher Education has circulated a Curriculum Framework for Quality Teacher Education to all universities, State Governments, State Councils of Educational Research and Training and other agencies for implementation in order to bring uniformity. The policy also envisaged inter-regional mobility in higher education in general and technical education in particular by providing equal access to every Indian of requisite merit, regardless of their origins.

[English]

Navodaya Vidyalayas

*200. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:

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

(a) whether Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme was launched in 1984-85 with the aim of one such school in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the achievements made so far in this regard indicating the number of districts which are still without such a Vidyalaya;

(c) whether some State Governments have not implemented this scheme so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of proposals lying pending for opening of such Vidyalayas; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken to open Navodaya Vidyalayas in each district in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The Scheme started in 1985-86.

(b) A *Statement* is annexed.

(c) and (d) The Government of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have not yet accepted the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas. They maintain that the language formula adopted in NVs is at variance with the language formula to which they are committed and that the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme serves only the elite in the Society.

(e) and (f) At present no proposal, fulfilling the requirements of the Samiti in respect of un-covered districts, notified at the commencement of 8th Five Year Plan is pending with the Samiti. The concerned State Governments are being pursued to furnish the proposals meeting the requirements of the Samiti for the balance districts.

Statement

Statewise details of JNVs Sanctioned/Uncovered Districts

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Total No. of Distts. At the Commencement of VIII Plan	JNVs Sanctioned	Balance Distts.	Percentage Coverage w.r. to Co. (3)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	22	01	96%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	08	03	73%
3.	Bihar	50	48#	03	96%
4.	Gujarat	19	12	07	63%
5.	Haryana	16	15	01	94%
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12	10	02	83%
7.	Kerala	14	12	02	86%

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Maharashtra	33@	28	05	85%
9.	Sikkim	04	03	01	75%
10.	Nagaland	07	04	03	57%
11.	Uttar Pradesh	63	52	11	83%
12.	Delhi	04@	02	02	50%
13.	Assam	23	18	05	78%
(100% Coverage Made)					
1.	Orissa	13	16#	—	100%
2.	Goa	02	02	—	100%
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	14	—	100%
4.	Karnataka	20	21#	—	100%
5.	Manipur	08	08	—	100%
6.	Mizoram	03	03	—	100%
7.	Andaman & Nicobar	02	02	—	100%
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01	01	—	100%
9.	Daman & Diu	02	02	—	100%
10.	Lakshadweep	01	01	—	100%

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Pondicherry	04	04	—	100%
12.	Madhya Pradesh	45	45	—	100%
13.	Chandigarh	01	01	—	100%
14.	Meghalaya	06	06	—	100%
15.	Tripura	03	03	—	100%
16.	Punjab	12	12	—	100%
17.	Rajasthan	28	29#	—	100%
Total		444*	404	46	

* Excluding newly created districts and districts in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

@ Three extra schools have been taken for Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay and two for Chennai.

One JNV each has been sanctioned in Naupada Dhenkanal and Kendrapada in Orissa, Kota (Rajasthan), Munger (Bihar) and Gadag (Karnataka) as a special case.

Mines & Minerals
Sea Minerals 13-75

1924. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ocean has vast resources of minerals, oil and natural gas;

(b) if so, the position of India in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to tap these resources?

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

(b) and (c) The Hydrocarbon resources of the Indian continental shelf areas up to 200 metre isobath have been prognosticated at 11.7 billion tonnes. In addition about 5-9 billion tonnes of resources have been prognosticated for deeper offshore areas beyond 200 metre isobath. Sea bed survey undertaken by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) within the Exclusive Economic Zone of India have indicated occurrence of heavy minerals sand comprising ilmenite, sillimanite, zircon, Rutile, garnat, magnetite, monazite, micro-manganese nodules, ferro-manganese crusts, lime mud and phosphatised concretions.

During the 9th Five Year Plan, besides ONGC which plans to drill 147 exploratory wells with a total meterage of 42400 metre in the offshore areas of the country under its operational control, private/Joint Venture companies have also additional development plans for Panna Mukta, Tapti and Ravva fields.

A total of about 113 million metric tonnes of oil and about 104 billion cubic metres of Natural Gas is planned to be produced from offshore areas during the 9th Plan Period. Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy, 38 offshore blocks including 12 deep water blocks have been offered for exploration by private and public sector companies.

Geological information is also planned to be upgraded by various methods. Technology for various components of a deep sea mining system for polymetallic nodules is also under development. However, commercial mining of these nodules is not considered viable in the near future.

Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954

1925. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:

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

(a) whether there is a ban on the sale and transfer of land;

(b) if so, the details of land under section 74(4) of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 distributed and sold;

(c) the manner in which the ownership of that land has been changed in the revenue records;

(d) whether any notice has been served upon to Panchayat deptt. while transferring the ownership rights/ and by the revenue department;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to abide the ban strictly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (f) The information is being collected from the Government of NCT of Delhi and will be placed on the Table of the House.

76-80 Unauthorised Encroachments

1926. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unauthorised encroachments detected in Government colonies as on 31.12.1996, area-wise;

(b) the reasons for not complying the instructions of the Government issued on 14.8.98 and 17.11.97 respectively in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) *Statement* attached.

(b) Instructions are being complied with.

(c) Government has initiated action under the provision of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 for removal of the encroachments.

Statement

Details of Encroachments on Government Land in Delhi

Sl. No.	Colony	Commercial (like shops, stalls) (Nos.)	Religious (like temples, mosques) (Nos.)	Resid. (like Jhuggis, sheds) (Nos.)	Others (like taxi stand, coal depot) (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Teen Murti Area	5	—	30	—
2.	Behind Meridien Hotel	—	—	38	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Willingdon Crescent	—	—	4	—
4.	Jaisalmer House	1	—	—	—
5.	Jam Nagar House	1	2	—	—
6.	K.G. Marg	3	—	—	—
7.	Bharti Nagar	1	1	—	1
8.	Gole Market	—	5	—	1
9.	Minto Rd. Area	96	21	—	—
10.	DIZ Area	—	—	1021	—
11.	Sarojini Nagar	3	—	42	—
12.	R.K. Puram	63	1	1667	3
13.	Nauroji Nagar	1	3	—	1
14.	Dev Nagar	—	—	52	1
15.	Timarpur	—	1	578	—
16.	Laxmi Bai Nagar	—	1	6	—
17.	Mayapur	—	—	74	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Kidwai Nagar	4	6	—	—
19.	Aliganj	1	—	—	—
20.	Mall Road	—	—	1	—
21.	Andrews Ganj	3	—	83	—
22.	Sadiq Nagar	1	1	65	—
23.	Sriniwaspuri	2	2	—	2
24.	Kasturba Nagar	—	8	322	—
25.	Tyagraj Nagar	1	8	19	—
26.	JNU Campus	1	—	—	—
27.	Pushp Vihar	249	6	75	—
28.	HUDCO Campus Khel Gaon Marg	—	1	1	—
TOTAL		436	66	4078	10

Increasing of Caste and Religion

1927. SHRI SURENDRAN CHENGARA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that unexpected Casteism and Religionism are increasing all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such type of undesirable Social evils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Atrocities on Minority Community

1928. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the atrocities on the minority community are on the rise in the country at present due to which some of the Western countries are reluctant to enter into trade and cooperation with India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) During the year 1998 and in January/February 1999, there had been some attacks on Christians and their institutions in some parts of the country. However, there is no information about reluctance on the part of some Western Countries to enter into trade and cooperation with India as a result of these incidents.

(b) Does not arise. *Terrorism*

Narcotic Smuggling and Insurgent Movements in North-East States

1929. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:
SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether intelligence reports suggest that there are links between narcotic smuggling and insurgent movements in the North-east;

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

(c) whether Pakistan is involved in training the terrorists or helping drug smugglers; and

(d) if so, the preventive measures taken by the State Governments and the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds for Handicapped *Disabled Persons 81-82*

1930. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for the rehabilitation of handicapped persons in the country for the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the total amount spent out of it so far; and

(c) the total amount un-utilised at present with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) During Ninth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 954.33 crores has been allocated for the various schemes pertaining to welfare of handicapped persons.

(b) An amount of Rs. 140.04 crores has been spent upto 26.2.99.

(c) The balance amount is to be utilised during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan.

Housing loan to Individuals by HUDCO *Loan to Individuals 82*

1931. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has taken a policy decision to provide liberal housing loan to individuals on subsidized rate of interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the operations of the programme has been started;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be operated;

(e) whether HUDCO has started its Housing/commercial complexes in National Capital Region Territory; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the progress made therein as on date, Project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. HUDCO is starting a scheme or providing housing loans to individuals on competitive interest rates as per the loan-interest slabs given below:

Loan amount (Rs.)	Interest Rate p.a. (%)
1	2
0 — 25,000	11.50
25,001—70,000	12.00
70,001—1,50,000	13.50

1	2
1,50,001—3,00,000	14.00
3,00,001—5,00,000	14.50
5,00,001—8,00,000	15.00
8,00,001—15,00,000	15.50

(c) and (d) The scheme is stated to start on 8.3.98.

(e) and (f) HUDCO has so far funded 43 housing projects with a loan amount of Rs. 34.97 crore and 4 commercial projects with a loan amount of Rs. 13.16 crore as per details given in the enclosed *Statement*.

Statement

Sl. No.	Scheme Name	Project Cost (Rupees in Lakhs)	Loan Amount	Dwelling Units
1	2	3	4	5
1.	D.D.A. Scheme for retiring Public Servant.	132.62	103.00	538
2.	D.D.A. Project Delhi	374.77	300.00	3500
3.	Construction of Flats Katwaria Sarai, Madipur, Wazirpur and Malviya Nagar, New Delhi.	648.85	564.72	2853
4.	HUDCOs Direct implementations Project Bodella, New Delhi	92.80	92.80	1180
5.	Press Association Group Housing MIG, New Delhi	28.26	19.60	52
6.	Press Association Group Housing HIG, New Delhi	106.97	71.60	128
7.	Tara Cooperative for Retired Person Housing Sch. MIG, New Delhi	41.08	26.73	68
8.	Tara Cooperative for Retired Person Housing Sch. HIG, New Delhi	49.24	32.08	68
9.	Navketan Cooperative Group Housing Sch. Mehruali Road, New Delhi	166.77	106.00	200

1	2	3	4	5 -
10.	HIG Flats for Members of Yamuna Coop. Group Housing Society	107.40	51.11	135
11.	Composite Housing Scheme at Bodella, New Delhi	123.17	91.04	623
12.	LIG Housing Scheme at Pitampura in Pocket G&J	105.01	6.40	984
13.	LIG Housing Sch. in Pitampura	80.61	61.90	480
14.	Bodella Composite Hsg. Sch. Delhi	327.30	82.85	1470
15.	Pitampura Composite Hsg. Scheme	198.02	41.25	972
16.	Rajouri Garden Composite Hsg. Scheme, Delhi	114.42	23.24	696
17.	Staff Rental Housing Sch. for Council for Scientific & Industrial Research at Friends Colony, New Delhi	85.91	60.11	113
18.	HIG Coop. Group Housing Scheme HIG, Paschim Vihar, Delhi	72.38	27.98	52
19.	HIG Housing Scheme, Shahdara	179.87	95.14	168
20.	HIG Housing Scheme at Rohini, Delhi	162.28	90.84	164
21.	HIG Housing Scheme at Rohini, Delhi	194.14	114.43	179
22.	HIG Housing Sch. at Rohini Ph.I	300.13	152.19	121
23.	HIG Husing Sch. at Rohini Ph.II	118.99	59.47	65
24.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Scheme for Bodella Phase-II, Delhi	86.52	65.51	61

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Scheme at Partapganj, Plot No. 2, Delhi	175.33	120.56	79
26.	LIG II Coop. Group Housing Sch.	98.09	81.68	262
27.	HIG Coop. Hsg. Sch. at Patparganj	20.13	11.11	11
28.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Scheme at Bodella Phase-I, Delhi	72.06	58.75	47
29.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Sch. for Galaxy Coop. Group Housing Society	63.52	50.43	41
30.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Sch. for Arunodaya Coop. Group Hsg. Sch.	156.40	97.35	97
31.	Central Govt. Employees Group Hsg. Sch. at Mayur Vihar, Delhi	170.72	123.90	96
32.	HIG Housing Sch. at Plot No. 67 Patparganj, Delhi	156.85	89.38	74
33.	HIG Housing Sch. at Rohini Sector-14, Plot No. 8 Delhi	158.25	95.03	84
34.	HIG Coop. Housing Scheme at Pitampura, Delhi	29.95	17.95	16
35.	Central Govt. Employees Group Insurance Housing Scheme at Pitampura, Delhi	31.92	19.20	16
36.	HIG Housing Scheme at Mandavali, Patparganj, Delhi	162.16	94.15	65
37.	IYSH National Site Shelter for Widows, Shahdara	206.70	187.55	341

1	2	3	4	5	6
38.	HIG Hsg. Sch. at Plot No. 7, Bodella		90.33	53.68	61
39.	HIG Housing Sch. at Mayur Vihar Phase-II, Delhi		29.59	17.37	16
40.	HIG Hsg. Sch. at Bodella, Delhi		7.49	3.90	5
41.	HIG Units under Central Govt. Employees Phase-II		40.18	24.50	17
42.	Units under non-CGES Mayur Vihar, Phase-II		16.57	9.92	7
43.	Acquisition of Commercial Land & Land Development Project in Laxmi Nagar, Delhi		760.25	300.00	—
44.	Contns. of Multi Storey Shop-cum-Office Complex Laxmi Nagar, Delhi		774.22	500.00	—
45.	Land Acquisition Scheme of Multi Storey Community Centre, Naraina		336.00	—	—
46.	Constn. of Shop-cum-Office Complex Majestic Tower, Vikaspuri, Delhi		1212.63	350.50	—

87-91

Off-take of Foodgrains

1932. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any anomalies detected regarding off-take of foodgrains under the Revamped Public Distribution System during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States having less number of families, living below poverty line got more foodgrains than the States having more number of families living below poverty line;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or propose to be taken by the Government to remove such anomalies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) At present, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced in June, 1997 allocation of foodgrains to the States and Union Territories is made partly in proportion to the number of families

below poverty line (BPL) in the State @ 10 kg. per family per month and partly on basis of average annual offtake in the past. Additional allocations are also being made to the States UTs subject to the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the constraints of food subsidy. Prior to the introduction of TPDS in June, 1997 the allocation of foodgrains under PDS including the erstwhile Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was based on the demand, offtake trend, availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool prices in the open market etc.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Scheme in Bihar

1933. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have paid its share to Bihar for construction of private toilets under centrally sponsored scheme during the last three years.

(b) if not, the reasons there: and

(c) the time by which the remaining amount of share is likely to be released?

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

(b) and (c) The State Government has not reported any expenditure since 1994-95. An amount of Rs. 441.163 lakh still remains unutilised with the State Government. Further, as per the existing procedure, release to the State Government could be considered only when the State has incurred an expenditure of atleast 60% of the available funds. The release is further subject to the submission of upto date Progress Reports/Utilisation Certificates/Audit Certificates by the State.

[English]

CSIR in West Bengal

1934. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop CSIR in West Bengal;

(b) the amount allocated to undeveloped district of Bankura in West Bengal; and

(c) the details of the audit report of CSIR, Bankura project?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has three national laboratories located in West Bengal viz. Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) Durgapur, Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI) and Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB) Calcutta. Besides, a CSIR Polytechnology Transfer Centre located at Calcutta the following National Laboratories/Institutions of CSIR have their extension centres in West Bengal:—

Name of the Labs/Instts.	Centre Located at
1. Central Fuel Research Institute, (CFRI) Dhanbad	Raniganj
2. National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS), New Delhi.	Bankura
3. National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML) Jamshedur.	Howrah, Midnapore and Calcutta
4. Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) Roorkee	Calcutta
5. Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) Chennai	Calcutta
6. Indian Natinal Scientific Documentation Centre (INSDOC), New Delhi.	Calcutta
7. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur.	Calcutta

All of these Institutes and the Extension Centres undertake R&D in the relevant areas and provide the services to the industries.

(b) An amount of Rs. 7.5 lakhs has been allocated for undertaking R&D activities in the district of Bankura,

West Bengal. These activities relate to modernisation of artisans 'design of handloom weaving, development of CAD system for Baluchari Saree, evaluation of Pachmura clay for Terracotta products using fly ash and upgradation of common clay pottery of Rani Bagh, Bankura.

(c) There is no reference as regards CSIR Science & Technology field station at Bankura.

[Translation]

Security 93
Misuse of Passes

1935. SHRI MOTILAL VOJRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Mantralay on mein Pravesh Ke Passon ka durupayog" appearing in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated January 5, 1999;

(b) if so, the persons found responsible for issue of these special passes to private persons and the purpose thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry for misuse of special passes;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to inquire to ascertain whether these passes were used to collect confidential information; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (f) The news-item contains several allegations that are factually not correct. No irregularities in issue of passes to non-officials or instance of misuse of these passes for collection of confidential information by unauthorised persons have come to the notice of the Government.

[English]

*SC/ST) OR
Women*
Unwed Mothers among Tribals

1936. SHRI MULAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any project/scheme for rehabilitation and protection of unwed mothers among tribals of Wyanad and other areas in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representation is pending with the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Act 15
Essential Commodities Act, 1980 *94*

1937. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR:
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2509 dated December 15, 1998; regarding "blackmarketing/hoarding of commodities" and state:

(a) the details of the provisions of the prevention of blackmarketing and maintenance of supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 under which State Governments can take action against the persons involved in blackmarketing of essential commodities;

(b) whether the gravity of offence has been prescribed in these Acts'

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Essential Commodities (Special Provision) Act, 1981 is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Under section 3(1) of the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, the State and Central Governments can issue orders of detention against persons whose activities are found prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 has lapsed w.e.f. 31.8.97. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1999 has been introduced in the current Session of Parliament. This Bill incorporates certain important provisions of the earlier Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981.

Testing of New Drug *Medicine*

1938. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scientists at Central Drug Research Institute in Lucknow have tested a new drug for the treatment of Malaria;

(b) if so, whether the new drug has been put to use to eradicate Malaria; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow in collaboration with Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Lucknow have developed and tested a new drug for the treatment of chloroquine resistant Plasmodium falciparum malaria. The drug named Arteether is a semi-synthetic derivative of the active constituent artemisinin in which is obtained from the plant Artemisia annua. The drug has been granted marketing permission for use in severe malaria including cerebral malaria and as a second line in Chloroquine resistant malaria cases only for supply to hospitals and is prohibited for sale in retail outlets.

(c) Post-marketing surveillance data of 300 patients received from the clinicians from 6 states has shown that the drug is safe and effective. The post-marketing surveillance is continuing.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalyayas

1939. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme of the Government for construction of a building for Navodaya Vidyalyayas;

(b) the number of Navodaya Vidyalyayas are running without buildings in M.P.; and

(c) the steps taken for construction of buildings for such Vidyalyayas in the State particularly in Mahasamund?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) construction work of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalyayas buildings are being assigned to various Construction Agencies of State Government/Central Government/Government Undertakings in different phases.

(b) and (c) Nine Vidyalyayas are running without their own buildings in the State. Construction is in progress in these schools except in Chhindwara where land has not yet been made available. Samiti has not sanctioned any Vidyalyaya for Mahasamund. Requisite funds have been released to the concerned construction agencies for the early completion of the Vidyalyaya buildings.

[English]

women
96-97

ADARNA Scheme in AP

1940. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government to extend assistance for the ADARNA Scheme and other programmes in the State which are meant for upliftment of women students and unemployed youth belonging to the backward community;

(b) if so, the total demand made by the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have accepted the demand; and

(d) if so, the total amount being sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh in making the ADARNA Scheme successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) No Sir. However a proposal

has been received in the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) for financing schemes under Artisans Assistance Project. The National Corporation has requested the A.P. Backward Classes Corporation to submit schemes as per the guidelines and keeping in view the allocation of funds during the current financial year.

Benefits to Retired Government Servant

1941. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the pecuniary and non-pecuniary benefits provided to retired Government servant;

(b) the steps taken to ameliorate conditions for old people;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase in the income tax exemption limit in view of the present price hike;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken to provide assistance to the senior citizens for their medical treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Expansion of Mumbai Metropolitan

1942. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the jurisdiction of Mumbai Metropolitan city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allocated funds for the development of surrounding area of Mumbai; and

(d) if so, the name of the areas identified therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) Under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities, a central assistance of Rs. 102.48 crore has been released from 1993-94 till date to Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority for infrastructure development in Mumbai Urban Agglomeration area. The areas of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC), Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) and Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) are covered under the Mumbai Mega City Programme.

[English]

Task force on Science and Technology

1943. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Inter-Ministerial "Task Force on Science and Technology in Independent India" has recommended allocation of two percent of GNP for Science and Technology during the Ninth Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) An Inter-Ministerial Sub Group on Policy and Approach for the S&T sector for the 9th Five Year Plan recommended allocation of 2% of GNP for Science & Technology in the Ninth Plan period.

(b) According to the latest available statistics, the expenditure on S&T in India has hovered around one percent of GNP. This statistics does not include the expenditure incurred by the entities including business houses and companies which have not applied for recognition by the Ministry of Science & Technology. According to an estimate, if the contribution by such entities, business houses and companies are included, India's R&D expenditure as percentage of GNP would be around 2%. The expenditure made by Central

Government, State Governments and the institutions reporting to the Ministry of Science & Technology in absolute terms has been progressively on the increase and this trend is likely to continue in the 9th Plan period also.

SC/ST/06

Discontentment amongst the Tribals

1944. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the reasons of discontentment amongst the tribals the causes of unrest the tribal areas particularly in Fifth and Sixth Scheduled Areas of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons and causes therefor and the measures taken by the Union Government and the States to control and contain the same.

(c) whether the peace and good Government in scheduled Areas is the responsibility of the Central Government and the State Government; and

(d) if so, the legal and constitutional measures initiated by the Union Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Oil Industry

1945. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil Industries set up after the delicensing of the industry indicating their capacity for oilseeds crushing, solvent extraction, refineries and vanaspati;

(b) the number of oil industry units owned by foreign companies independently and the unit with foreign equity set up after liberalisation; and

(c) the total investment made in January 1999 by the indigenous units and the foreign units including the collaboration with Indians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) After delicensing of the Vegetable Oil Industry from 25th July, 1991, 1778 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda (IEMs) involving a proposed total investment of Rs. 14172 crores and 14 Letters of Intent with a proposed investment of Rs. 75 crores were filed with the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance under the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion. No authentic information is available regarding the number and capacity of oil industries actually set up in pursuance of the above IEMs and Letter of Intent, except for the vanaspati and solvent extraction units for which the information is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c) As per available information, during the period 1991 to December, 1998, the following foreign collaboration cases were approved in the field of the Vegetable oil and vanaspati industry:—

Total	Technical	Financial	Total Amt. Approved
35	3	32	Rs. 193.93 crores

Of these only two proposals relate to 100% foreign equity. No information is available on investment made in January, 1999.

Statement

Number and Capacity of Oil Industries

	Before Delicensing		After Delicensing	
	No. of Units	Approx. Annual Capacity	No. of Units	Approx. Annual Capacity
Vanaspati Units	106	17.6 lakh MT	195	31.5 lakh MT
Solvent Extraction Units	453	184 lakh MT (In terms of oil bearing material)	850	345 lakh MT (In terms of oil bearing material)

[Translation]

Police

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**Complaints against the Selection of
Constable and A.S.I.**

Derecognition to CBSE Affiliated Schools

1946. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to derecognise the CBSE affiliated schools in Delhi and its surrounding areas which do not fulfil various conditions prescribed in the bye-laws; and

(b) if so, the policy of the Government in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The recognition/derecognition of schools does not come under the purview of the Central Govt. In these matters, the schools are regulated in accordance with the provisions contained in the Education Act of the respective State Government/UT Administration.

[English]

Assistance by ULFA

1947. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "ULFA playing host to kids of Myanmar militants since 1990" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated December 15, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c) There have been no recent reports which indicate that ULFA is playing host to kids of Myanmar militants.

1948. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against the selections of Constable and Assistant Sub-Inspector made by the Chandigarh Police recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The selection of candidates for appointment in the grade of Constable under Chandigarh Administration has been quashed by the Central Administrative Tribunal (Chandigarh Bench) on the ground that several irregularities have been made in finalising the list of the successful candidates. The judgment in question was received by Chandigarh Administration only recently and they propose to take appropriate action in the matter against officials found to be guilty of any misdemeanour.

Similarly, in case of appointment to the grade of Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police, one of the un-successful candidates made a formal complaint to the Chandigarh Administration and a vigilance inquiry has been ordered into the matter. The said candidate has in the meantime also filed an application in the Central Administrative Tribunal (Chandigarh Bench) and the matter is sub-judice.

Agitation by FCI Labourers

1949. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers of the Food Corporation of India are on agitation since January 18, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the likely effect on the work of the Food Corporation of India as well as Public Distribution System;

(d) whether any negotiation is being held between the management and the labour union;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such agitation/strike in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Freedom Fighter Pension

1950. SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link the Samman Pension with Price Index;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating additional cost to be borne by the Government thereon; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to advise the States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has already linked the Samman Pension with the Price Index. The first instalment of Dearness Relief @ 7% of the pension to various categories of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents has been released with effect from 1.8.1998. The estimated additional expenditure to be borne by the Central Government in this regard during the financial year 1998-99 is about Rs. 10.00 crores.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration. The expenditure on the schemes being implemented by the State Governments is not met from the Central revenues.

Right and Free Education

1951. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Right and free

education in Constitution" soon, appearing in *Hindustan Times* dated February 15, 1999;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a task force for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) In pursuance of the recommendations made in the Education Ministers' Conference in October 1998, a National committee of State Education Ministers has been Constituted by the Department to consider measures to pursue the goal of UEE in a Mission Mode.

In the first meeting of the committee held on 11 February, 1999 issues relating to the Constitution (Eighty Third Amendment) Bill, the report of the Expert Group on financial requirements for UEE and the need for institutional mechanisms for monitoring flow of funds under different educational programmes were among those discussed.

Funds to Consumer Courts

1952. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state the funds released by the Union Government to Consumer Courts during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): The funds released by the Union Government under One-time-grant scheme to supplement the efforts of the State Govts. and U.T. Administrations to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts in last three years, State-wise, is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

Statement

State/UT	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	130.60	139.40	—
Arunachal Pradesh	82.60	87.40	—
Assam	135.40	144.60	—
Bihar	212.20	227.80	—
Goa	34.60	35.40	—
Gujarat	121.00	129.00	—
Haryana	101.80	108.20	—
Himachal Pradesh	82.60	87.40	—
Jammu & Kashmir	34.60	17.90	—
Karnataka	121.00	129.00	—
Kerala	92.20	97.80	—
Madhya Pradesh	241.00	9.00	125.00
Maharashtra	173.80	186.20	—
Manipur	63.40	66.60	—
Meghalaya	58.60	61.40	—
Mizoram	39.40	40.60	—
Nagaland	58.60	61.40	—

1	2	3	4
Orissa	87.40	92.60	—
Punjab	87.40	92.60	—
Rajasthan	169.00	181.00	—
Sikkim	44.20	45.80	—
Tamil Nadu	130.60	139.40	—
Tripura	39.40	40.60	—
Uttar Pradesh	327.40	12.60	170.00
West Bengal	106.60	3.40	55.00
A & N Islands	34.60	35.40	—
Chandigarh	29.80	30.20	—
D & N Haveli	29.80	30.20	—
Daman & Diu	34.60	35.40	—
Delhi	34.60	35.40	—
Lakshadweep	29.80	30.20	—
Pondicherry	29.80	30.20	—
TOTAL:	2998.40	2464.10	350.00

Indian Fertilizer Industry

1953. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to draft a comprehensive bill for simplifying the working of Indian Fertilizer Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Migration of People due to Terrorism

1954. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are still migrating to other States for reasons of personal safety due to the continuous increase in terrorism in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute a separate Department/Ministry for the welfare of such people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Due to terrorism/disturbances, migrations of some people have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir and some North Eastern States.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal.

[*English*]

Subletting of Garages

1955. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 3353 in the Lok Sabha on 13.8.97 and state:

(a) the action taken so far against the allottees who misused the garages in Sector D, Mandir Marg, New Delhi;

(b) whether subsequent inspections were carried out in the 6 garages which were found locked;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are aware that there has been a recent spurt in the misuse/subletting of Government accommodation in the Mandir Marg area;

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

(f) the details of such cases in which show cause notices was served?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) A show-cause notice was issued to the allottee of the quarter who was suspected to misuse the garage in Sector-D Mandir Marg, New Delhi. In reply to the show-cause notice the allottee stated that he had kept household goods in the garage. The garage was re-inspected and no misuse was found.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There was no subletting in any of the six garages.

(d) to (f) Only three cases (Qr. No. D-460, D-627 & D-689) were detected since 1998 till date where subletting was reported. Show-cause notices were issued to all the three allottees. The allottee of Qr. No. D0627, Mandir Marg vacated the quarter. He has been debarred for further allotment for five years. In the other two cases action under allotment rules has been initiated.

Recruitment in KVS

1956. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has recently, decided to centralise recruitment of all posts in Vidyalayas, Regional Offices and Headquarter;

(b) if so, whether it conforms to the policy of the Government of decentralisation of recruitment of Group 'C' and 'D' employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Regular recruitment to all teaching and non-teaching posts, except those in Group 'D', will now be centrally made to ensure greater degree of objectivity, transparency, uniformity in standards, and selection of teachers on the basis of proven merit as independently assessed on all India basis on a uniform and standardised criteria.

However, the Asstt. Commissioner of the Regional Offices of KVS, will continue to be appointing authority. With this change, Regional Offices will be able to concentrate more on academic supervision and thereby bring qualitative improvement in academic standards.

[Translation]

Recruitment Policy for Teacher in Primary Schools

1957. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate uniform policy for recruitment of teachers in schools for all the states;

(b) if so, the details of the draft proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) According to Section 12 (d) of the NCTE Act, 1993 the Council may lay down guidelines in respect of minimum qualifications of a person to be employed as a teacher in schools or in recognised institutions. Accordingly the Council had set up a Task Force to suggest eligibility criteria for recruitment of Teachers, Headmasters/Principals in schools.

The Task Force has made recommendations in regard to minimum academic and professional qualifications as also the selection procedures and mode of recruitment for various categories of teachers at different levels of school education. The Report of the Task Force has recently been circulated to State/UT Administrations and some experts in the field of education for eliciting their response.

[English]

Hindustan Vegetable Corporation

1958. DR. SAROJA V.: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation has given tender for packing of Pamoline Oil in Delhi;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for selection assignment of job;

(c) whether any complaints has been received by the Government in this regard so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) HVOC undertakes packing of palmoline on behalf of the Delhi Government. Due to recent edible oil shortage in Delhi, in order to increase supply in consumer packs, at the instance of Delhi Government., HVOC entered into agreement with private packers. Since HVOC's capacity was limited, they were asked to tie up arrangement with private packers. Availability of packers and their capacity was the main criterion for assignment of job.

(c) and (d) The Akhil Bharatiya H.V.O.C. Karamchari Mahasangh (Regd.) and H.V.O.C. Shramik Union (Regd) complained to the Government against the alleged irregularity in awarding contract to M/s. Suraj Vanaspati Ltd., by H.V.O.C.

(e) Since the arrangement was made in pursuance of decision taken by the Delhi Govt. on whose behalf the palmoline oil is being packed, the question of taking any

further action for *ipso facto* entering into such an agreement does not arise.

Illegal Immigrants

1959. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign citizens who entered India illegally without any passport and apprehended during the last ten month; and

(b) the names of the courts where the cases against such persons have been filed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Powers of the Central Government under the Foreigners Act, 1946 to identify, detect and deport foreign nationals residing illegally in various parts of the country have been delegated to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and no data in this regard is Centrally maintained. The Government is, however, aware of the problem of foreign nationals who enter India surreptitiously from neighboring countries and are residing illegally in various parts of the country. Instructions have been issued/reiterated to the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to intensify efforts to identify and deport foreign nationals staying in the country illegally.

Under Water Cultural Heritages

1960. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL;
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL.

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the unique distinction of having the richest underwater cultural heritage;

(b) if so, the details of marine archaeological activities undertaken during the last three years and the findings thereof;

(c) whether these underwater research activities had slowed down during the said period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per studies and research done, India has a rich underwater cultural heritage. However, it is not conclusively established that the underwater cultural heritage of India is the richest in the world.

(b) As per information readily available the major marine archaeological activities undertaken during the last three years include.

- (i) Marine Archaeological exploration at Poompuhar on the Tamil Nadu Coast.
- (ii) Marine Archaeological explorations off Dwarka, Bet Dwarka and Somnath.
- (iii) Marine Archaeological exploration and excavation of ship wrecks on the West Coast of India.

The findings reported in respect of the above explorations are:

Poompuhar Project:

There are several reports in the ancient literature about the existence of the port city of Poomphar in the beginning of the Christian era.

Various artefacts were retrieved from the waters like dressed stone blocks, potsherds of early historical period (300 B.C. to 300 A.D.) Geophysical explorations carried out revealed a submerged palaeochannel of the river Kaveri in the north of Poompuhar; the width of the channel varies from 300 m to 500 m and it is buried 20 m below the sea bottom.

A significant achievement of Poompuhar underwater exploration is the discovery of a large shipwreck which carried a huge quantity of lead ingots dated 1791 and 1792 A.D. and inscribed W Blackett which could be the name of the company manufacturing or dealing in lead ingots.

Dwarka Explorations:

At Dwarka a total of approx. 9,80,000 Sq. Meters coastal areas was explored between the water depth of 3 to 12 M since 1983. A number of submerged stone

(building) blocks, remains of wall, pillar and bastion, stone-anchors of various types (three-holed, prismatic and triangular) have been recovered. Geophysical survey indicates the submerged channels of a river Gomati at least upto 500 m offshore.

The onshore explorations in nearby bet Dwarka region revealed the presence of late Indus seal depicting 3 headed animal, earthen vessels inscribed in the characters of Indus-Brahmi transition phase of about 1500 B.C. and the large quantity of pottery including lustrous red ware bowl and the red ware dishes, dish-on-stand, perforated jar and incurved bowls which are datable to 1600-1500 B.C. in Dwarka, Rangpur and Prahas.

During the recent investigations, large number of stone anchors have been located in Dwarka, Bet Dwarka and Aramada region, implying thereby that the region was under active navigation during late Harappan period.

Shipwrecks in West Coast of India—Goa Waters

- (i) The marine archaeological explorations at Sunchi Reef near Amee Shoal around 2 Km away from Marmagoa Port has revealed a wreck in 3 to 9 metre water depth. A number of dressed granite blocks, four cannons each 2 metre long, a cast iron cannon ball, pieces of glass bottle and potuary are the important findings from the wreck. All the cannons were lying on rock granite blocks and cannons were covered with baranacle growth and other sea organisations.
- (ii) The underwater exploration on the eastern side of St. George Reef, very close to famous Grade Island also revealed a shipwreck in 10 to 15 metre water depth containing various types of terra-cotta artefacts such as bricks, roofing, wail fixing and flooring tiles, at times, inscribed "Baselmision tile Works 1865" and a number of household decorative materials. The timber of the ship was also noticed in between the rocks. The underwater metal detector survey revealed a steel hulled wreck in 5 to 6 metre water depth opposite the seminary located in a hillock. The wreck is buried in the sediment and a little part is visible.

The above marine archaeological exploration and excavation activities have been undertaken by the National Institute of Oceanography and funded by Department of

Ocean Development, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research and Government of Tamil Nadu.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, underwater archaeological exploration and excavation activities are expensive and time consuming. Necessary funds required for the projects are arranged through various Departments/agencies.

[Translation]

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Fertilizer Policy

1961 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to change its present policy in regard to setting up of new fertilizer plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) The High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee (HPC) has made recommendations regarding a new fertilizer policy covering *inter alia* the recommended policy regarding setting up of new fertilizer units. Inter-Ministerial consultations and dialogue with the industry have been undertaken in regard to the recommendations made by the High Powered Committee. A new fertilizer policy will be announced after conclusion of this exercise.

[English]

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Sea Pollution

1962. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK:
SHRI K. YERRANNaidu:
SHRI FRANCISCO GARDINHA:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start several new projects to keep a watch on the sea water to check coastal pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the time by which these are likely to be started; and

(c) the funds sanctioned for these projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) A multi-institutional programme called Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction Systems (COMAPS) is under implementation from 1991 onwards for monitoring the levels of various marine pollutants in the coastal and offshore waters of the country and to assess the health of our seas. Intensive monitoring of pollutants at 82 locations covering 25 parameters is being done from 1991 onwards by 11 Institutions identified by the Government.

The results obtained through these observations are periodically brought to the attention of the concerned State Pollution Control Boards for remedial action. The State Pollution Control Boards are proposed to be provided funds for preparation of inventory on sources of marine pollution, as detailed below.

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Name of the Board	Amount
Gujarat State Pollution Control Board	2.0
Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board	2.0
Goa State Pollution Control Board	0.5
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board	1.0
Kerala State Pollution Control Board	1.0
Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board	2.0
Pondicherry Pollution Control Board	0.5
Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	2.0
Orissa State Pollution Control Board	1.0
West Bengal State Pollution Control Board	1.0
Total	13.00

There is no proposal to start new projects for monitoring coastal pollution.

[Translation] *Uttar Pradesh 18-19*

Khalilabad Sugar Mill, U.P.

1963. SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given by Sugar Corporation of India to Khalilabad Sugar Mill in Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount recovered out of that so far;

(c) whether the said mill has since been closed down; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to recover the remaining amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) There is no organisation called the Sugar Corporation of India under the Government. However, loans, are given to sugar mills for certain specified purposes from the Sugar Development Fund. The Khalilabad Sugar Mill has been given loans as indicated under:

(i) Loan for Modernisation/Rehabilitation

Amount of Loan	Disbursed on
Rs. 471.00 lakhs	30.11.94
Rs. 471.00 lakhs	24.2.95
Rs. 124.00 lakhs	12.4.96

(ii) Short Term Loan

Amount of Loan	Disbursed on
Rs. 50.00 lakhs	4.8.98

(b) Nil.

(c) The Sugar mill had worked during the last season 1997-98 but during the current Sugar season 1998-99, the mill has not yet started its crushing operation.

(d) Repayment of loan mentioned at (i) of reply to part (a) has not fallen due. In respect of repayment of the 1st instalment of the loan mentioned at (ii) of reply to part (a) which fell due on 7.2.99, the mill has been asked to clear its overdue and the Indian Sugar Mills Association has been urged to pursue the matter of repayment with the sugar unit.

1K9-24

Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission

1964. SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the voluntary organisations are also being given grant under this scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the voluntary organisation of Uttar Pradesh are being discriminated in the matter of allotment of funds under the Mission by the Ministry; and

(e) the number of voluntary organisations of Uttar Pradesh applied for funds under the said mission alongwith the action taken on the proposals of such organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The amount allocated by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to the States during the last three years is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c) The Mission does not release any funds for water supply to the voluntary organisations. However, funds are released to Council for Advancement of People, Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) for supporting voluntary organisations for this purpose.

(d) and (e) Question do not arise?

Statement

State-wise allocation of funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years

Sl.No.	State/UT	Allocation (Rs. in crore)		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66.180	79.640	99.205
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.000	14.440	36.230
3.	Assam	20.260	24.380	61.200
4.	Bihar	77.950	93.800	117.685
5.	Goa	1.890	2.270	2.838

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	41.970	49.870	58.605
7.	Haryana	24.410	27.360	21.909
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.310	15.960	19.671
9.	J & K	36.880	44.310	55.146
10.	Karnataka	60.870	73.250	91.774
11.	Kerala	30.950	37.240	46.735
12.	Madhya Pradesh	73.270	88.170	110.631
13.	Maharashtra	88.100	106.020	133.015
14.	Manipur	4.400	5.290	13.300
15.	Meghalaya	4.720	5.680	14.250
16.	Mizoram	3.370	4.060	10.180
17.	Nagaland	4.220	4.220	10.580
18.	Orissa	34.680	41.370	52.365
19.	Punjab	11.050	13.300	16.686
20.	Rajasthan	103.870	118.630	109.545
21.	Sikkim	3.720	3.720	4.340

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Tamilnadu	52.470	63.140	79.225
23.	Tripura	4.180	5.030	12.620
24.	Uttar Pradesh	122.780	147.750	185.379
25.	West Bengal	47.400	57.040	71.696
26.	A & N Islands	0.250	0.125	0.125
27.	D & N Haveli	0.150	0.125	0.125
28.	Delhi	0.300	0.050	0.050
29.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.125	0.125
30.	Pondicherry	0.200	0.050	0.050
31.	Daman & Diu	0.100	0.125	0.125
TOTAL :		945.900	1126.900	1435.410

[English]

Security Equipment

1965. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of sensitive equipments meant for security agencies is being purchased from USA;

(b) whether the Government propose to get clearance from Intelligence Bureau and RAW before the equipment is used by the Ministries/Departments; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Some of the security agencies have procured communication equipment from the authorised distributors of US manufacturers in India.

(b) If necessary, specialised agencies are associated at the technical evaluation stage before procuring any item.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Funding for Conversions

1966. SHRI M. RAJAJAH:
DR. SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which have enacted a law on forcible conversions;

(b) whether the Government propose to probe foreign funding for conversions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to ensure greater transparency in the foreign funds to all organisations and the purpose for which they have spent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, associations, which are covered under the said Act, are required to furnish intimation in regard to receipt purpose and utilisation of foreign contribution by them, on yearly basis, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant, to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The monitoring of foreign contribution is done through the returns submitted by such associations. The details are also compiled in the form of an Annual Report by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Copies of these Reports (upto 1996-97) are available in the Parliament Library. The Central Government is also empowered under the Act to order inspection of accounts or records or audit books of accounts of such associations.

DRDA

1967. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to issue directions to the State Government to nominate the Presidents of Zilla Parishads as Chairman of the District Committee for implementation of schemes under DRDA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGUDA PATIL): (a) This Ministry has in November, 1995 issued guidelines to all the States suggesting that Chairman of Zilla Parishad be made the Chairman of the Governing Body of DRDA.

(b) As per the guidelines Chairman/President/Pramukh of the Zilla Parishad would be the ex-officio Chairman of the Governing Body of DRDA. He shall preside over meetings of the Governing Body of DRDA.

(c) Does not arise.

Illegal Immigrants

1968. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has proposed to resolve the issue of illegal immigrants in India through dialogue;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Bangladesh has disclaimed the presence of any illegal Bangladeshis in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Bangladesh has put its troops on red-alert all along the Indo-Bangladesh borders to prevent any deportation of such illegal immigrants; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Though the official stand of the

Government of Bangladesh is that there is no illegal Bangladesh immigrants in India, they have assured that measures will be taken to strengthen security at the border to prevent illegal border crossing.

- (d) No, Sir.
(e) Does not arise.

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Economic Package to Jammu and Kashmir

1969. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced an economic package during 1996-97 for Jammu and Kashmir which also included the provision for establishing of Agriculture University in Jammu;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the package for Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether there is delay in the setting up of Agriculture University in Jammu; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The then Prime Minister had announced an economic package for Jammu & Kashmir in both Houses of Parliament in July/August, 1996. However, this package did not include the establishment of an Agriculture University at Jammu. Following up action is being taken for implementing the economic package announced by the Prime Minister.

Subsequently, in the context of the high-level team sent by the ICAR on a request made by the Government of J&K in August, 1996, the then Prime Minister stated at Jammu on 13-14th February, 1997 that in consultation with the State Government, a decision will be taken to start the Agriculture University at Jammu from the next year.

The question of fund support was discussed in a meeting held in the Planning Commission on 22.07.98 and it was decided that the Agriculture University be started in a phased manner by upgrading and strengthening the existing facilities with a financial support of Rs. 40 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan. (Rs. 25 crores by the Centre through ICAR and Rs. 15 crores in the State Plan). The State Government is required to issue a notification and appoint the Vice-Chancellor.

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Guest House

1970. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Guest House are being used as hideouts for terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases registered and persons arrested so far; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to stop such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) and (b) Reports available indicate that lodges/hotels are being used by the militants in Jammu and Kashmir for taking shelter and organising meetings.

(c) 772 militants have been arrested in Jammu and Kashmir from 1997 till 15.2.99 under substantive laws and cases registered against them.

(d) Government have adopted a well coordinated and multipronged approach for tackling the situation which inter-alia includes strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive steps against them in the hinterland, as also setting up of outposts of security forces and constitutes Village Defence Committees, gearing up intelligence machinery, modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced/sophisticated weapons and communication system, training etc.

128 28

Metro Rail System in Cochin

1971. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal in regard to Metro Railway Transport System; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) A proposal for Central assistance was received from the Government of Kerala in February, 1998 for carrying out

a feasibility study for a medium capacity MRTS system in Cochin. The proposal was examined in this Ministry and the State Government was advised to furnish more details with regard to the cost of the study. The State Government is yet to furnish the details in this regard.

Import of Sugar 127-52

1972. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
 SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
 SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:
 SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
 SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK.
 SHRI MADAN PATIL:
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
 SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:
 SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sugar imported during each of the last three years and the current year indicating the names of the countries rates and the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) the present stock of sugar in the country;

(c) whether this stock is sufficient to meet the requirement of the country;

(d) if so, the reasons for importing sugar from Pakistan;

(e) the details of foreign countries which have dumped their sugar in India;

(f) whether the world price of sugar have been falling the resulting for its rise in India;

(g) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring down the sugar prices in the country;

(h) whether the import is likely to affect the domestic sugar industry;

(i) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the sugar industry; and

(j) the time by which the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) A statement indicating the countrywise details of imports of sugar and its values for the last three years and the current year (upto Nov. 1998) in Rs. crores is given in *Statement-I*.

(b) and (c) The sugar season (Oct. - Sept.) 1997-98 ended with a closing stock of 53.7 lakh tonnes on 30.09.98. The Sugar season 1998-99 has commenced with effect from 1.10.1998 and with the production of sugar in the first five months of the current sugar season the stocks of sugar are provisionally estimated at 79.43 lakh tonnes as on 31.01.99. The production of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season (October-September) is provisionally estimated at 150 lakh tonnes and the closing stocks of sugar as on 30.09.99 is estimated at 58.9 lakh tonnes. As the internal consumption of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season is estimated at 144 lakh tonnes the availability of sugar during 1998-99 is considered adequate to meet the domestic requirement.

(d) There has been no imports of sugar either from Pakistan or any other country on Government account either in the last financial year or during the current financial year. Private parties are importing sugar based on the best commercial judgments.

(e) The Anti-Dumping Directorate initiates Anti-dumping investigation only on receipt of a documented Petition from the domestic industry wherein prima facie there must be evidence of dumping injury to the domestic industry and casual link established between dumping and injury. In case of sugar, no petition has been filed with the Anti-Dumping Directorate requesting for initiating action on sugar dumping.

(f) and (g) World prices of sugar during January 1998 to February (upto 19.2.99) have been indicated in a *Statement-II*. The world prices though fluctuating on a month to month basis, have shown a declining trend. So far as the domestic prices of the sugar are concerned, a statement indicating the range of wholesale price of S-30 Grade of sugar in the 4 principal markets of the country, namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai is indicated at *Statement-III*. The domestic prices, though

fluctuating, have also shown a declining trend. The retail prices of sugar in the said principal markets of the country have ranged between Rs. 14.50 to Rs. 17.00 per kg. Therefore, the sugar prices have been more or less stable.

(h) and (i) The two apex organisations of the Sugar Industry, viz. Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF) represented to government stating, *inter-alia*, that there has been large inflow of imported sugar and fall in the international prices of sugar and demanded increase in the Customs duty on imports of sugar. Government considered the demand of the Sugar Industry and raised the customs duty on imports of sugar from 5% to 20%

w.e.f. 14.1.99. However, with the change in customs duty rate structure in the budget proposals for the financial year 1999-2000, the custom duty on imports of sugar stands further revised to 25% along with surcharge of 10% w.e.f. 28.02.1999.

(j) The recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are being processed in consultation with State Governments, Planning Commission and other Departments of the Central Government. The recommendations of the Committee are having far reaching effects. It is, therefore, not possible to fix any time frame for the implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Statement I

Statement showing Quantity of Sugar Imported and its value in Rs./Crores during the Financial year 1995-96 to 1998-99 (Upto November, 1998)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	(1995-96)		(1996-97)		(1997-98)*		(1998-99)*	
		Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Australia	224	0.34	—	—	97	0.17	—	—
2.	Belgium	—	—	215	0.34	2193	3.38	2561	3.63
3.	Brazil	145980	209.71	—	—	164243	217.05	44206	52.28
4.	France	—	—	228	0.32	31070	41.58	32370	44.78
5.	German F. Rep.	215	0.34	903	1.39	7104	10.19	11736	15.26
6.	Pakistan	3982	5.12	—	—	20672	29.03	403387	513.67
7.	Singapore	124	0.21	—	—	5215	7.22	1500	1.93
8.	S. Africa	—	—	483	0.70	15971	22.41	234	0.35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	U. Arab Emrts.	105	0.17	86	0.12	22973	32.66	31251	39.97
10.	U.K.	—	—	216	0.31	2763	3.26	5510	8.55
11.	USA	2	0.003	—	—	16838	22.03	—	—
12.	Hongkong	—	—	—	—	7000	9.70	—	—
13.	Indonesia	—	—	—	—	64	0.28	18	0.14
14.	Japan	—	—	—	—	2700	3.53	—	—
15.	Korea R P	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	0.05
16.	Mayanmar	—	—	—	—	2099	2.62	—	—
17.	Maxico	—	—	—	—	6250	8.35	34427	49.28
18.	Philippines	—	—	—	—	476	0.41	—	—
19.	Saudi Arab	—	—	—	—	948	1.29	—	—
20.	Thailand	—	—	—	—	20600	27.42	11167	13.44
21.	Canada	—	—	—	—	72	0.18	19	0.05
22.	Chinese Taipei	—	—	—	—	N.A.	0.61	215	0.20
23.	China PRP	—	—	—	—	—	—	8666	10.95
24.	Iran	—	—	—	—	—	—	430	0.40
25.	Notherland	—	—	—	—	—	—	539	0.60.
26.	Sudan	—	—	—	—	—	—	8500	12.37
TOTAL:		150632	215.893	2131	3.18	330248	443.37	596775	768.17

Source:— DGCIS— Calcutta, Ministry of Commerce.

* : Provisional

Statement II

*F.O.B. Price of London Daily Price White Sugar
(Price US\$ Per Tonne)*

1.	January, 1998	298.00
2.	February, 1998	281.84
3.	March, 1998	269.52
4.	April, 1998	256.30
5.	May, 1998	264.53
6.	June, 1998	260.08
7.	July, 1998	256.90
8.	August, 1998	256.10
9.	September, 1998	221.99
10.	October, 1998	220.45
11.	November, 1998	237.13
12.	December, 1998	241.86
13.	January, 1999	242.29
14.	February, 1999 (Upto 19.2.1999)	230.61

Statement III

Range of Wholesale Prices of S-30 Grade Sugar in the for Principal Markets of the Country for the Financial Year 1998-99 upto February, 1999

(Rs. quintal)

Month	Range (All 4 Centres)
April, 1998	1425-1590
May, 1998	1470-1615
June, 1998	1413-1610
July, 1998	1423-1600
August, 1998	1368-1625
September, 1998	1328-1620
October, 1998	1384-1600
November, 1998	1366-1570
December, 1998	1368-1600
January, 1999	1378-1600
February, 1999	1383-1600

[Translation]

Connecting Cities Near Delhi with Express Highways

1973. ~~SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY:~~
~~SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:~~

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

(a) whether the Government propose to connect the nearby cities of Delhi with the Express Highways in order to check the increasing pollution and traffic menance in the Capital;

(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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

In the first phase, the following 4 Expressways are proposed to be taken up:

- (i) Faridabad-NOIDA-Ghaziabad Expressway (56 km);
- (ii) Ghaziabad-Meerut Expressway (60 km);
- (iii) Sonipat-Panipat Expressway (70 km); and
- (iv) An Expressway from Loni to Aligarh via Noida-Greater Noida-Khurja (150 km.)

In addition to the above, it is also proposed to construct a peripheral Expressway, on BOOT basis by Govt. of NCT of Delhi, covering a distance of about 85 Km from Kundli in Haryana cutting across NH 10 near Tikri Kalan and NH 8 near Rajokri to meet NH 2 near village Shahpur Kuhrd.

(c) The above mentioned proposals/projects are in various stages of implementation.

[English]

Cold Storage

1974. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:
SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

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

- (a) the number of cold storages functioning in each State presently, State-wise;
- (b) whether the storage capacity of existing cold storages is very low;
- (c) if so, the estimated annual loss suffered by the Government during the last two years;
- (d) whether the Union Government have decided to provide Rs. 230 crore as subsidised soft loans and grants over the next five years to build new storage infrastructure for fruits and vegetables in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the States identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey regarding Christians

1975. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments have started statewide survey to know about Christians with 'criminal' records, their funds, vehicles and their sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this decision has created great resentment among the Christian community in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The Government of Gujarat has informed that the State Police issued instructions for collection of certain information of routine nature regarding some committees from the point of view of maintenance of law & order and communal harmony. However, the State Police subsequently directed all concerned officers not to take any further action in this regard. It may also be mentioned that this matter is pending before Gujarat High Court and is sub-judice.

There is no report about similar survey by any other State Government.

[Translation]

Setting up of Rashtriya Punarnirman Vahini of Youths

1976. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rashtriya Punarnirman Vahini consisting of persons between 18 to 35 years of age is proposed

to be constituted to engage the youth in the reconstruction work of the nation;

(b) if so, the details of the objectives for which said vahini is going to be constituted;

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be launched; and

(d) the names of the districts in each States which are likely to be covered initially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Rashtriya Punarnirman Vahini is designed to achieve the twin objective of man making and Nation building by providing an opportunity to youth to participate in the process of nation building. The scheme would provide an opportunity to all youths who feel motivated to serve the community on a whole time basis. The problems relating to poverty; illiteracy; health and sanitation; social evils; and environmental protection, etc. are some of the problems which would be addressed by the youth.

(c) A prototype of the scheme has been launched on an experimental basis with 21 volunteers at Mishri Bagh, Mallahi Tola in the Malihabad Tehsil of Lucknow district Uttar Pradesh on 12.1.99, the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

(d) The names of district in each State which are likely to be covered, is still to be decided.

Creation of New States

1977. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the facts that besides the constitutions of the States of Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, demands for the constitutions of new States are being raised in other parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the parts of the country from where the demand for new States have been raised?

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

(b) Apart from the demands for creation of Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, demands have also been received for the creation of separate States of Bodoland in Assam, Gorkhaland in West Bengal, Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Poorvanchal in Uttar Pradesh, Vidarbha in Maharashtra, Saurashtra in Gujarat, Koshal in Orissa, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, etc.

[English]

Construction of Canal in Kutch

1978. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a water canal on the Kutch border of India is proposed to be constructed; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to construct a water canal along the Kutch border of India as a defence measure. However, this Ministry has sanctioned construction of an embankment along the Rann border for erection of fencing/flood lighting/Border Out Posts in Luni river basin area in Rann from Border Pillar No. 921 to 951 with the purpose of forward shifting of Border Security Force Out Posts closer to the International Border.

[Translation]

Metro Rail Transit System

1979. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the clearance for the construction work of Metro Network of Mass Rapid Transit system under Forest Conservation Act has been obtained by the Delhi Metro Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remove the obstructions in implementation of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (c) Construction of Shahdara-Partap Nagar section of the rail corridor of Delhi MRTS Project would require felling of 5199 trees. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. has sought permission for felling of these trees under 'The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994'. Permission has been granted by Govt. of NCT of Delhi for felling 140 trees so far. The Forest Department of the Govt. of NCT of Delhi is of the view that a part of the land on which trees are located is forest land and has, therefore, taken up the matter with the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(d) Frequent and periodical meetings are held between the representatives of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., the Government of NCT of Delhi and the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, to sort out various issues which include this issue also.

Construction of Cultural Centre

1980. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to construct any cultural centre in newly formed districts of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Kaushambi district keeping in view of its historical and religious importance;

(b) if so, the time by which the said plan is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Under the scheme for setting up of Multi-purpose Cultural Complexes in States, including those for children, financial assistance upto Rs. 1 crore is provided to an autonomous body, on the recommendation of the State Government for construction of a Cultural Complex. No proposal for a Cultural Complex in Kaushambi district of UP has been received as yet.

[English]

Shortage of Creches

1981. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problem and hardship being faced by the working women with children, in New Delhi, due to the shortage of creches in their locality;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to constraint of resources, Government of India is presently able to support 277 creches in Delhi.

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

1982. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) the progress made so far in providing relief and compensation for damages to Bhopal gas victims;

(b) whether the Government have ensured Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Udyog Sangathan for relief and justice to these victims; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) According to the information sent by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, total compensation of approximately Rs. 996 crore has been disbursed upto 31.12.98 after adjudicating 7,30,901 claims. In addition, a total outlay of Rs. 258 crore was approved for various rehabilitation schemes under the Action Plan prepared for Bhopal Gas Victims. This expenditure is to be shared between Central Government and State

Government in the ratio of 75:25. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has stated that it has spent Rs. 202.18 crore as on 31.12.98 on these schemes. Out of this amount, Central Government has released approximately Rs. 166 crore.

(b) and (c) While no such assurance has been given to Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Udyog Sangathan, the Government of India effort is to provide relief and justice to the Bhopal gas leak victims.

[Translation]

Price of Imported Commodities

1983. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of imported wheat, rice, pulses and edible oil etc. after adding all the administrative and other expenses is more than the procurement price of these items fixed for farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) It is not possible to accurately compare the cost of imported agricultural products and the domestic procurement prices thereof fixed for farmers as they would depend on demand and supply position, consumer preferences, different varieties traded and other terms of trade.

[English]

Standards of Indian Science

1984. SHRI SADASHIV RAO DADORA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the declining standards of Indian Science;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the major science policy decision taken at various high level meetings are not communicated to the working bench level scientists; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Views have been expressed at different forums indicating that there has been a decline in basic research in science and technology during the last few years. However, in the field of Science & Technology, India has made significant achievements during the last five years in sectors like Agriculture, Atomic Energy, Space, Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Industrial Research, Biomedical Research, Computer Science etc.

(c) and (d) Most of the high level meetings involved in the policy decision making include working bench level scientists/academicians/technologists from the National labs, Universities and Institutes of Higher learning. In industry oriented R&D areas like Biotechnology, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Technology Development, instrument Development etc. The representatives from the relevant industry sector also participate in the decision making exercise. The National Science Academies, the Academy of Engineering and other similar active S&T Professional Bodies also play an important role in disseminating the policy decisions to the working bench level scientists. In addition, the scientific Journals also play an important role in communicating issues related to S&T Policy.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills in Bihar

1985. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJIHARPUR): Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of sugar mills operating under the Sugar Corporation in Bihar;

(b) the number of sugar mills facing closure in the State;

(c) the reasons for their closure;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for revival of these sick mills;

(e) whether the Government propose to modernise some of the mills in the State;

(f) if so, the details thereof, mill-wise; and

(g) the time by which this scheme is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) As on 31.1.1999, there were 15 sugar mills under the Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. All these 15 sugar mills have not worked during the current 1998-99 sugar season (October-September).

(c) to (g) The closures could be due to variety of factors such as inadequate cane availability, unviable size, obsolete plant and machinery, technical and managerial incompetence, excessively high cane price not commensurate with sales realisation, financial crisis and many other factors. Sugar mills have themselves to prepare schemes for reopening rehabilitation modernisation and get them approved by the Financial Institutions.

Financial assistance is also available from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rate of interest for cane development and rehabilitation modernisation schemes, subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down.

12 *Wildlife*
Use of Animals in Circuses

1986. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether after decision of the Supreme Court delivered in December 1998, lions, tigers, bears and other animals cannot be put to work in the circuses;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that more than 400 animals working in circuses are on the verge of starvation as a result of the said decision of Supreme Court;

(c) if so, whether Kendriya Prani Sangrahalaya Pradhikaran have also refused to take these animals into their custody; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by the Government to save these animals from starvation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) No such decision has been delivered by the Supreme Court. The application of Indian Circus Federation vide Civil Misc. Petition No. 12015/98 in C.W.P. 890/91 in High Court of Delhi, praying for staying operation of notification dated 14.10.98 of

Government of India prohibiting exhibition or training of Beers, Monkeys, Tigers, Panthers and Lions as performing animals has been dismissed by the High Court of Delhi vide Order dated December 16, 1998. According to the direction of the High Court in the above order, the Govt. of India has already made payment for the upkeep of the animals in the member circuses of the Indian Circus Federation for two months. The Question of surrender of animals by the circuses is yet to be decided by the High Court of Delhi.

Employees of seven individual Circuses have obtained interim stay from the High Court of Kerala on the operation of notification dated 14.10.98 mentioned above. the Govt. of India has initiated action to take over the animals from circuses and their rehabilitation, as and when the final Orders of High Court of Delhi and High Court of Kerala are delivered.

[English]

10-2 *Act 19*
Amendments in Section 498-A of IPC

1987. COL. SONA RAM CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend section 498-A of the Indian Penal code by making the offences under it non-bailable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by which such an amendment is likely to be brought in the House?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The offence under Section 498-A IPC is already non-bailable.

110-119 *Monument-3*
Installation of Dr. Ambedkar Statue, FCI, Trivandrum

1988. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India have received any memorandum seeking permission for installation of the Statue of Dr. Ambedkar at FCI, Regional Office Trivandrum;

(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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has received the following three memoranda seeking permission for installation of Statue of Dr. Ambedkar at FCI, Regional Office Trivandrum:

- (i) FCI Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Association Regional Committee (Kerala) Trivandrum Memorandum dated 24.3.97.
- (ii) FCI Employees' Union Regional Committee (Kerala) Trivandrum Memorandum dated 30.8.97.
- (iii) FCI Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Employees' Welfare Association Regional Committee (Kerala) Trivandrum Memorandum dated 18.8.98.

(c) No guidelines have been laid down by the Central Government for installation of statues outside Delhi as this matter pertains to the local body State Government concerned.

Increase in ISI/Terrorist Activities

1989. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISI and terrorist activities have increased in the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed/injured due to ISI and terrorist activities during the year 1998 and 1999 so far month-wise, location-wise and its comparison with the same period of the last three years;

(c) whether the families of victims were given the compensation;

(d) if so, the details thereof.

(e) the total RDX seized from ISI agents during 1998 and number of persons arrested/punished in this regard;

(f) the number of ISI agents and terrorists arrested/interrogated/killed and still confined in jails;

(g) the number of cases being tried and the number of ISI agents/terrorists punished alongwith the nature of action taken against such agents; and

(h) the steps being taken to stop the entry of ISI agents into the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (h) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ISD
Sulphuric Acid

1990. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sulphur-Acid is drained out by Cordite Factory; instead of marketing at Arvandadu, Ooty, Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) No Sir. According to the information supplied by the Ministry of Defence, which is the administrative Ministry, the diluted Sulphuric Acid is concentrated and reused as far as possible. Effluents from the acid section of the factory which need to be discharged are suitably treated to conform to the Specifications of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

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

Financial Assistance to Jammu and Kashmir

1991. SHRI VISHNU DATT VAIDYA:
SHRI RAWI SITARAM NAIK:
SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made by the Union Government to the Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years; year-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) the additional assistance sought by the State Government during the said period;

(c) whether the assistance sought by the State Government for the current year has been released;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (e) A *statement* indicating the allocation and release of various grants by the Ministry of Finance to the Government of J&K during the last three years and till now is enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Normal Central Assistance	961.00	995.58	119.78	960.00	961.00	961.00	986.08	902.37
2. Basic Minimum Service	—	—	156.52	156.52	156.52	156.52	164.80	150.57
3. Slum Development schemes	—	—	3.26	3.26	4.18	3.74	6.59	6.90
4. Special Central Assistance	378.50	383.50	663.00	663.00	850.00	850.00	850.00	769.86
5. Special Plan Assistance/loan	44.00	44.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	200.00	250.00	250.00
6. Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided Project	10.00	6.50	10.00	12.42	4.99	10.51	11.00	8.42
7. Border Area Dev. Programme	20.68	20.68	20.68	20.68	10.34	10.34	21.38	10.69
8. Non-Plan Revenue Deficit Grant	535.39	535.39	419.05	419.05	170.85	170.85	58.84	53.94

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9. Calamity Relief Fund		13.95	13.95	14.78	14.78	15.59	15.59	16.39	16.39
10. National Fund for Calamity Relief		—	18.17	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Other Non Plan Grant to cover gap in resources		—	—	—	4.80	—	—	—	—
12. Additional Central Assistance		—	—	—	—	67.00	67.00	112.00	100.00
13. Share in Central taxes including Railway Passenger Fare Grants		609.69	609.69	832.91	832.91	1102.00	1102.00	1155.32	945.87
14. Accelerated Irrigation benefit programme		—	—	—	—	50.00	—	50.00	—
15. Special Problem Grant		—	—	9.40	5.55	11.75	—	14.10	5.50
16. Upgradation Grant		—	—	11.75	2.77	14.69	2.94	17.63	5.40
17. Grant for Local bodies		—	—	12.42	12.42	12.42	3.10	12.42	—

153-73
Sugar on Loan Advances

1992. SHRI K.S. RAO:
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
DR. RAVI MALLU:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken decision to purchase sugar on loan from various sugar mills to meet the demand for Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of sugar likely to be taken on loan alongwith the names of sugar mills quantity-wise separately;

(d) the present stock of sugar with the Government;

(e) whether any expert group has been urged to study for ascertaining the views of the State Governments before recommending measures;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to provide adequate sugar for PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) In view of the decline in sugar production during the last two consecutive seasons, there has been deficit on levy account. Thus, for the month of October, 1998, a quantity of 3 lakh tonnes of sugar was purchased from the industry out of their freesale portion following an approved pricing formula. Besides the loan of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar taken from the industry out of their free sale portion for use under Public Distribution System (PDS) during October-November, 1997 was also converted into purchase.

(c) to (g) To meet the requirement of PDS for the month of November, 1998, a quantity of about 2 lakh tonnes of sugar was taken on loan from the sugar factories out of their freesale portion. A *Statement* showing names of the factories and the loan quantities enclosed.

The sugar produced by the factories is stocked by them only and not by the Government. As on 31.1.1999, the sugar stock with the factories was of the order of 79.43 lakhs tonnes (Provisional). With the carry over stock of the previous season and the likely production of 150 lakh tonnes during the current 1998-99 season, the requirement of sugar of the country including that of the Public Distribution System would be met with.

Statement

Factory-wise share of loan quantity from freesale to Levy (Out of 1997-98 Seasons production)

Sl. No.	Plant Code	Plant Name	Allocation
1	2	3	4
** STATE ** PUNJAB			
1.	00101	Gurdaspur	553.3
2.	00102	Zira	555.4
3.	00201	Batala	354.8
4.	00301	Fazilka	393.1
5.	00101	Morinda	694.1

1	2	3	4
6.	00501	Bhogpur	250.3
7.	00601	Nawanshahr	990.7
8.	00701	Patiala	179.9
9.	00801	Budhewal	199.3
10.	01001	Phagwara	1080.3
11.	31601	Seron	306.4
12.	31901	Nakodar	318.3
** Sub Total **			6205.9
** STATE** HARYANA			
13.	01101	Rohtak	519.6
14.	01201	Panipat	236.0
15.	01301	Karnal	681.8
16.	01401	Sonepat	512.0
17.	01501	Shahbad	964.1
18.	01601	Palwal	577.5
19.	01701	Jind	639.3
20.	01801	Jamunagar	3407.9
** Sub Total **			7537.9

<hr/>				<hr/>			
2	3	4		1	2	3	4
<hr/>				<hr/>			
	STATE ** RAJASTHAN			37.	02217	Pipraich	16.1
21.	01901	Sri Ganganagar	81.5	38.	02218	Ghughili	31.4
22.	02001	Keshoripatan	53.2	39.	02220	Khadda	97.0
23.	02101	Bhpalsagar	53.1	40.	02221	Lakshmiganj	42.3
** Sub Total **			187.8	41.	02222	Ramkola (Corp)	19.1
<hr/>				42.	02223	Bhatni	25.9
** STATE ** UTTAR PRADESH				43.	02224	Chitauni	41.0
24.	02201	Mohiuddinpur	172.3	44.	02225	Munderwa	24.3
25.	02202	Sakhoti Tanda	101.8	45.	02301	Bagpat	154.7
26.	02203	Meerut	36.4	46.	02101	Ramala	80.9
27.	02201	Buland Shahr	53.3	47.	02501	Annoopshahr	211.6
28.	02206	Rohaya Kalan	93.4	48.	02601	Sarsawa	138.3
29.	02208	Bijnor	198.9	49.	02701	Nanauta	106.8
30.	02209	Amroha	118.2	50.	02801	Morna	124.1
31.	02210	Rampur	52.3	51.	02901	Daurala	284.2
32.	02211	Bareilly	12.5	52.	02902	Mawana	342.4
33.	02212	Maholi	15.5	53.	03001	Deoband	269.7
34.	02213	Hardoi	21.3	54.	03002	Ramkola	103.7
35.	02214	Barabanki	17.3				
36.	02215	Burhwal	24.6				

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
55.	03101	Iqbalpur	94.2	73.	05001	Majhola	82.0
56.	03201	Lhaksar	179.1	74.	05101	Puranpur	57.0
57.	03301	Khatauli	368.9	75.	05201	Kaimganj	25.4
58.	03401	Mansurpur	153.2	76.	05301	Badaun	57.4
59.	03501	Shamli	283.7	77.	05401	Tilhar	69.9
60.	03601	Modinagar	79.2	78.	05501	Belrayan	202.5
61.	03701	Simbhaoli	245.5	79.	05601	Sampurannagar	200.1
62.	03801	Chhatta	60.1	80.	05701	Semikher	100.4
63.	03901	Chandpur	131.1	81.	05801	Dhampur	131.8
64.	04001	Kichha	174.8	82.	05901	Seohara	378.6
65.	04201	Gajraula	51.7	83.	06101	Kashipur	79.3
66.	04301	Bilaspur	86.3	84.	06102	Pilibhat	168.5
67.	04401	Bazpur	208.6	85.	06301	Gola	396.6
68.	04501	Nadehi	146.7	86.	06401	Aira	171.8
69.	04601	Sitarganj	150.8	87.	06601	Baheri	265.7
70.	04701	Gadarpur	172.6	88.	06701	Neoli	35.3
71.	04801	Harduaganj	64.1	89.	06801	Hargaon	211.8
72.	04901	Bisalpur	110.8	90.	06901	Nandganj	10.3

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
91.	06902	Daryapur	54.7	109.	08901	Balrampur	128.4
92.	07001	Nanpara	73.3	110.	09001	Tulsipur	105.1
93.	07101	Kashi	20.1	111.	09101	Nawabganj	17.4
94.	07201	Rasra	22.9	112.	31701	Powayan	36.1
95.	07301	Sethian	43.4	113.	31801	Ghatampur	23.0
96.	07401	Ghosi	31.6	114.	32901	Nejibabad	149.6
97.	07501	Sultanpur	32.3	** Sub Total **			40118.0
98.	07601	Mahmudabad	124.8	** STATE ** MADHYA PRADESH			
99.	07801	Sardarnagar	58.9	115.	09301	Morena	198.6
100.	07901	Captainganj	86.5	116.	09401	Barlai	118.9
101.	08001	Padrauna	49.1	117.	09501	Navalnagar	370.8
102.	08002	kathkuiyan	14.5	118.	09601	Dabra	380.2
103.	08201	Baitalpur	39.5	119.	10001	Jaora	117.9
104.	08301	Deoria	27.7	** Sub Total **			1186.4
105.	08401	Pratapur	123.6	** State ** Gujarat			
106.	08501	Walterganj	24.8	120.	10101	Bardoli	3804.8
107.	08701	Ratna	32.2	121.	1021	Madhi	3265.8
108.	08801	K.M. Sugar	91.4	122.	10301	Chalthan	2131.1

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
123.	10401	Sayan	2915.8	139.	12301	Sanjivani	1468.8
124.	10501	Mahuva	1150.9	140.	12401	Kopergaon	1625.0
125.	10601	Paniari	245.9	141.	12501	Ganeshnagar	640.7
126.	10701	Gandevi	2230.3	142.	12601	Ashoknagar	902.0
127.	10801	Maroli	581.7	143.	12701	Pravarnagar	2340.5
128.	10901	Vaisad	4480.6	144.	12801	Rahuri	1233.1
129.	11001	Kodinar	1549.9	145.	12901	Shrigonda	1155.6
130.	11201	Una	130.8	146.	13001	Sangamner	2204.9
131.	11301	Talala	703.0	147.	13101	Bhende	1953.6
132.	11501	Palaj	297.3	148.	13401	Sonai	2050.4
133.	32101	Vataria	1445.4	149.	13601	Nira	1379.4
** Sub Total **			21933.3	150.	13701	Malegaon	1675.4
** STATE ** MAHARASHTRA				151.	13801	Bhavani Nagar	1581.6
134.	11801	Niphad	1813.4	152.	13901	Theur	1726.6
135.	11901	Karamveer	646.8	153.	14001	Patas	2137.2
136.	12001	Materwadi	558.3	154.	14101	Junnar	1480.5
137.	12101	Palse	173.1	155.	14201	Akluj	2138.4
138.	12201	Vithewadi	1326.5	156.	14301	Sada Shivnagar	1333.8

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
157.	14401	Kumathe	1917.9	175.	16201	Ichalkaranji	1314.1
158.	14501	Gursale	2236.5	176.	16301	Kumbhikesari	1750.3
159.	14601	Vairag	580.0	177.	16401	Bidri	1742.1
160.	14701	Bhima	952.8	178.	16501	Bhogawati	2020.8
161.	14801	Shriram	347.2	179.	16601	Shirol	2532.6
162.	14901	Krishna	3383.8	180.	16701	Daulat	907.3
163.	16001	Bhunj	1196.6	181.	16801	Gadhinglaj	1007.0
164.	15101	Marali	754.9	182.	16901	Kagal	1594.9
165.	15201	Sahyadri	2465.7	183.	17001	Asurle	276.5
166.	15301	Shendre	1320.5	184.	17901	Phaltan	560.0
167.	15401	Sangli	2294.9	185.	18001	Kolhapur	1001.6
168.	15501	Walwa	3099.2	186.	18301	Kannad	305.9
169.	15601	Vishwas	854.8	187.	18601	Terna	1731.0
170.	15701	Hutatma	1317.4	188.	18701	Naldurg	572.3
171.	15801	Atpadi	407.8	189.	18801	Kalambar	130.2
172.	15901	Nagewadi	656.3	190.	18901	Shankar Nagar	186.7
173.	16001	Mahankali	884.9	191.	19101	Satpuda	763.3
174.	16101	Warana	2767.8	192.	19301	Pusad	845.0

1	2	3	4
193.	19501	Pathri	127.7
194.	19601	Basmath Nagar	773.4
195.	19701	Ambajogai	852.6
196.	19801	Georai	541.7
197.	20201	Faizpur	853.2
198.	20301	Bhoras	124.1
199.	20501	Shirpur	599.9
200.	20601	Samarthi	642.6
201.	20801	Nalegaon	739.7
202.	20901	Manjara	1599.2
203.	21001	Killari	958.3
204.	21301	Jamani	280.5
205.	32301	Golegaon	355.2
206.	33101	Indapur	1297.2
** Sub Total **			90571.8
** STATE ** BIHAR			
207.	21501	Hasanpur	191.0
208.	21701	Harinagar	1568.1

1	2	3	4
209.	21901	Majhauilla	622.4
210.	22101	Motihari	267.0
211.	22301	Gopalganj	739.5
212.	22501	Righa	412.0
** Sub Total **			3800.00
** STATE ** ASSAM			
213.	22701	Chargola	41.6
214.	22901	Nowgong	251.7
** Sub Total **			293.3
** STATE ** ORISSA			
215.	23001	Aska	227.2
216.	23101	Bargarh	572.8
** Sub Total **			800.0
** STATE ** ANDHRA PRADESH			
217.	23601	Shakarnagar	1616.0
218.	23602	Zaheeraad	1134.9
219.	23605	Metpalli	596.4
220.	23608	Medak	39.7
221.	23701	Nizamabad	520.0
222.	23801	Amdalavalasa	216.0

1	2	3	4
223.	23901	Choodavaram	1969.0
224.	24001	Anakapalle	400.8
225.	24101	Etikoppaka	1125.8
226.	24201	Thandava	1165.5
227.	24301	Vijayarama	627.7
228.	24501	Bhimadole	195.3
229.	24601	Hanuman	267.9
230.	24701	Palair	644.3
231.	25101	Tenali	232.7
232.	25201	Kovur	1038.4
233.	25301	Chittoor	990.0
234.	25401	Tirupati	772.5
235.	25501	Chagallu	3609.2
236.	25601	Tanuku	2855.8
237.	25701	Kirlampudi	449.7
238.	25801	Samalkot	4095.0
239.	25901	Chelluru	2152.0
240.	26001	Vuyyuru	4595.4
** Sub Total **			28310.0

1	2	3	4
** STATE ** KARNATAKA			
241.	17203	Sameewadi	1646.8
242.	26201	Mandya	405.9
243.	26301	Gangavati	128.6
244.	26401	Bhadravati	45.8
245.	26501	Pandavapura	10.1
246.	26601	Nipani	149.9
247.	26701	Sankeshwar	1032.3
248.	26801	Malaprabha	566.6
249.	26901	Chikodi	556.7
250.	27001	Raibag	95.1
251.	27101	Gokak	213.5
252.	27301	Gauribidanur	107.1
253.	27401	Bidar	374.6
254.	27501	Vanivilasa	57.8
255.	27601	Bhadra	63.4
256.	27701	K.R. Nagar	49.5
257.	27801	Haveri	137.2

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
258.	27901	Hemavati	90.9	274.	29301	Tirupattur	277.7
259.	28001	Brahmawar	20.7	275.	29401	Kallakurichi	134.4
260.	28101	Chamundeswari	789.1	276.	29402	Kachiraypallayam	298.6
261.	28401	Ugarkhurd	1031.9	277.	29501	Ulundurpet	518.0
262.	28501	Hospet	252.3	278.	29601	Madurantakam	123.9
263.	28601	Siruguppa	89.0	279.	29701	Tiruttani	351.3
264.	28701	Davengere	101.7	280.	29801	Salem	397.5
265.	32501	Aland	127.8	281.	29901	Dharmapuri	523.9
** Sub Total **			8144.3	282.	30001	Amaravathi	367.6
** STATE ** TAMIL NADU				283.	30101	Alanganallur	297.2
266.	25802	Pugalur	1105.7	284.	30201	Thiru Arooran	182.4
267.	28602	Lalgudi	572.9	285.	30202	Thirumandakudi	805.2
268.	28901	Thanjavur	582.9	286.	30401	Nellikuppam	860.0
269.	28902	Perambalur	698.1	287.	30501	Villupuram	570.5
270.	28903	Madura	179.6	288.	30601	Ambika	621.4
271.	29001	Mayiladuthurai	323.8	289.	30701	Ponni	509.3
272.	29101	Ambur	293.7	290.	30801	Sakthi	767.9
273.	29201	Vellore	581.6	291.	30802	Shivganga	316.7

1	2	3	4
292.	30901	Bannari-Amman	576.3
293.	32601	Dharani	183.4
294.	32801	Rajshree	954.5
295.	33001	Sethiathope	752.5
** Sub Total **			14028.5
** STATE ** PONDICHERRY			
296.	31001	Pondicherry	207.3
297.	31101	New Horizon	154.2
** Sub Total **			361.5
** STATE ** KERALA			
298.	31301	Chittur	39.8
** Sub Total **			39.8
** STATE ** GOA			
299.	31501	Tiska	508.0
** Sub Total **			508.0
*** TOTAL ***			195356.5

NGOs 173-75

Voluntary Organisations in Gujarat

1993. ~~SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA~~: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voluntary organisations receiving grants from the Government in Gujarat;

(b) the progress made by these voluntary organisations; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to encourage the Non-Governmental Organisations in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A list of voluntary organisations in the State of Gujarat, which are receiving financial assistance from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for implementation of different welfare schemes is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) The progress of implementation of the schemes for which these organisations have been given financial assistance has been reported to be satisfactory.

(c) A review of all schemes under implementation has been undertaken with a view to make them user-friendly, flexible, enhance their coverage and usefulness, revise the financial norms in keeping with the changes in the price-index and to achieve better targetting of beneficiaries.

Statement

Drug Abuse Prevention

S.No.	Name of the NGO.
1	2
1.	Gujarat Kelvani Trust, Mirzapur, Ahmedabad.
2.	Indian Council for Social Welfare, Paldi, Ahmedabad
3.	Nadhabandhi Mandal, Bhadra, Ahmedabad.
4.	Rachnatmak Abhigam Trust, Ahmedabad.
5.	S.C. Patel Trust, Baroda

1 2

(ii) Welfare of Disabled

1. V-one Society, Vadodara,
2. Shri D.S. Parekh Deaf & Dumb School, Surendranagar.
3. Anghjan Vivid Laxi Talim Kendra, Jamnagar.
4. K.L. Institute for the Deaf, Bhavnagar.
5. Rachnatmak Abigam Trust, Ahmedabad.
6. Angh Apang Kalyan Kendra, Ahmedabad.
7. Society for M.R. Rajkot
8. Medical Care Centre, Baroda
9. Light Home for Blind Girls, Ahmedabad
10. Blind Men's Association, Ahmedabad.

(iii) Welfare of Scheduled Caste

1. Parikshital Ashram Shala, Gandhi Ashram, Ahmedabad-380027 run by Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi.
2. Shree Santok Krupa Education Trust, Paramjit, Distt; Sabarkanth.

Supply of Potable Water

1994. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN:
 SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA:
 SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:
 SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:
 COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
 SHRI RAJO SINGH:
 SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
 SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

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

(a) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for supply of potable water in the country during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(b) whether schemes relating to supply of potable water and sewage disposal schemes are pending with/under consideration of the Union Government as on date;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay therein, State-wise;

(d) the names of the States getting foreign assistance/ HUDCO assistance for drinking water supply, water treatment and sewerage projects;

(e) the details of assistance provided and the present status of each of them; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to solve the potable water problem in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) There is one Centrally sponsored scheme called the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) meant for towns having a population of less than 20,000 as per 1991 census. The details of the funds released under the AUWSP to each of the States during the last three years are given in the enclosed *Statement-I*.

(b) and (c) The details of the Schemes under the AUWSP which have not been approved as yet by the Central Government—State-wise—is at *Statement-II*.

It has not been possible for the Technical Advisory Wing, CPHEEO, of this Ministry, to approve the projects due to non-submission of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), technical flaws in projects submitted and lack of resources.

(d) and (e) The details of the States getting foreign assistance is at *Statement-III*. Details of assistance received from the HUDCO is at *Statement-IV*. The schemes are at various stages of implementation.

(f) Water supply and sanitation being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to plan, implement, operate and maintain these schemes in their respective areas. To assist the State Governments in its endeavour to meet these obligations, assistance is being provided for implementation of water supply schemes in towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census under the AUWSP and through external assistance.

Statement I**Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme
Details of Funds Released to the States as on 3.3.1999**

(Rupees in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	83.29	21.10
3.	Assam	0.00	168.05	140.00
4.	Bihar	94.50	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.00	9.20	0.00
6.	Gujarat	27.30	70.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	77.65	86.20	87.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	82.83	16.60	44.95
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	28.45	10.20	41.61
10.	Karnataka	0.00	47.58	179.96
11.	Kerala	25.00	48.00	64.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	380.53	156.12	417.98
13.	Maharashtra	36.30	172.75	271.80
14.	Manipur	39.00	76.04	90.99
15.	Meghalaya	48.90	10.00	38.92

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Mizoram	7.10	11.88	51.68
17.	Nagaland	0.00	52.33	34.36
18	Orissa	0.90	187.47	156.62
19.	Punjab	77.76	44.00	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	237.00	306.75	171.52
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	104.12	205.46
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	764.87	352.42	776.57
25.	West Bengal	71.56	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		1999.65	2013.00	2795.00

Statement II

*Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme
Statement Showing State-wise Status of DPRs not approved as yet (as on 3.3.99)*

S.No.	Name of State	No. of DPRs Not Approved As Yet	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	1933.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
3.	Assam	1	309.98

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar	28	4029.47
5.	Goa	—	—
6.	Gujarat	—	—
7.	Haryana	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10	1703.32
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	2570.82
10.	Karnataka	3	1044.00
11.	Kerala	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41	3435.95
13.	Maharashtra	16	6028.01
14.	Manipur	2	109.59
15.	Meghalaya	—	—
16.	Mizoram	2	240.41
17.	Nagaland	3	1618.95
18.	Orissa	5	1091.28
19.	Punjab	1	103.79

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
20.	Rajasthan	3	281.47
21.	Sikkim	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu*	3	66.20
23.	Tripura	10	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1485.49
25.	West Bengal	—	—
26.	A & N Island	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—
30.	Delhi	—	—
31.	Lakshdweep	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—
TOTAL :		152	26051.73

DPR — Detailed Project Report

* — Estt. Cost of Urban Component of Two DPR's Not Available.

Statement III*World Bank/OECF, Japan Aided Water Supply and Sanitation Projects*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Cost Rs. Crore	Loan Ass- Stance (US\$/Yen (Y) Million	Date of Commen- cement	Project Area	Components	Cumulative Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Crores)	Expected Date of Comple- tion
1.	II Chennai WS&S	546.31	\$86.5	20.11.95	Chennai	Improvement of city water distribution; completion of unfinished works of first project; water conservation and technical assistance.	182.13	30.6.2002
2.	Mumbai Sewage Disposal	1098.01	\$192.0	22.3.95	Mumbai	Safe disposal of sewage into the sea through a tunnel (marine outfalls); strengthening of the existing sewerage system and improving the treatment facilities; improvement of sanitation in slums; coastal water quality surveillance	309.47	30.6.2002
3.	Functional Improvement to Chennai W&S Systems	598.49	Y17,098	28.2.95	Chennai	Improve water supply and sewage trans- mission systems; Re-use of treated sewage for industrial use to conserve fresh water for domestic use.	20.64	30.6.2000
4.	Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage	1342.00	Y28,452	25.1.96	Bangalore	Augmentation of water supply by addi- tional 270 million litres per day (mld) to Bangalore City; Strengthening of the water distribution and sewerage systems; provide adequate sewage treatment facilities.	15.47	31.12.2001
5.	Kerala Water Supply	1787.45	Y11,997	25.2.97	Thiruvantha- puram, Kozikode Patuval, Meenad Cherthala & Adjoining villages	Improve water supply facilities in five towns and adjoining villages.	20.492	31.12.2003

Statement IV*State-wise Assistance received from HUDCO for Water supply*

Sl. No.	State Name	No. of Schemes	Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Loan Amount	Loan Released (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Schemes Completed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	54041.64	34567.87	16965.14	1
2.	Assam	13	10747.78	7366.45	5324.51	2
3.	Bihar	2	2318.83	1599.00	825.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Gujarat	11	26496.69	14208.80	6789.57	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1002.14	464.90	464.90	3
6.	Karnataka	31	64445.80	28658.95	18156.62	12
7.	Kerala	15	17853.77	11106.26	7677.39	9
8.	Madhya Pradesh	7	20149.66	12436.61	1302.00	—
9.	Maharashtra	10	142166.37	36430.70	17343.44	5
10.	Nagaland	2	1184.98	829.18	260.61	—
11.	Orissa	11	19710.53	13449.32	7513.30	1
12.	Punjab	67	9154.02	5457.26	3059.33	36
13.	Rajasthan	40	20975.53	14562.26	5733.98	5
14.	Tamil Nadu	17	63347.77	33064.71	9428.15	10
15.	West Bengal	11	22694.33	10609.00	8537.00	5
Scheme Type Total		282	476289.84	224812.17	109380.94	90

Disabled Persons

189-53

1995. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of disabled in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of opportunities provided by the different States and the Union Government;

(c) whether the Government are facing difficulties in implementing the provisions of the Act; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As per the latest Sample Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991, about 16.15 million persons in the country are suffering from visual, hearing, speech and locomotor disabilities. Another Sample Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991 for persons with Delayed Mental Development between 1-14 age group estimates that about 3% of the total population has delayed mental development.

(b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is running a number of Scheme for the benefit of handicapped. The details of various schemes are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement**1.* Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled**

Under this scheme, assistance is provided to voluntary organisations to run rehabilitation programmes for the disabled. Financial support is given upto 90% of the total project cost for recurring items like staff salary, maintenance charges, contingencies and non-recurring items like construction of building, equipment, furniture. Financial assistance is given for projects like vocational training centre, special schools, counselling centres, hostels, training centres for personnels, placement services etc.

2.* Establishment & Development of Special Schools

The scheme envisages assistance to the NGOs upto 90% for establishment and upgradation of Special Schools in four major disabilities - orthopaedic, hearing and speech, visual and mentally retarded. Priority under the scheme is given to setting up of schools in districts where there are no special schools at present. Both recurring and non-recurring expenditure is supported by the Ministry.

3.* Assistance to Organisations for Persons with Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation for Manpower Development.

Under the scheme, assistance is given to NGOs upto the extent of 100% for running training courses for researchers in the area of Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation

4.* Assistance to Organisations for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons

Under the scheme, assistance is given upto 90% to Voluntary Organisations in development programmes for rehabilitation of leprosy cured person.

5. National Institutes

In order to effectively deal with the multidimensional problems of the handicapped population, the following four National Institutes have been set up. These Institutes are apex level organisations in the field of training, vocational guidance counselling, research, rehabilitation, development of suitable service modules. These Institutes also serve as premier documentation and information centres in their area of disability:—

- (i) National Institutes for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.
- (ii) National Institute for the Orthopaedically handicapped, Calcutta.
- (iii) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai.
- (iv) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.

* These schemes w.e.f. 20.1.99 have been included under a comprehensive scheme titled "Scheme to promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities".

In addition to these the following two institutions have been set up primarily as service institutions for providing general services to the handicapped persons:—

- (i) Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi.
- (ii) National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Olatpur, Orissa.

6. Employment

- (i) Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 contains a provision that the appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment not less than 3% of persons with disability of which 1% each shall be reserved for persons suffering from:—
 - (a) blindness or low vision'
 - (b) hearing impairment, and
 - (c) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy in the post identified for each disability. 3% reservation in Group 'C' and 'D' for handicapped persons had already been there even before the Law came into force. In pursuance of this provision, extension of 3% reservation in Group 'A' & 'B' posts under the Central Government for Physically Handicapped have been notified by DOPT's Circular No. 36035/16/91-Estt. (SCT) dated 18.2.97.
- (ii) 51 Special employment Exchanges and 39 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped persons in getting gainful employment. Besides, the Normal Employment Exchanges also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.
- (iii) Seventeen Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange their training and place them in employment.
- (iv) Self-employment is promoted through the following.
 - (a) Allotment of vending stalls, Kiosks and Shops by some State Governments/UTs.

- (b) Loans from Nationalised Banks at concessional Rates of Interest;
- (c) Preference in allotment of Public Telephone booths'
- (d) Reservation in distribution of Petrol Pumps, Kerosene Depots etc.

7. Scheme of Assistance to disabled for purchase/fitting of Aids/Appliances

The main objective of the scheme is to assist needy physically handicapped persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured aids and appliances that promote their physically, social and psychological rehabilitation. The scheme is implemented through centres run by the Companies, registered under Companies Act., registered Societies, trust or any other institutions recognised by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. Both Governmental and non-Governmental agencies are thus engaged for the implementation of the scheme.

Under the scheme, aids/appliances costing from Rs. 50 to Rs. 6,000 are provided free of cost if the monthly income of the beneficiary is upto Rs. 5,000 per month and at 50% of the cost if the monthly income is between Rs. 5,001 to Rs. 8,000.

8. Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

Government of India have recently enacted 'The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.' The Act provides prevention and early detection of disabilities, education, employment, non-discrimination etc. for disabled persons including mentally handicapped persons.

9. National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation

A National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation has been registered on 24.1.97 under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 to provide Opportunities for skill development and loan assistance on easy terms to the disabled persons to set up self-employment ventures.

10. Rehabilitation Council of India

The Rehabilitation Council of India is a national level statutory body set up by the Govt. of India under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 to enforce uniform standards in the training of Professionals/Personnel in the field of rehabilitation of the disabled, maintenance of the Central Rehabilitation Register and other connected matters. The council was re-constituted in June, 1998.

Following three major programmes have been approved for implementation by the Council:

- (i) National Programme of Bridge Course.
- (ii) National Programme for Training of Medical Officers.
- (iii) Assistance to Organisation for Manpower Development.

11. District Rehabilitation Centre Scheme

The District Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) scheme was started during 1985 to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services to the rural disabled right at their doorsteps. These Centres provide comprehensive services which includes (i) Prevention and Early Detection (ii) Medical intervention and Surgical Correction (iii) Fitment of Artificial Aids and Appliances (iv) Therapeutical Services such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy (v) Provision of training for acquisition of skills through vocational training (vi) Job Placement in local industries. The Centres are functioning in 11 Districts.

12. India Spinal Injuries Centre, New Delhi.

The Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC) is a collaborative effort between the Indian Govt. and the Italian Govt. to provide comprehensive treatment, rehabilitation services and vocational training and guidance to patients with spinal injury. It is the first centre of its kind in Asia. The Centre would also conduct research in multi-dimensional aspects of rehabilitation of such patients. The machinery and technical expertise were made available to the centre under Indo-Italian Cooperation from Italy. The Govt. of India has provided financial Assistance for infrastructural development and is also sponsoring 30 free beds per year.

Revised UGC Pay Scales

1996. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

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

(a) whether the revised UGC pay scales for the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) scientists have been implemented;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) As a follow-up action on the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has since revised the pay scales of the ICAR scientists. The details of the revised pay scales and other service conditions are contained in ICAR communication No. 1(15)/98-Per. IV dated 27th February, 1999. While finalising the revised pay scales, the ICAR and the Government of India has taken into cognizance the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission; notification of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) for revision of pay scales of University and College teachers; and the recommendations of the ICAR Committee constituted for this purpose.

[Translation]

Gond Tribals in Bihar

1997. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government for inclusion of Gond Tribes of Bihar State in the category of Scheduled Tribes in Bihar on the lines of other States of the country; and

(b) if so, the time by which these tribes will be included in the category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Gond Community has already been specified as Scheduled Tribe in Bihar State.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

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Delhi Rent Act, 1995

1998. SHRI N.J. BATHWA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997 is not being implemented even after being passed by both the Houses of Parliament and signed by the President; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 28.07.97. The Bill has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban & Rural Development for examination and report. In the opinion of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, the endorsement of decision of the previous Government by the present Government to introduce the Bill is also necessary. After such endorsement, the matter will once again be taken up by the Standing Committee. As the Bill is yet to be passed by the Parliament, the question of implementation of the provisions of the Bill does not arise at this stage.

Fencing

1999. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has decided to fence 900 Kms of porous border with Bangladesh to check infiltration; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to grant Central Funds for curbing such ISI activities at the border?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Fencing of 507 Kms. of West Bengal-Bangladesh border has already been approved by the Central Government out of which 463 kms. fence has been erected upto the end of December, 1998. An additional 889 kms. of fencing on East Bengal-Bangladesh border has also been approved in principle.

Upto 31st December, 1998, a sum of Rs. 430.40 crores has been spent by the Central Government for

construction of border roads/border fencing on the West Bengal Border.

Border Areas Development Programme was extended to West Bengal during the 8th Plan from 1993-94 onwards with the objective of balanced development of sensitive areas through provision of infrastructure facilities and promotion of a sense of security among the population. The Planning Commission has allocated funds amounting to Rs. 123.42 crores under this programme to West Bengal upto 1998-99.

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Conversion of Leasehold Property

2000. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the response received to DDA's scheme for the conversion of leasehold property and power of attorney is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed for a better system of transfer of property in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) DDA has reported that upto 31.10.98, 51,308 applications for conversion from leasehold to freehold have been received out of which 42,963 cases have been permitted and the remaining cases can be finalised on receipt of necessary documents from the applications.

(c) At present, no alternative measures have been finalised for transfer of property in Delhi.

*[Translation]*Assistance to Himachal Pradesh

2001. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Himachal Pradesh demanding financial assistance for a comprehensive scheme for giving free education to girls and for expansion of education at all levels in remote areas in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount demanded by the State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Himachal Pradesh has asked for financial assistance of Rs. 651.00 lakhs during the current financial year to meet the expenditure on various schemes started by the Himachal Pradesh Government for promoting education among the girls.

(c) Department of Education is in the process of formulation of a new scheme to provide free education for girls upto college level including professional courses. The request of Himachal Pradesh will be considered on finalisations of the scheme.

[English]

Targeted Public Distribution System

2002. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System has been tardy in many States;

(b) if so, the extent to which the scheme has been implemented in different States; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government procures and makes available to the States at subsidised prices certain essential commodities, viz., rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and Kerosene the responsibility of distribution to the consumers through the network of fair price shops (FPS) rests with the State

Government Union Territory Administration. Identification of the beneficiaries issue of cards and supervision of FPSs are matters within the administrative jurisdiction of the States/UTs.

TPDS has been implemented in all States/UTs except in the State of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

(c) In the guidelines for implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the States/UTs have been asked to constitute vigilance Committees at various levels, draw up inspection schedules right from Collector/District Magistrate to the Inspector of Supplies and take measures to introduce greater transparency in the working of the System. The need to take effective measures to ensure that card holders, particularly those below poverty line, are able to get PDS commodities without hindrance has been impressed upon the States/UTs. A model Citizens Charter for TPDS has also been prepared and circulated to the States/UTs for adoption.

[Translation]

Fencing

2003. SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land of Rajasthan in the total border area of the country;

(b) whether the fencing work of all border areas has been completed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Rajasthan has a 1035 Kms. (6100 Kms. coastline, and 14771 Kms. land border) of the country.

(b) to (d) Along Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders, a total length of 1469 Kms. and 795 Kms. has been fenced respectively. Only sensitive stretches of the border are to be fenced and not all the borders of India as that is neither feasible nor desirable.

[English]

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[Translation]

Chimera

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds in CPWD

2004. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

(a) the number of persons appointed in Central Public Works Department on compassionate ground during each of the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the criteria fixed for appointment on compassionate grounds;

(c) the number of persons waiting for appointment as on date; and

(d) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The number of persons appointed in CPWD on compassionate grounds during the last 3 years is as under:—

	1996	1997	1998
Group C	29	11	15
Group D	38	31	28

(b) Appointment on compassionate grounds is made with reference to the guidelines laid down by Department of Personnel & Training for this purpose.

(c) There are 101 and 285 persons waiting for appointment in Group 'C' and 'D' categories respectively.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the likely time by which the waiting list will be cleared as this depends on the availability of vacancies under compassionate quota which is 5% of the total vacancies meant for direct recruitment.

Theft of Vehicles

2005. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases of vehicle theft have come to light in Delhi and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether this activity is on spurt in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi during the last one year;

(c) if so, the steps taken to check it; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) There was an increase in the number of cases of vehicle theft in Delhi during the year 1998 as compared with 1997. However, there has been some decline in such cases during the first two months of the current year as compared with the last two months of the preceding year. The steps taken by Delhi Police to curb such thefts include intensification of patrolling in the vulnerable areas; deployment of police personnel in plain clothes at busy commercial complexes, etc.; and surveillance on known auto-lifter gangs.

In so far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, "public order" and "police" being State subjects, it is essentially for that State Government to take measures to curb incidents.

[English]

Elimination from the Team

2006. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that about half a dozen hockey players including the coach of the Asiad gold Medal winning team have been eliminated from the team which has to play a series of hockey matches against Pakistan;

(b) if so, the reasons for this abrupt change in the composition of the team which has to start preparing for the Australian Olympics; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) As reported by Indian Hockey Federation, six players of Asiad Gold medal winning team have not been eliminated, but have been rested with a view to giving younger players a chance to have enough exposure and for preparing a strong team for Olympic 2000 at Sydney. The coach has been changed as the new coach Mr. V. Bhaskaran has had interaction with younger players for long duration and is expected to get the best out of them.

(c) The selection of team and other related matters are entirely the responsibility of the concerned National Sports Federation (NSF) i.e. Indian Hockey Federation in this case. All the NSFs are autonomous in functioning and the Government do not interfere in their functioning.

Financial Assistance to Insurgent Groups

2007. MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM:
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some North-East insurgent groups are receiving financial assistance from some international Church Organisations;

(b) if so, the names of the countries remitting the money;

(c) whether such financial assistance is being diverted by the North-East insurgent groups for purchase of arms; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the flow of such assistance in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There are reports of some financial assistance to the North East insurgent groups, in the form of humanitarian aid, being provided by International Church groups including those based in UK, USA, Netherlands and Germany.

(c) No Information in this regard is available.

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

[Translation]

CBSE Courses on Internet

2008. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to make available courses of Central Board of Secondary Education on Internet;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Status of Industry to Housing Sector

2009. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion/request from the Builders Association of India urging to grant Industry status to construction business in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government intends to streamline the functioning of the various Government agencies dealing with the construction industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to create a separate Ministry for Construction;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) No such suggestion/request from Builders Association of India has been received in the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment. However, a proposal was received from Sh. Gimeshwar, Ex. M.P. for according Industry status to the construction sector. No decision on this proposal has been taken as yet.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise. 2 0 1

Review of functioning of Indian Council of Historical Research

2010. SHRI RAM DAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to review the functioning of Indian Council of Historical Research;

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

(c) whether the Government have also set up a committee in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government has appointed a Review Committee consisting of Shri A.K. Ray, Dr. M.N. Deshpande & Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap to review the progress in work of the Indian Council of Historical Research since its inception in relation to its objectives and to enquire into council's working and to report/make recommendations.

2011-5
CBSE
Discrepancies in checking of Examination Sheets

2011. DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL:

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

(a) whether a large number of discrepancies in checking the examination sheets of CBSE have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the details of the new strategy the Government propose to formulate to ensure no discrepancies occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), out of approximately 31.58 lakhs answer sheets in various subjects relating to examinations conducted by the Board in March/April 1998, mistakes were detected in 2146 cases which constitutes 0.068%.

(c) and (d) On the basis of the recommendations given by the Committee headed by Shri P.R. Chauhan, former Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the CBSE has initiated the following important measures from the examinations of 1999 for improvement and overhaul of evaluation system:—

1. The format of the answer book has been revised with two vertical columns for writing the marks obtained instead of the existing four columns.

2. A separate sheet has been provided for writing marks by the examiner instead of writing marks on the title cover of the answer book. Thereafter, this sheet will be handed over to the head Examiner by the examiner for safe custody.

3. The first co-ordinator may now post the marks on the title cover of the answer book and calculate grand

total and write the same on the title cover as well as at the end of the last question attempted by the candidate inside the answer book.

4. The second co-ordinator will now obtain the sheet from the Head Examiner on which the Examiner has posted the marks and collate these marks with those posted on the answer book and thereafter prepare the award list after proper verification.

5. The rates for evaluating the answer scripts have been revised.

6. It is being ensured by the CBSE that the checks and balances provided at various stages in the evaluation system are applied.

Visit of Central Team to Bihar

2012. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Central team does not rule out repetition of Bihar violence" appearing in the *Statesman* dated February 4, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) A Central Team had visited Bihar from February 1 to 3 1999 to make an on-the-spot assessment of the situation following the massacre of 22 persons at Shankarbiga Tola, PS Mehandia, District Jehanabad. The Team observed that the situation was still tense and the possibility of such carnages could not be ruled out unless a multi-faceted approach was adopted to tackle the ongoing violence.

After assessing, *inter alia*, the law and order situation in the State, Bihar has been placed under President's rule by invoking the provision of article 356 of the Constitution of India with effect from 12.2.1999. Steps are being taken to contain the situation prevailing on account of the activities of various senas/extremist groups, etc.

Indira Mahila Yojna

2013. SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Mahila Yojna has been started in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the latest position in this regard district-wise; and

(c) if not, the time by which the said scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (c) The scheme was started in Bihar in 1995 and it is being implemented in following blocks of the State:

District	Project/Block
Rohtas	— Chenari
Bhabhua	— Bhagwanpur, Adura, Daltanganj, Hariharganj, Latehar
Palamau	— Mahuadar (T), Chandwa (T)
Garhwa	— Ranka, Bhandaria, Durki
Ranchi	— Hunti, Khijri, Namkum
Gumla	— Dumari, Ghaghra
West Singhbhum	— Adityapur, Chandil, Nimdih
Santhal Pargana	— Raneshwar, Jamatra

Seven persons from the State have been trained as trainers by Govt. of India for the scheme and further training activities have been started.

[Translation]

Construction of Juvenile Homes

2014. SHRI GAURISHANKER CHATURBHUIJ BISEN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for the construction of Juvenile homes/observation homes are pending with the Government for clearance State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any such proposal to the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT: (a) and (b) The State-wise details of proposals received for construction of Juvenile Homes/Observation Homes/Special Homes and pending with the Government are as follows:

Sl. No.	State	year during which Proposal received by the Govt.	No. of homes
1.	Madhya Pradesh	1997-98 & 1998-99	Observation Home-8 Juvenile Home-2 Special Home-1
2.	Goa	1998-99	Observation Home-1 Juvenile Home-2 Special Home-2
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1998-99	Observation Home-1 Juvenile Home-1
4.	Uttar Pradesh	1998-99	Observation Home-3
5.	Gujarat	1998-99	Observation Home-1

(c) These proposals will be cleared on receipt of the requisite documents/clarifications from the State Governments and subject to availability of resources.

[English]

UNICEF's Report on Illiteracy

2015. ~~SHRI SURESH KURUP:~~
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "India will be the most illiterate nation by 2000, says UNICEF" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 9, 1998;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on the observations made therein; and

(c) the fresh septs taken/proposed to be taken to eliminate illiteracy completely from India during the ninth Five Year Plan?

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

(b) The UNICEF report on "The State of the World's Children-1999" is a book about the right of the child to education. The references to literacy in the document are incidental and the adult literacy rates indicated in the report are based on the 1991 Census data according to which the literacy rate in India was 52.21%. According to the National Sample Survey Organisation, which has recently released the figures of the 53rd round, the literacy rate in the country at the end of 1997 was 62%.

(c) With a view to achieving the goal of total eradication of illiteracy several steps are proposed to be taken during the Ninth Five-Year Plan to revamp and

Dab

reorient the adult literacy programmes which include enhanced focus on female literacy; greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations; strengthening of State Resource Centres; Opening of more Shramik Vidyapeeths; decentralisation of financial and administrative powers to State Literacy Mission Authorities; ensuring better follow up and consolidation through extending the programme of post literacy and continuing education, etc.

Orphans/Destitute Children *257*

2016. SHRI P. SANKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of orphans/destitute children in the country upto 1998;

(b) the number of adoptions approved by the Government upto 1998 both Indian and foreign couples;

(c) whether it is a fact that only Hindus are permitted adoption in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the existing law so as to enable adoption of destitute by people belonging to other religious groups;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Information regarding the number of orphans/destitute children in the country and total number of children adopted by Indian couples is not being maintained by this Ministry. As per the information received from the recognised Indian Social/Child Welfare Agencies, 4668 children are given in foreign adoption between the years 1995 and 1998.

(c) Adoption by Hindus, including Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists is governed by Hindu Adoption Maintenance Act 1956. For followers of other religions guardianship is permitted under Guardianship and Wards Act 1890.

(d) to (f) Review of the laws is an ongoing exercise. At this point in time there is no specific proposal for amendment of the two laws referred to in part (c) of the question.

Possession of Flats in Bindapur *210*

2017. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of allottees who have taken possession of DDA flats in Bindapur (Dwarka) under the Expandable Housing Scheme, 1996, category-wise; and

(b) the time by which the basic amenities are likely to be provided by the DDA therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The number of allottees who have taken possession of DDA flats in Bindapur (Dwarka) under the Expandable Housing Scheme 1996, category-wise is as under:

Type A houses	Type B houses
498	6

(b) Electricity services have already been provided by the Delhi Vidyut Board for DDA flats in Bindapur (Dwarka). Street light work has been completed except providing the fixtures to avoid thefts since large number of flats are unoccupied. In the absence of water and sewage disposal arrangement from Delhi Jal Board, interim arrangements through tubewells and oxidation ponds respectively have also been made by DDA. Roads and storm water drains have been provided.

Joint Coastal Patrolling *210-11*

2018. SHRI DILEEP. SANGHANI:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI
CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Gujarat for purchase of high speed boats for use of Joint Coastal Patrolling;

(b) if so, the decision taken therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the expenditure incurred for the purpose has been reimbursed to the Government of Gujarat; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) It was decided that patrolling of the Coast including the shallow waters is the responsibility of the Coast Guard under section 14 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978. However, financial assistance is extended to the State Government of Gujarat by the Central Government by way of reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by the State Government for hiring fishing trawlers for Coastal Patrolling. The State Government was also advised that it could explore the possibility of hiring a few high speed boats for greater effectiveness, as the hiring charges would be re-imbursed by the Central Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The expenditure of Rs. 970.48 lakhs has been reimbursed to the State Government of Gujarat so far for hiring of fishing trawlers for Coastal Patrolling.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Establishment of Maulana Azad Urdu University

2019. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for establishing the Maulana Azad Urdu University;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Maulana Azad National Urdu University has already come into existence on 9.1.1998 with enforcement of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University Act, 1996. The main objective of the University is to promote and develop the Urdu language and to impart vocational and technical education in the Urdu

medium through conventional teaching and the distance education system. The University has also started its academic activities from the academic year 1998-99.

[English]

Allotment of Sites to Petrol Pumps

2020. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 65 allottees of petrol pumps are waiting for allotment of site from Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the oil companies have not accepted the sites offered by DDA;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government in the this regard; and

(f) the reaction of the allottees of petrol pumps thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that 58 Letter of Indent (LOI) holders are waiting for allotment of petrol pump sites.

(c) and (d) Oil Companies want to have all sites of size 30 x 36 Mtrs., whereas DDA offers some plots of size 30x17 Mtrs. due to planning constraint and paucity of land.

(e) and (f) DDA has discussed with the Oil Companies and where size cannot be increased, only smaller size plots which are available are allotted by draw of lots.

[Translation]

New Schemes for Welfare of SCs/STs

2021. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have started any new scheme for the development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Castes in 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the minimum number of persons likely to be benefited therefrom;

(d) whether the Government propose to open hostel at block levels in order to uplift the educational status of these sections; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The details are as follows:—

Scheduled Tribes: A new Central scheme of Development of Primitive Tribal Groups has started in 1998. It covers activities which are generally not covered by any existing scheme. 75 Primitive Tribal Groups are likely to benefit from the scheme.

Other Backward Classes: Five new schemes have been approved as mentioned below:

- (i) Pre-Examination Coaching to OBCs.
- (ii) Pre-Matric Scholarship.
- (iii) Post-Matric Scholarship.
- (iv) Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls.
- (v) Assistance to Voluntary Organisations.

Number of beneficiaries under each scheme has not yet become available, as no funds have been released so far under these schemes.

(d) and (e) Under the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels for SCs, STs and OBCs, financial assistance is extended to States/UTs for construction of hostels, on the pattern applicable.

Freedom Fighter Pension

2022. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received letters from the Members of Parliament for sanction of Swatantrata Senani Pension during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such recommendation letters on the basis of which Swatantrata Senani Pension has been sanctioned and the number of cases rejected by the Government;

(d) whether the Government propose to dispose of the cases of sanctioning Swatantrata Senani Samman Pension expeditently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The number of letters received from the Members of Parliament in this regard is mentioned below:—

Year	No. of letters received
1996	2866
1997	3195
1998	1306

(c) Samman Pension is sanctioned only in those cases which fulfill the eligibility criteria and are in conformity with the prescribed procedure. The number of cases in which Samman Pension was sanctioned during the last three years is given below:—

Year	No. of cases sanctioned
1996	427
1997	443
1998	684

These include cases in which recommendations were received from the Members of Parliament. Separate information in regard to cases recommended by the Members of Parliament is not maintained in this connection.

(d) and (e) The receipt and disposal of applications for sanction of Samman Pension is a continuous process. Efforts are made to dispose of the cases as early as possible.

Prison
Tihar Jail

2023. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'B' category has been eliminated in Tihar Jail;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are considering to restore the 'B' grade in Tihar Jail;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have abolished the system of classification of prisoners into 'B' and 'C' class as provided for in Delhi Jail Manual on the recommendations of "Rationalisation of Classification of Prisoners Committee" headed by Mrs. Justice Santosh Duggal, as such classifications cannot be justified on Santosh Duggal, as such classifications cannot be justified on the Constitutional and Human-Rights grounds.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The grounds on which the classification system was abolished continue to remain valid.

[English]

Sanctioned Project
9/5/99
Hogenakal Drinking Water Project

2024. SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared the Hogenakal drinking water project in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the cost of the project;

(d) the total assistance to be made by the Central Government to the project;

(e) whether there is any move to cover Hosur and Dhali area in Krishnangiri constituency; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (d) A Project proposal named "Hogenakal water supply and sanitation project", submitted by Government of Tamil Nadu, estimated to cost Rs. 788 Crore, has been cleared by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) for possible World Bank assistance.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The project areas were finalised by the State Government of Tamil Nadu keeping in view the Flouride affected habitations.

[Translation]

Sanctioned
9/5/99
e/ **Barron Land**

2025. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:

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

(a) the details of the barron land in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the areas of land which have been made fit for agriculture during last three years;

(c) the details of sanctioned/approved projects under barron land development programme in Uttar Pradesh during 1997-98;

(d) the details of projects which have not been sanctioned/approved so far and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which pending projects are likely to be sanctioned/approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) As per the report of National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad, the total extent of barren land including barren rocky/stony waste/sheet rock area in the country is 6.25 m.ha. The state-wise details of the barren land in the country at present, are given in the enclosed *statement*.

(b) As per the definition of Nine Fold Land Use Classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, the barren land covers land like mountain, deserts etc., land which can not be brought under cultivation unless at a high cost. So far no scheme has been formulated for reclaiming barren land and hence there is no information on the area of barren land converted into agriculture during last 3 years.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise Area of Barren Land in the Country

(Area in ha.)

Sl.No.	State	Total Geographical Area	Barren Roky/ Stony Waste/ Sheet Rock Area
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27506800	391944
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8374300	97059
3.	Assam	7843800	0
4.	Bihar	17387700	108219
5.	Goa	370200	1121
6.	Gujarat	19602400	426165
7.	Haryana	4421200	9646
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5567300	453081
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13894200	2672819
10.	Karnataka	19179100	261725

1	2	3	4
11.	Kerala	3886300	14169
12.	Madhya Pradesh	44344600	765905
13.	Maharashtra	30769000	246380
14.	Manipur	2232700	0
15.	Meghalaya	2242900	0
16.	Mizoram	2108100	0
17.	Nagaland	1657900	0
18.	Orissa	15570700	46642
19.	Punjab	5036200	0
20.	Rajasthan	34223900	424975
21.	Sikkim	709600	82978
22.	Tamil Nadu	13005800	76730
23.	Tripura	1048600	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	29441100	156003
25.	West Bengal	8875200	15812
26.	Union Territories	1097300	104
27.	Unsurveyed	8329400	0
Grand Total		328726300	6251477

*[English]***Foreign Citizens**

2026. SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign citizens living in Delhi; and
- (b) the time by which their names will be excluded from the voter lists?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There were as on the 28th February, 1999, 48805 foreign citizens registered in Delhi. According to the report furnished by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, none of these foreign citizens have been included in the voters list.

*[Translation]***Availability of Food Items**

2027. SHRI H.P. SINGH:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI A.C. JOS:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the specified food items are generally not available to the people at the ration shops in rural areas tribal areas and the people living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the availability and quality of these items under Public Distribution System Revamped Public Distribution System; and

(d) the number of complaints received from the general masses in this behalf during the last one year State/Union Territory-wise, month-wise and items-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) While the Central Government

procures and makes available to the States/UTs PDS commodities at subsidised prices, the responsibility of distribution to the consumers through the network of fair price shops rests with the State Governments. The complaints received from the public in this regard are referred to the States/UTs concerned for taking necessary action. No major complaint regarding non-availability of specified food items or their quality has been received during the last one year.

Allocation of specified food items under the Public Distribution System (PDS), viz., rice, wheat, sugar and edible oil to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations is made more than a month in advance to ensure their availability to the consumers. As regards the quality, foodgrains are procured strictly conforming to uniform specifications. The quality of these items is continuously monitored during storage. Foodgrains conforming to PFA standards and free from insect infestation are issued for PDS.

Besides above, following steps are also taken by the Government to check the quality of foodgrains distributed under PDS:

- (i) The representatives of the State Governments are allowed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting stocks from the godowns for distribution under PDS/TPDS.
- (ii) Sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of consumers.
- (iii) Surprise checks are carried out at fair price shops to check the quality of foodgrains.

Brain Drain

2028. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the brain drain of the meritorious talents who have secured education from the prestigious institutions of the country;

(b) if so, the main causes therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to bring back talents and engage them in the development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Some Indian Scientists, Engineers do migrate to other countries for higher studies/work abroad. In order to attract such personnel back to the country, the Government have taken steps which include increase in Science and Technology outlays, creation of new Scientific Departments/Organisations, delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to Science & Technology Institutions, temporary placement of Scientists and Technologists under the Scientists Pool etc.

[English]

Consumption of Sugar

2029. SHRI T.R. BAALU:
SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production and consumption of sugar during 1997-98 and the current year;
- (b) the total carry forward stock of sugar from the last year;
- (c) whether there is any difference between the pattern of production and consumption of sugar in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh;
- (e) whether the Government propose to rejuvenate the sick mills in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh to fill up this gap;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the co-operative sugar mills in these States are working in a good condition;
- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
- (i) if not, the reasons and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The total production and consumption of sugar during the sugar seasons 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto 31.1.99) was as under:—

(Qty. in lakh tonnes)		
Sugar season	Production	Internal consumption
1997-98	128.27 (P)	139.80 (P)
1998-99 (upto 31.1.99)	67.61 (P)	45.42 (P)

(P) = Provisional

(b) The total carry forward stock of sugar from the last sugar season (as on 1.10.98) was 53.7 lakh tonnes (Provisional).

(c) and (d) Sugar production in the country has been following a cyclical trend i.e. 2-3 years of high production followed by 2-3 years of low production. After reaching an all time high production level of 164.29 lakh tonnes during the sugar season 1995-96, the downward trend in sugar production started with a production of 129.05 lakh tonnes during 1996-97 sugar season and 128.27 lakh tonnes (Provisional) during the 1997-98 sugar season. The production of sugar during the current sugar season 1998-99 is estimated to be around 150 lakh tonnes. The State-wise trend of sugar production during the sugar seasons 1995-96 to 1997-98 is shown in the enclosed *Statement*.

The availability of sugar for internal consumption is both from domestic production and imports. It is not possible to quantify as to how much imported sugar was consumed as there is no release mechanism for sugar imported under Open General Licence (OGL). While the State-wise levy sugar quota is fixed and it has to be consumed within that State only, the free-sale quota released in respect of sugar mills situated in one State can be consumed by other State(s) as there is no restriction on inter-State movement of free-sale sugar. It is therefore not possible to give the State-wise breakup of consumption of sugar.

(e) and (f) Sugar mills have themselves to prepare schemes for rehabilitation modernisation/re-opening and get them approved by the financial institutions. Financial assistance is also available from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rate of interest for cane

development and rehabilitation/modernisation schemes subject to fulfilment of certain prescribed conditions. As per information of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), Bhupalsagar sugar mill of Rajasthan and Dalauda, Sehore and Khalbujurg sugar mills of Madhya Pradesh are registered with them under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Out of these, Dalauda sugar mill is recommended for winding up by BIFR and the cases of Sehore and Khalbujurg are under inquiry. In the case of Bhupalsagar, the BIFR has sanctioned a revival scheme.

(g) to (i) There are three cooperative sugar mills in Madhya Pradesh and one cooperative sugar mill in Rajasthan and all of them have worked during the current sugar session 1998-99. The quantity of sugar produced

by them upto 31.1.99 are as under:

Sugar Mill	Sugar Production (Qty. in lakh tonnes)
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>	
Morena	0.03
Barlai	0.04
Navalnagar	0.07
<i>Rajasthan</i>	
Keshoraipatan	0.02

Statement

Statement Showing State-wise Production of Sugar

(Qty. in lakh tonnes)

Serial No.	State	Sugar Season 1995-96	Sugar Season 1996-97	Sugar Season 1997-98	Increase(+) or Decrease (-) In 1996-97 Over 1995-96	Increase (+) In 1997-98 Over 1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Punjab	6.32	6.13	3.07	(—) 0.19	(—) 3.24
2.	Haryana	4.54	4.90	3.81	(+) 0.36	(—) 1.09
3.	Rajasthan	0.31	0.23	0.23	(—) 0.08	0.00
4.	Uttar Pradesh	43.60	40.84	39.04	(—) 2.76	(—) 1.8
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1.29	0.87	0.71	(—) 0.42	(—) 0.16
6.	Gujarat	11.26	9.67	8.84	(—) 1.59	(—) 0.83
7.	Maharashtra	53.76	34.46	38.55	(—) 19.30	(+) 4.09
8.	Bihar	3.79	3.62	3.08	(—) 0.17	(—) 0.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Assam	0.07	0.05	0.03	(—) 0.02	(—) 0.02
10.	Orissa	0.82	0.78	0.57	(—) 0.04	9—) 0.21
11.	West Bengal	0.08	0.05	0.03	(—) 0.03	(—) 0.02
12.	Nagaland	0.01	—	—	—	
13.	Andhra Pradesh	8.66	7.72	7.76	(—) 0.94	(+) 0.04
14.	Karnataka	12.67	8.70	9.70	(—) 3.97	(+) 1.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	16.22	10.50	12.32	(—) 5.72	(+) 1.82
16.	Pondicherry	0.57	0.33	0.37	(—) 0.24	(+) 0.04
17.	Kerala	0.13	0.05	0.06	(—) 0.08	(+) 0.01
18.	Chh	0.19	0.15	0.10	(—) 0.04	(—) 0.05
All India		164.29	129.05	128.27		

Price of Levy Sugar

2030. SHRI S.S. OWAI:
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have stopped including harvesting and transport charges while calculating levy sugar prices;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to include these charges in terms of reference made by the Ministry of Finance for calculating the levy sugar prices for the seasons 1999-2000 and 2002-2003; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SAYTA PAL

SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The levy sugar prices are based on the Cost schedules provided by an expert body like Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP). For carrying out the cost investigation for the sugar seasons 1993-94 to 1995-96 and 1996-97 to 1998-99. BICP was asked to evolve a system which would determine the element of harvesting and transportation cost in the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) and the actual harvesting and transportation expenses incurred by the sugar factories so that the difference between the two can form part of the conversion cost for fixing the ex-factory levy price of sugar. The ex-factory levy sugar prices for the seasons 1993-94 to 1997-98 were calculated and fixed on the recommendations of the BICP. The ex-factory levy sugar prices for the season 1998-99 are also being calculated on the recommendation of the BICP.

(c) and (d) For the ensuing sugar seasons, 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, the cost investigation of the sugar industry has been referred to the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance. The matter of evolving a system which would determine the element of harvesting and transportation cost in the SMP and the actual harvesting and transportation expenses incurred by the factories so that the difference of the two can form a part of the conversion cost if the fixation of ex-factory levy price of sugar has also been referred to them. The levy sugar prices for the seasons 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 would be determined keeping in view the recommendations of the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance.

Illegal Hotels

2031. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of illegal hotels are operating inside the famous Golden Fort at Jaisalmer, causing danger to the structural stability of the fort;

(b) if so, whether the Archaeological Survey of India has expressed serious concerns about the safety of this fort; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has apprised the district authorities of Jaisalmer for necessary action in this regard. In one case the Archaeological Survey of India has initiated legal action against a hotel owner and the matter is sub-judice.

Land Acquired by DDA

2032. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired by the Delhi Development Authority so far;

(b) the areas of land out of acquired land utilised by the Delhi Development Authority;

(c) the area of land encroached upon unauthorisedly; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Delhi Development Authority to vacate the encroached land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that land measuring about 70377 acres has been acquired by it so far. Out of this about 62384 acres has been utilised.

(c) and (d) About 1600 acres of land was under encroachment as on December, 1998. Regular demolition programmes are fixed from time to time for removal of unauthorised constructions/encroachments. During the last 3 years 15837 unauthorised structures have been removed and 246 acres of land reclaimed.

[Translation]

Rajbhasha Policy

2033. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of rules and policy of official language is the responsibility of Ministry of Home Affairs;

(b) if so, whether all departments/offices are required to adopt same technical terminology in their publications/books;

(c) the arrangements made by his Ministry to ensure its compliance;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding violation of the policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) As per rules, it is the responsibility of the administrative head of each Ministry/Department to ensure that the Official Language Act, provisions of Official Language Rules and orders relating to Official Language policy are implemented.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) To ensure the implementation of guidelines relating to Official Language policy, Official Language Implementation Committee have been constituted in all Ministries/Departments. It is necessary to hold 4 meetings of such Committees in a year. Similarly, for giving suggestions in regard to enhance the progressive use of Hindi and for implementation of instructions regarding Official Language Policy, Hindi Salahakar Semities have been constituted in various Ministries/Departments under the chairmanship of the Minister concerned in the Ministries/Departments comprising 6 Member of Parliament alongwith the Secretary of the concerned Departments and also the administrative heads of the attached and subordinate offices under it, as members.

(d) and (e) Whenever any complaints in this connection is received in Official Language Departments the same is forwarded to the administrative head of concerned Ministry/Department for taking appropriate action. Complaints received regarding violation of Official Language Policy of the Government are of the same nature as the complaints regarding violation of rules for implementation of other functions concerning their administrative responsibilities in the Ministries/Departments. It is the responsibility of the administrative head of concerned Ministry/Department to look into the complaints and take necessary action.

English
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Indo-Estonian Agreement of Cooperation

2034. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any collaboration/agreement has been signed recently between Indian and Estonia in the field of science and technology;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the said agreement; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) An Indo-Estonian Agreement of Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology has been entered into on 5th February 1999. The Agreement envisages exchange of scientists, exchange of scientific and technical informations, publications and other scientific documentation, holding of bilateral scientific and technical seminars, organisation of scientific and technological exhibitions, implementation of joint research programmes and use of R&D facilities.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

English
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Recommendations made by National Commission for Minorities

2035. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has made any statutory recommendation under section 9(1)(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 since its inception;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government on each of the recommendations in terms of section 9(2) of the Act;

(d) whether the statutory recommendations pertaining to State Governments under section 9(3) of the Act were forwarded to the concerned States; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the State Governments thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Commission for Minorities has made 13 statutory recommendations through their Annual Report for the year 1995-96 under Section 9(1)(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. The report was received on 5th June, 1997. Action on 12 recommendations has been completed by the Government in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments. In terms of section 9(2) of the NCM Act, the government is required to lay the Annual Report alongwith Action Taken Memorandum in each House of Parliament. The report containing 13 statutory recommendations has not yet been laid in Parliament.

(d) and (e) The statutory recommendations pertaining to the State Governments are forwarded to the concerned States by the National Commission for Minorities directly for placing the recommendations alongwith Action Taken Memorandum by the States Government before the State Assembly, as required under section 9(3) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

Government Reserves
Panchayat Elections

2036. SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is constitutionally mandatory to hold Panchayat/local bodies elections in every State;

(b) if so, whether panchayat elections have not been held in Jammu and Kashmir since last 25-30 years;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the Central funds earmarked for rural development under Panchayats are misused in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. in States and Union Territories where the Constitution Seventy-third Amendment Act, 1992 is applicable. The Act of 1992 is not applicable to the State of Jammu & Kashmir due to operation of Article 370(1)(b)(ii) of the Constitution of India. The Seventy-third Amendment Act can only be made applicable to the State of Jammu & Kashmir through an order of the President under Article 370(1)(b)(ii) with the concurrence of the State Legislature. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has not obtained the concurrence of the State Legislature for extending the provisions of the Constitution Seventy-third Amendment Act, 1992 to the State.

(c) and (d) There have been no reports of misuse/diversion of Central funds earmarked for rural development. The sanction order releasing funds to the State Governments invariably stipulate that the funds released should be utilised exclusively for the purpose they have been sanctioned. The State Governments are also advised from time to time at various levels that funds allocated should not be diverted for purposes other than those for which the funds have been released.

Price Control of Five Drugs *Medicine*

2037. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: *934*
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to deserve and delicense five bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have decided to deserve and delicense the manufacture of Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Tetracycline, Oxytetracycline and Folic Acid.

(c) Does not arise. *Foodgrain*

Open Market Price

2038. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any action plan to deal with the situation arising due to hike in PDS prices; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government to check the price hike to foodgrains and other essential commodities in open market due to hike in PDS prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice under PDS are revised by the Government from time to time to neutralise the increase in the Minimum Support Prices/Procurement prices of wheat and paddy. Similarly, retail issue price of levy sugar for distribution under PDS is increased from time to time. The recent increase in retail issue price of levy sugar is merely 5.26% which is marginal.

No substantial rise in retail open market prices of wheat and rice have been reported after the revision in CIPs of wheat and rice w.e.f. 29.1.1999. As regards sugar, no rise in its retail price in the open market has been reported.

The open market prices depend on various factors such as demand and supply, general inflationary trends, seasonal marketing behaviour. etc.

Government constantly monitor and review the open market prices of essential commodities and all possible steps are taken as and when need arises. Open Market Sale of foodgrains from public stocks is also resorted to if price of foodgrains rise in the market.

Expenditure on Research Projects

2039. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of Antarctica research centre during the last three years; and

(b) the expenditure involved in the expeditions and the research projects undertaken during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) During the year 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Expeditions to Antarctica were launched. A special cruise for the Antarctic waters for assessment of Antarctic Marine Living Resources such as krill was also launched during 1995-96.

Some of the major scientific and logistics accomplishments under the Antarctic Research programme are:

- Studies on ozone, trace gases and aerosols of the Antarctic atmosphere, were conducted.
- Meteorological parameters that can be employed for climate modeling and prediction, were achieved.
- *In-situ* geological and air-borne geophysical investigations of the Central Droning Maudland area and establishment of a permanent seismic station, were undertaken.
- Experiments on solar terrestrial physics like optical aurora, geo-magnetic perturbations, planetary boundary layer, were continued.
- Very Low Frequency whistler monitoring and propagation studies were initiated.
- Establishment of a permanent GPS Observatory for planetary geodetic studies, was completed.
- Identification and taxonomic classification of organisms as a part of on-going bio-diversity studies of Antarctica was done.
- Experiments on Antarctic albedo and snowdrift patterns were taken up.
- Studies on adaptation techniques of human beings in adverse conditions were continued.
- Application and utilisation of clean energy sources like wind and fuel cells in Antarctica were planned and accomplished.
- Upgradation of communication facilities through near real time picture transmission established.
- Reorientation of waste discharge and handling facilities, was done.
- Construction of medical inspection room in Maitri, was completed.
- International bilateral collaborations were initiated with Germany, France, Italy, USA, Argentina & Peru in various domains of polar science.

- Four technical reports were published and an Indian National Antarctic Database was created.
- Initial assessment was made on the distribution and abundance of krill, cephalopods and Antarctic fish in the FAO fishing area No. 58, in the Indian Ocean sector of the Southern Oceans with relation to prevailing physico-chemical and biological parameters in the water column.
- Assessment of commercial exploitation of krill through development of post-harvest technology and marketable value added products, was undertaken.

Antarctic Study Centre (ASC)

- The Construction of Phase I of the ASC at Goa, comprising logistic, administrative, service and residential blocks was completed and the ASC started functioning from its new premises.
- The 17th expedition was launched from the Centre in December 1997.
- Basic computing facilities and library were established at ASC.

(b) The Year-wise total expenditure on the Antarctic Expedition and the related research projects, is as follows:

Rupees in crore	
Financial Year	Expenditure
1995-96	19.51
1996-97	20.85
1997-98	21.51

Ban on Lottery

2040. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to impose ban on lottery;

(b) if so, the alternate arrangements proposed to be initiated to make good the loss in revenue and protect the loss of employment opportunities in case of ban on lotteries;

(c) whether any violation of directions of Supreme Court in conducting the lottery by State Governments brought under the notice of Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government allow the State Governments including Kerala to conduct lottery which are implementing the lottery as per rules; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (f) A proposal to impose a comprehensive ban on the lottery trade in the country is under consideration. The proposal covers the entire country including Kerala. Issues like loss of revenue and loss of employment opportunities will be duly considered while taking a final view in the matter.

It may be mentioned that the overwhelming view in the Department related Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs, which considered the Lotteries (Regulation) Bill, 1998, was for across the board ban on the kinds of lotteries. The purpose of the said Bill was, *inter alia*, to ban single digit lotteries. Subsequently, there was also a near unanimous demand in the House that the legal curbs should not be confined to single digit lotteries only, but should extend to all kinds of lotteries. Similarly, in the Conference of Chief Ministers held in November '98, an overwhelming majority of the Chief Ministers favoured a comprehensive ban on all kinds of lotteries.

No specific instance of violation of directions of the Supreme Court in conducting lotteries by the State Governments has come to notice. However, the directions of the Supreme Court do not prohibit imposing a ban on the lottery trade.

Scholarship to Young Artists

2041. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of young artists who have been given scholarships in the age group of 18-35 years in the field of Music, Art, Dance, Painting, Sculpture, Drama and Folk during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of assistance given to them, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any plan to increase the assistance to these artists in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The number of young artists granted scholarships during the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of awards
1995-96	200
1996-97	200
1997-98	250

(b) The amount released to the scholars during the last three years is as follows:

1995-96	—	Rs. 44.66 lakhs
1996-97	—	Rs. 45.68 lakhs
1997-98	—	Rs. 98.63 lakhs

(c) No Sir.

(d) Doesn't arise.

Experiments to use Honse Oil

2042. SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that scientists of the Tata Institute, Bangalore, have conducted experiments to use Honse Oil on diesel to run the cars;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the oil is feasible and efficient; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Department of Science & Technology is aware of some research work being done at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

(b) Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore is implementing the project entitled "Sustainable Transformation of Rural Areas" (SuTRA), which has been sponsored by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES), Government of India, and the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka. As part of this project, the institute has conducted experiments to use seed oil from locally grown trees, particularly Honge (Pongamia Pinnata-Karanj, in Hindi) in five village houses to generate electricity in small quantities for providing illumination to the village houses and for pumping drinking water. This was reported to the National Committee for Monitoring SuTRA, constituted by MNES, and the Committee has approved the use of these oils as diesel substitutes in the current project.

(c) and (d) Honge oil, after being cleaned to remove particulars of oil cake and other impurities has been used in five diesel generators of capacities varying from 3.5 to 10 KW. About 3500 litres of Honge oil have been used and 4500 KWh (units) of electricity have been generated. The calorific value of this oil is slightly less than that of diesel. About 1.1 litre of Honge oil is required to replace one litre of diesel. Honge oil burns reasonably well in the engines and gives a cleaner exhaust during visual inspection. Because of its small moisture content, the engine also develops marginally better thermodynamic efficiency due to better disintegration of oil droplets.

Prosecution against the Central Security Force

2043. SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases submitted by J & K Government for sanction of prosecution against the Central Security Forces, in J&K State since 1992; and

(b) the details of cases in which sanction for prosecution has been approved till date?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SC/ST Status to Rajau Dhobhi Community

2044. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the "Rajau" Dhobi community of Madhya Pradesh are recognised as Scheduled Castes in only three districts and in rest of the districts they are recognised as a backward community;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to abolish regional limitations;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be abolished; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) No Sir. However "Dhobi" and not "Rajau" Dhobi community has been specified as Scheduled Caste in Bhopal, Raisen and Sehore districts of Madhya Pradesh. Dhobi community is included in the list of Backward classes in Madhya Pradesh except the three districts mentioned above.

(c) and (d) No Sir.

(e) Region-wise specifications are made in accordance with Article 341 of the Constitution of India.

[English]

74th Amendment

2045. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has pointed out resource crunch to discharge their duties

for water supply, sanitation etc. under the 74th Amendment Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government to assist the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Withdrawal of Clauses of Rehabilitation

2046. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some NGOs have urged the Government to withdraw some impracticable clauses of the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1993;

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

(c) whether standardisation of training for rehabilitation by professionals is hampering work in rehabilitation sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Expert Committee has been constituted comprising prominent NGOs and rehabilitation experts to examine various provisions of the Act. The Expert Committee has submitted its recommendations and further action is being taken on the same.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation] *Sc/Sc 10/10*

Pecuniary Difficulties to the Weaker Sections

2047. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of widows, divorcees infirm old men and women are facing pecuniary difficulties and are compelled to lead a miserable life in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide pension simplify the pension procedure or increase pension in view of price hike under the financial protection scheme to the said infirm, poor and neglected people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Recognising the vulnerable condition and the income security needs of older persons including those of widows, divorcees and infirm old men and women and government provides old age pension to destitute elderly under the National Social Assistance Programme. Old age pension is also provided by State Governments to the needy persons. Simplification of pension procedures as well as enhancement of amount payable is considered by the Government from time to time with a view to ameliorating the condition of the beneficiary target groups.

Improvement of Gene of Plants

2048. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to improve the genes of plants which are important from medicinal point of view and for the traditional vaccines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Some Central Ministries/

Departments/Institutes (Department of Biotechnology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Universities) are implementing several research and development schemes on genetic improvement of plants which are important from medicinal point of view. These include: traditional breeding, micropropagation, somaclonal variation, molecular characterization and genetic transformation with a view to develop desirable clones/varieties of important medicinal plants. The Department of Biotechnology has also initiated projects on edible vaccines—i.e. production of vaccines in crop plants for cholera (in tomato and tobacco) and rabies (in cabbage). These projects are at the initial stage of development.

[English]

Human Rights Department

2049. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Human Rights Department as reported in the Ahmedabad based 'Times of India' dated December 17, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to convene a conference of the Education Ministers of States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

[Translation]

Houses Constructed by DDA

2050. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed and allotted by Delhi Development Authority during each of the last three years, category-wise; and

(b) the target fixed for construction and allotment of the houses during 1999-2000 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The number of houses constructed and allotted by DDA during each of the last three years category-wise is as under:

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
<i>Houses Completed</i>			
SFS	173	3666	1781
MIG	1665	3372	116
LIG	460	705	890
Janta	—	—	948
Total:	2298	7743	3635
<i>Houses Allotted</i>			
SFS	676	3022	526
MIG	1864	4668	79
LIG	2602	1731	107
Janta	791	3667	107
EWS	—	8405	43
Total:	5933	21493	292

(b) DDA has reported that that 5379 houses are targetted to be completed during the year 1999-2000. Allotment of houses, however, is a continuous process and depends upon availability of power and water.

SC/ST/03/545-46

SC/ST Community Residing in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2051. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people belonging to SC/ST community are residing in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, whether no list of SC and ST has been prepared so far in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and people belonging to these communities have not been getting the benefit of reservation in the administration of Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government is likely to prepare the list of SC and ST and provide the benefit of reservation in the Government jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As per census of 1991 the population of Scheduled Tribes in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is 26,770. Population of Scheduled Castes is Nil.

(b) No community has been specified as Scheduled Castes and in respect of Scheduled Tribes, six communities have been listed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Benefit of reservation in Government is given to Scheduled Tribes in accordance with the policy of the Government.

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

[English]

Model Villages

2052. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages developed as model villages under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme in the country, State-wise;

(b) the amount earmarked for this purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh has sent any specific Projects to the Government for approval and release of funds under the programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOU DA PATIL): (a) to (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), 104 villages are being developed as model villages. The State-wise details are as under:

Andhra Pradesh	—	18
Assam	—	3
Bihar	—	11
Himachal Pradesh	—	1
Karnataka	—	8
Kerala	—	19
Madhya Pradesh	—	3
Maharashtra	—	10
Orissa	—	3
Rajasthan	—	8
Tamil Nadu	—	7
Uttar Pradesh	—	13

There is no separate earmarking of funds for this component under the C.R.S.P.; and the State Governments have to prepare projects for approval and subsequent release of funds, based on the progress of work under the projects.

Andhra Pradesh has so far sent eighteen proposals for the development of model villages under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP). As against the total cost of the projects amounting to Rs. 108.416 lakh, Rs. 68.397 lakh have so far been released, of which State Government has reported an expenditure of Rs. 20.580 lakh. Subsequent instalments could not be released as the utilisation was not up to the mark.

[Translation]

Revival of Sindri and Namroop Plant

2053. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government to revive the Sindri and Namroop Fertilizer Plants had suggested a package to be prepared and to be implemented;

(b) if so, the justification for implementing the above package in the case of Namroop Fertilizer Plant and not in the case of Sindri Fertilizer Plant; and

(c) the date by which the above package is likely to be implemented in the case of Sindri Fertilizer Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) The revival packages for Barauni, Durgapur & Namrup units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Sindri, Ramagundam & Talcher units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) were reformulated on the basis of recommendations of expert group led by Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI), the designated operating agency appointed by Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The reformulated revival packages were considered by the competent authority on 1.10.97, which approved the proposal for revival of only the Namrup units. Decision in respect of the other units of HFC & FCI is yet to be taken.

[English]

Attacks on Christian Community

2054. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Security Act has not been invoked against the trouble makers who attacked on Christian Community in Gujarat and Orissa; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (b) Public order is a State Subject. Detention orders are passed under National Security Act, 1980 generally by the State Governments and detaining authorities under them against persons indulging in activities prejudicial to maintenance of public order and national security. It is for the State Governments concerned to take a view in this matter.

[Translation]

International University at Nalanda

2055. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Japan for setting up of an International University at their own cost at Nalanda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Behaviour of Police

2056. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertaken regarding the behaviour of police during the communal riots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of minority especially Muslims in the police force and Rapid Action Force;

(d) whether any attempt has been made to increase the percentage of minorities in the police and RAF; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) A study was undertaken by this Ministry on "Communal peace in Aligarh (UP) and Bhiwandi (Maharashtra) during December 1972 and

January 1993." The study reveal that there is scope for further improvement in the working of police forces in order to earn full faith and confidence of the people particularly in communally sensitive situations.

(c) To the extent information is available the percentage of Muslims in the State Police Forces is 6.4% and in RAF 10.93%.

(d) and (e) There is no direct recruitment in the RAF. However, personnel of minority communities are posted in RAF from CRPF. 'Police', being a State subject, it is essentially for the State Governments to ensure that minorities are adequately represented in their police forces. The Central Government has been sending advisories to the State Governments to this effect.

Genes for Planting

2057. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Bio-Technology has identified genes for patent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Department of Biotechnology assists inventors in protecting inventions in biotechnology emanating from public funded institutions in India. The Department had received two applications one from Prof. Asis Datta, presently Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi to protect his invention on seed storage protein gene isolated and derived from amaranthus seeds, and the other from Dr. Rup Lal, Dept. of Zoology, University of Delhi for the construction of an efficient and cloning vector and transformation system for *Amycolatopsis mediterranei*. Both these inventions have been protected through US Patents.

Handicapped Children

2058. SHRI NADENDAA BHASKARA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of educational level of handicapped children in rural and urban areas;

(b) the amount allocated for the welfare of the handicapped children the country particularly in Maharashtra during 1998; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the handicapped children to go to schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A *Statement* is enclosed.

(b) Under the Scheme of Special School for Disabled Children during 1998-99 an amount of Rs. 217.59 lakhs has been released to Non-Governmental organisations across the country. An amount of Rs. 1.56 lakhs has been released to one NGO functioning in Maharashtra.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children being implemented by the Deptt. of Education, nearly 15000 integrated schools are being run in 27 States/UTs. During 1997-98 an amount of Rs. 14.52 lakhs was released to State Govt. of Maharashtra.

(c) The following are the major schemes under which the handicapped children are encouraged to attend the schools;

- (i) Assistance to Organisations for disabled persons,
- (ii) Establishment and Development of Special Schools, and
- (iii) Integrated Education for Disabled Children.

Statement

According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991, the educational level of handicapped children in rural and urban areas is as follows:—

(Per thousand population)

	Not literates	Upto primary level	Middle level	Secondary level and above
Rural	701	203	53	35
Urban	462	298	110	123

As per the Selected Educational Statistics 1995-96, brought out by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the gross enrolment ratios for the year 1994-95 were as follows:-

Primary (1 to 5) 104.3

Upper Primary (5 to 8) 67.6

Note: The Gross enrolment ratio is defined as the percentage ratio of the enrolment in the respective classes to the estimated child population in the Corresponding age groups.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Panika Caste in the List of Scheduled Tribes

2059. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govt. have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh to include Panika Caste in the list of Scheduled Tribes in the entire State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to include various castes in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the time by which the above caste is likely to be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As it is a continuous process, no timeframe can be specified.

[English]

Construction of Government Houses

2060. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
SHRI AJIT JOGI:

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

(a) the total number of houses constructed for Government employees in Delhi during Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise, category-wise;

(b) whether these houses has been allotted to Special Pool Accommodation;

(c) if so, the details alongwith the norms prescribed therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to construct more houses for Government employees during 1999-2000; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) 247 houses were constructed during Eighth Five Year Plan. The details are as under:—

Year	Type (Category)	
	III	IV
1994-95	135	—
1995-96	—	112

(b) Only four Type-IV special quarters have been placed at the disposal of CRPF departmental Pool.

(c) No specific norms have been prescribed for such placement. Placement is made on case to case basis on merit.

(d) and (e) 274 residential units have already been sanctioned for construction during 1999-2000. Of these 88 will be in Type IV category, 60 in Type-III, 98 in Type-V and 28 in Type-VI.

Deep Sea Mining System

2061. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Germany to test deep-sea mining system" appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated September 1, 1998;

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

(c) the efforts initiated by the Government in this direction so far; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred and the value in terms of money likely to be explored therefrom?

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

(b) and (c) The development of a sea bed mining system is one of the major component in the Polymetallic Nodule (PMN) Programme of the department. These nodules are lying on the sea bed at about 6000 mt. water depth. India is one of the registered Pioneer Investor with an allotment of 1,50,000 sq. km. area at CIOB by the UN authorities in 1987. India will have to relinquish 50% of this area in a phased manner to the Authorities. India has already relinquished 30% of the area as required. The department has formulated a long range development programme. The design, development and testing of a shallow bed mining system has been envisaged under the joint collaborative programme between National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, an autonomous institute under the Department of Ocean Development and Institute for Konstruktion (IKS), University of Siegen, Germany. This joint development is the first step to demonstrate shallow bed mining system capable

d) working upto 500 mt. water depth. As a part fulfillment of the joint technology development agreement, an existing crawler at IKS was refurbished, modified and augmented with a manipulator, slurry pump, cutting systems, control system, necessary instrumentation systems and accessories by the joint teams. This mining system after completion of evaluation at Germany was shipped to India for testing in the Indian water. Preliminary trial for launching, maneuvering, retrieving, etc. were done at about 60 m. depth off Malvan coast near Goa. Further test to demonstrate the sand mining in Indian waters off Tuticorin coast during March/April, 1999 is proposed. During testing the performance of all the subsystem and the integrated mining system will be evaluated besides the sand mining demonstration. After successful performance of the demonstration in Indian water, a joint design report for deep sea mining would be prepared. Basic engineering and specifications of a mining complex module capable of operating at 6000 mts. depth with mining capacity of 25,000 tonnes of nodules per year has also been started under this joint collaboration.

(d) The total estimated cost for implementation of the first phase of this programme is Rs. 16.09 crore. The development of deep seabed mining system and testing upto a depth of 6000 mts. would be taken up in subsequent phases for which the detail proposals are yet to be prepared for getting necessary approval of the Government. The Polymetallic nodules contain Copper, Nickel, Cobalt and Manganese. Department has initiated R&D and pilot scale project to extract these valuable metals. Process parameters are planned to be established in the coming years to establish realistic techno economic viability of a commercial metallurgical plant. As can be seen the efforts are R&D and pilot scale demonstration in nature yet. Hence it is premature to make assessment of the value in terms of money to be explored.

Self Financing Universities

2062. SHRI A.C. JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special task force constituted by the Ministry has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details alongwith wide-ranging recommendations thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to establish self-financing universities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) With a view to suggesting amendments to the UGC Act, 1956, to provide for suitable safeguards against the incidence of fake universities as also to empower the Commission to cope with the emerging challenges with confidence and to strengthen and restructure the Commission, the Government of India had constituted a Task Force that has since submitted its report on 15th February, 1999.

The important recommendations of the Task Force include (a) provision for five whole-time members in the Commission in addition to the Chairman; (b) punishment with imprisonment for a term ranging between one year and three years and/or fine ranging between one lakh and 10 lakh rupees for contravention of the provisions of Sections 22 and 23 of UGC Act; (c) provision for affording opportunity for establishment of private or self-financing universities in the country, subject, of course, to the observance of the prescribed rules for establishment of such universities; and (d) provision for the regulation of the functioning of foreign universities/institutions in respect of any programmes in India and also recognition of universities or institutions which confer degrees/diplomas/certificates.

(c) and (d) In the context of resource crunch faced by the Government, the UGC was asked to evolve guidelines for establishment of self-financing universities. The guidelines submitted by UGC were considered by the Government in consultation with the Ministries/agencies concerned and the Government introduced "The Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 1995" in the Rajya Sabha to provide for establishment of self-financing private universities in the country and to regulate their functioning by enacting an enabling legislation on the subject.

Fertilizer Projects

2063. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing fertilizer projects in the country both in public and private sectors;

(b) the present status of each project alongwith the target date of completion;

(c) the initial cost estimate of the projects and the anticipated cost on the completion of the projects; and

(d) annual capacity of production of fertilizer of each plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (d) The details of the major fertilizer projects under

implementation in the country at present are given in the *Statement* enclosed. The projects of Public/Cooperative Sector undertakings under implementation at Kandla, Gujarat and Namrup, Assam are progressing as per schedule, and have not reported any time or cost overruns. Details regarding private sector fertilizer projects are based on information provided by the project authorities.

Statement

Details of Major Fertilizer Projects under Implementation in the Country

S. N.	Name of the project, location and company/cooperative	Estimated capital cost (Rs. Crore)	Addl. Production envisaged		Zero date	Approved/original date of commissioning	Status
			Product	Capacity (In Lakh MTPA)			
1.	Expansion project of IFFCO Kandla, Gujarat (Phase-II)	212.20	NPK DAP	3.70 2.27	22.1.97	22.10.99	The overall physical progress at the end of Jan., 99 was 87.76% against the target of 87.73%
2.	Expansion project of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd., Gadepan, (Phase-II), Rajasthan	1256.00	Urea	7.75	25.12.96	31.12.99	Implementation as per schedule
3.	Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd., (New) Paradeep, Orissa	1832.00	DAP NPK NP	15.00 3.20 1.00	Sept., 97	Sept., 99	Implementation as per schedule
4.	Duncan Industries Ltd., (Expansion) Kanpur, U.P.	636.38	Urea	1.63	1.1.98	May, 2003	Implementation commenced
5.	Godavari Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. (GFCL) Kakinada, A.P.	99.13	DAP	2.8	5.1.98	31.12.01	Implementation as per schedule
6.	Hind Lever Chemicals Ltd., Haldia, West Bengal	88.31	DAP/ NPK	4.00	23.2.98	April, 99	Implementation as per schedule
7.	Revamp of Namrup Plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Namrup, Assam.	350.00	Urea	3.28	2.11.98	1.5.2001	The cumulative physical progress till Jan, 99, is 1%

Family Welfare

**Implementation of National Family Benefit Scheme
in Maharashtra**

2064. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Maternity Benefit and National Family Benefit Schemes are being implemented in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for successful implementation of these schemes; and

(d) the amount released and utilised during the last three years under each Scheme in the Country, State-wise?

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

(b) The National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) are components of National Social Assistance Programme

announced by the Prime Minister on 28th July, 1995. The schemes came into effect in 1995. Under NFBS, Rs. 10,000/- is paid to the bereaved family in case of death of the primary breadwinner. The benefit payable under NMBS is Rs. 500/- per pregnancy upto the first two live births. The State-wise allocation and expenditure is given in the *Statement-I*.

(c) Among the steps taken for the successful implementation of the NSAP scheme are:

(i) Periodic review meetings at the National, State and District level are held to review the progress of the Schemes. Recently, this Department has introduced the facility of Video Conferencing to monitor the progress of the Schemes.

(ii) The designated Area Officers of the Ministry visit their assigned States and assess the implementation of the schemes and suggest suitable measures wherever needed. Officials often visit States for on the spot verification of beneficiaries.

(d) The Statement on amount released and utilised during the last three years is given in the *Statement-II*.

Statement I

National Social Assistance Programme Year 1998-99

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	NFBS		NMBS	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3823.04	3718.91	1969.19	1915.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.88	1.06	19.34	0.73
3.	Assam	646.38	281.85	292.34	63.15
4.	Bihar	1768.00	982.41	940.37	421.02

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Goa	13.00	6.50	0.78	0.00
6 .	Gujarat	156.00	33.91	104.00	24.65
7.	Haryana	31.20	27.69	52.00	29.33
8.	Himachal Pradesh	40.04	17.73	15.60	5.69
9.	J & K	62.40	36.90	36.40	23.94
10.	Karnataka	143.52	63.08	73.00	38.10
11.	Kerala	530.40	347.14	156.00	83.08
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5106.40	3847.43	1040.00	565.29
13.	Maharashtra	1026.74	693.05	312.00	227.31
14.	Manipur	28.60	6.15	40.56	0.99
15.	Meghalaya	34.32	12.28	39.31	17.43
16.	Mizoram	11.44	9.73	15.91	7.96
17.	Nagaland	17.16	1.29	27.77	3.95
18.	Orissa	1744.60	1008.90	780.00	462.80
19.	Punjab	142.48	74.51	52.00	21.30
20.	Rajasthan	468.16	359.13	312.00	130.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Sikkim	5.72	0.00	2.60	0.00
22.	Tamilnadu	1904.76	1437.45	906.36	268.32
23.	Tripura	93.60	47.30	101.40	64.53
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3120.00	1846.55	1300.00	511.79
25.	West Bengal	1047.70	216.70	616.15	166.25
26.	A&N Islands	2.86	0.00	1.09	0.00
27.	Chandigarh	2.86	0.00	2.65	0.00
28.	D&N Haveli	2.86	1.43	0.47	0.00
29.	Daman & Diu	2.86	1.44	0.31	0.00
30.	NCT Delhi	31.46	15.73	36.97	0.00
31.	Lakshadweep	2.86	0.00	0.16	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	2.86	2.86	7.54	7.54
TOTAL:		22037.14	15105.11	9259.27	5064.50

Statement II**National Social Assistance Programme**

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	NFBS						NFDS					
		1995-96		1996-97		1997-98		1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	Andhra Pradesh	133493	262.03	2238.12	1782.43	2211.43	2689.57	746.75	688.78	1205.32	830.29	119.39	1179.20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.71	0.00	2.03	1.63	5.52	3.03	1.95	0.00	0.06	0.61	1.71	2.19
3.	Assam	168.21	51.13	212.30	173.30	309.82	222.87	87.79	35.41	145.47	75.21	99.54	58.60
4.	Bihar	1090.36	257.18	583.17	771.92	1114.20	1159.51	572.00	211.34	679.55	617.30	490.54	635.92
5.	Goa	337	1.10	10.19	12.78	5.72	8.20	2.60	0.00	0.08	0.14	0.00	0.26
6.	Gujarat	222.33	6.81	7.26	11.35	0.00	55.69	118.25	0.00	3.74	8.03	3.48	23.94
7.	Haryana	45.72	1.70	38.52	43.78	53.92	65.17	35.72	24.25	64.14	48.05	61.33	40.38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.95	355	115	12.17	20.87	13.67	13.42	1.87	8.00	12.96	23.36	10.15
9.	J & K	27.30	22.17	62.40	40.27	26.74	38.35	30.80	20.43	36.05	26.83	26.02	24.87
10.	Karnataka	383.66	209.67	12.49	111.55	18.91	102.54	237.96	198.04	7.54	22.72	162.90	84.20
11.	Kerala	90.57	10.28	205.51	185.72	199.89	253.76	64.68	13.42	86.35	55.40	64.18	96.53
12.	Madhya Pradesh	823.65	233.08	2246.52	1630.32	2595.08	2828.77	457.66	17.79	400.74	431.53	398.55	554.54
13.	Maharashtra	605.80	0.75	36.74	222.83	653.57	567.35	351.78	0.07	11.44	360.34	299.81	273.43
14.	Manipur	3.42	3.38	14.41	10.70	9.85	9.89	4.07	3.87	20.41	11.79	14.09	13.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15.	Mizhalya	3.27	2.31	2.61	2.61	9.781	14.86	3.74	2.50	3.17	4.19	11.36	14.00
16.	Mizoram	1.70	1.66	5.76	5.66	6.64	0.97	1.58	1.58	8.01	8.01	7.96	1.41
17.	Nagaland	3.53	2.03	8.64	6.11	5.01	3.67	5.59	3.15	19.99	13.78	12.05	8.46
18.	Orissa	510.69	1.85	224.11	425.74	699.34	681.87	240.08	4.91	435.53	261.94	266.06	415.74
19.	Punjab	37.38	28.91	124.62	104.58	62.92	72.10	25.48	9.36	28.11	21.64	9.13	25.99
20.	Rajasthan	266.89	0.00	24.97	30.00	252.66	424.90	202.67	0.00	6.51	2.76	83.57	157.72
21.	Sikkim	1.67	NR	2.26	2.83	2.23	2.28	0.94	NR	1.53	0.63	2.34	2.34
22.	Tamilnadu	1130.00	540.94	1357.53	1329.93	1758.59	1349.52	563.00	155.80	571.21	569.28	368.65	502.60
23.	Tripura	10.40	2.12	25.90	16.23	39.63	33.81	12.34	3.77	30.62	24.41	35.95	32.64
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3147.28	2062.93	2221.30	1973.61	1452.17	1740.67	1777.92	1264.47	2416.16	4879.16	1111.56	967.08
25.	West Bengal	531.09	72.96	986.50	332.05	206.68	452.28	274.49	35.23	529.17	320.23	199.23	262.60
26.	A&N Islands	1.69	NR	0.06	0.35	0.00	NR	0.69	NR	0.02	0.02	0.00	NR
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	1.36	0.35	0.00	1.30	0.00	0.00	0.05	NR	0.00	NR
28.	D&N Haveli	1.65	NR	2.92	2.76	4.29	NR	0.29	NR	0.48	0.44	0.71	NR
29.	Daman & Diu	1.46	1.27	2.92	3.68	2.86	2.05	0.18	0.09	0.29	0.18	0.04	0.06
30.	NCT Delhi	0.00	0.00	2.92	9.73	31.46	53.10	0.00	0.00	37.68	4.89	0.00	0.07
31.	Lakshadweep	1.62	0.00	2.81	1.15	0.00	2.55	0.22	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.07
32.	Pondicherry	1.68	0.00	0.06	1.75	1.42	1.42	1.78	0.00	0.06	1.64	4.44	4.44
TOTAL:		10486.11	3780.10	10686.22	9270.76	11760.21	12855.72	5847.13	2594.15	6757.44	55143	4957.96	5362.41

NR : Not Reported

Festival of India 269

2065. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hold "Festival of India" in Foreign countries;

(b) if so, the last "Festival of India" held in abroad and in India; and

(c) the place and time when next "Festival of India" is likely to be held?

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

(b) Last Festival of India was held in Thailand during 1995-97. Festival of Thailand in India was held in August-September, 1997.

(c) The exact time and place for the next Festival of India is yet to be decided.

Issuance of Work Permit *Bangla dish 269*

2066. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issuance of work-permit to Bangladeshi nationals for temporary jobs has been cleared by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation] 21/ST/10/62 259-70

Govari Castes of Madhya Pradesh

2067. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govari Caste of Madhya Pradesh, living below poverty line is likely to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, whether Govari Caste has been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) No Sir. We have received no such proposal.

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

[English] 270

Welfare Programme for Women

2068. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance/aid provided to the various voluntary organisations for Welfare programmes for women during 1996-97 and 1998 to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra;

(b) whether some proposals received from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are pending for approval;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House. 271-79

[Translation] Agriculture

Procurement Centres in Madhya Pradesh

2069. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of paddy rice and wheat procured in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last two years;

(b) the number of procurement centres opened, location-wise during the said period and the expenses incurred thereon;

(c) the excess quantum of foodgrains available in the States at present;

(d) whether any State level scheme has been formulated to procure foodgrains in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Information is as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Marketing Season	Wheat	Paddy	Rice
1997-98	1.07	6.23	6.06
1998-99 (As on 5.3.99)	5.31	2.34	2.53

(b) A *Statement* showing number of purchase centres opened during 1997-98 and 1998-99 marketing seasons is attached.

Paddy and wheat are directly procured from the farmers by different procuring agencies in different districts. FCI deploys its staff for procurement from its existing strength. Centre-wise details of expenditure for these agencies are not readily available.

(c) Madhya Pradesh is not a surplus State in foodgrains as foodgrains have to be allotted to the State from the Central Pool.

(d) and (e) Government of India have recently decided to implement the scheme of decentralised procurement of foodgrains in Madhya Pradesh from the Rabi and Kharif Marketing Season 1999-2000. Under this system, the State Government will procure foodgrains to meet its PDS requirements and subsidy will be passed on to the State Government instead of to FCI.

Statement

Number of Purchase Centres Opened during 1997-98 and 1998-99 in M.P.

Year	Commodity	MPSCSC/MARKFED	FCI	Total
1997-98	Paddy	2287	—	2287
1997-98	Rice	—	65	65
1997-98	Wheat	767	69	836
1998-99	Paddy	2186	—	2186
1998-99	Rice	—	61	61
1998-99	Wheat	739	155	894

[English]

Increase in Age of Superannuation

2070. SHRI RAM KRISHNA BABA PATIL:
SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE:

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

(a) whether the Government have rejected the proposal of the Delhi University for raising the age of superannuation of non-teaching staff; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The benefit of enhanced age of retirement of 62 years is applicable only to the teaching staff in the Universities/Colleges and also to such of the non-teaching staff as enjoyed parity with teachers in respect of pay and other service conditions and whose age of superannuation prior to the revision was 60 years.

Delhi Traffic Police

Haldia Unit of H.F.C. 272

2071. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to close Haldia unit of HFC; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) and (b) A revival package for Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) was initially formulated in the year 1995 which envisaged a limited revamp of its functional units. The revamp of Haldia Project has not been found to be techno-economically viable. Accordingly, it has been decided to close/hive off the Haldia Project of HFC. The modalities of its implementation are to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and final sanction of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction which is a quasi-judicial authority.

Delhi Traffic Police

Removal of Black Films

2072. SHRI TASLIMUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Traffic Police has issued order for removal of black films on the glasses of four wheelers i.e. car, buses etc.;

(b) if so, the number of vehicles from which the black films have been removed by the Delhi Traffic Police;

(c) whether a number of vehicles are running on roads of Delhi with black film on the glasses of cars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken against such guilty Delhi Traffic Police officials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Delhi Police had in April, 1998 issued a press release for launching a drive against use of such films on the wind screen and glasses of vehicles as contravene provisions contained in rule 100 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

(b) During the period from May, 1998 to February, 1999, 45,356 vehicles were challaned in Delhi for such

violations and compounding charges amounting to about Rs. 44 lakhs were realized from the offenders.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The drive against use of black film in violation of the statutory provisions is a continuing process.

[Translation]

273-76

Grants for Schools

2073. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide grants to the various State Governments for establishment of new Schools under the Intensive Regional Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the names of the states requested for grants; and

(c) the funds allocated to the State Governments under this scheme during 1997-98, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development are not administering any scheme under the name of "Intensive Regional Development Scheme". However, under the "Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities", financial assistance is provided to State Governments for providing basic infrastructure and facilities, including establishment of new primary/upper primary school in areas of concentration of educationally backward minorities. Similarly, under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), funds are released to the State Implementation Societies for various activities aimed at universalisation of primary education in the selected districts, including the component of establishment of new schools. The position of funds released to the various states during 1997-98 based on the proposals received from them under the aforesaid schemes are indicated in the *Statement*.

Statement

Statement indicating the funds allocated to the State Governments under the Scheme of Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities and District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) during 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State/ Union Territories	Funds released during 1997-98	
		District Primary Education Programme	Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3419.00	42.91
2.	Assam	3037.00	37.50
3.	Bihar	1802.00	0.00
4.	Gujarat	1056.00	0.00
5.	Haryana	3667.00	15.08
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1874.00	Scheme not operative
7.	Karnataka	6018.00	76.76
8.	Kerala	3013.00	117.98
9.	Madhya Pradesh	11783.00	9.30
10.	Maharashtra	5000.00	0.00
11.	Orissa	2115.00	Scheme not operative
12.	Rajasthan	50.00	55.60
13.	Tamil Nadu	4340.00	0.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	5450.00	597.87
15.	West Bengal	1900.00	146.00
TOTAL:		54524.00	1099.00

Note:— (1) DPEP is operative in the above mentioned 14 States and introduction of the programme in Rajasthan is in the pipeline.

(2) Area Intensive Scheme is operative in 13 States and 3 Union Territories, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

[English]

Currency Notes

Fake Notes

2074. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fake Note racket flourishes in Mangalore" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated January 15, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop circulation of fake currency notes?

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

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation and detection of crimes as well as the prevention of crimes are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments.

The Reserve Bank of India issues press releases, from time to time, to enable the public to distinguish between genuine and fake currency notes. In order to combat counterfeiting, currency notes are now printed with additional security features. The Central Bureau of Investigation has created a Special Unit for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes. The Border Security Force has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant so as to ensure that such currency notes are not smuggled into the country.

Bullet Proof Jackets

2075. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Recovery of bullet-proof jackets baffles Police" appearing in the 'Delhi Times' dated November 25, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some jackets were recovered from the farmhouse in Mehrauli, Delhi; and

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

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

(b) Delhi Police recovered seven bullet proof jackets in four separate cases registered during 1998.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, three out of the seven bullet proof jackets recovered during 1998 were seized from C-30, Mayfair Gardens, Hauz Khas, New Delhi. Investigation into this case has been transferred to Central Bureau of Investigation.

Chanelling Energies of Youth Development

2076. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are finalising the modalities of a new scheme to be launched in January for channelling the energies of young for nation-building with the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any concrete programme of action plan has been prepared by the both Central and State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which the modalities have been finalised; and

(e) the total amount likely to be spent in implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Formation of Technologies of Pesticides

2077. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of environment friendly formulation technologies of pesticides which have been developed by the Institute of Pesticides Formulation Technology, Gurgaon, as on date;

(b) whether the developed technologies has been commercialised;

(c) if so, the norms of such transfer, party/product-wise;

(d) whether the Institute has identified advance sophisticated plant and machinery for such insecticides/pesticides formulations in the country for small sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of manufacturers and tentative cost thereof: and

(f) if so, the details of such machinery alongwith details of supplier and tentatively cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) The various environment friendly pesticide formulation technologies developed by the Institute are as follows:

- (i) Suspension Concentrates (SC)
- (ii) Concentrated Emulsion (EW) and Micro Emulsion
- (iii) Suspo Emulsions (SE)
- (iv) Water Dispersible Granules (WG)
- (v) Controlled Release Formulation (CS)

These formulation technologies are free from dust, easy to handle, less phyto toxicity, non flammable and are safer to handle.

(b) The various formulation technologies which have been commercialised by the Institute are as follows:

- Carbendazin 85 WG (Fungicide)
- Sulphur 52 SC (Fungicide)
- Isoproturon 75 WG (Herbicide)
- Monocrotophos 36 SL/ME (Insecticide)
- Endosulfan 50 EC (Insecticide)

Malathion 50 WP (Insecticide)

Chlorpyriphos 40 SC (Insecticide)

Captan 83 WG (Fungicide)

Cypermethrin 40 WG (Insecticide)

Isoproturon/Diclofopmethyl

25:25 WP (Herbicide)

Isoproturon 80/75 WG (Herbicide)

The terms of technology transfer are based on approved prevailing tariff rate of the IPFT at the time of technology transfer. Scope of technology transfer includes demonstration of the process to the sponsor, supply of samples of the product, conforming to the specifications of the product.

(c) to (f) The Institute has identified advanced sophisticated plant and machinery for the manufacture of Suspension Concentrates and Water Dispersible Granules formulations. It has also identified the manufacturers of the desired plant and machinery in the world market. The required plant and machinery is not being manufactured in the country.

Consumption of Sugar

2078. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita consumption of sugar during Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan periods separately; and

(b) the demand/supply position and the rate increased in PDS and open market during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The per capita consumption of sugar excluding the sugar imported under Open General Licence (OGL) at the end of Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan periods was 12.30 Kgs./annum and 14.60 Kgs/annum respectively.

(b) While the quota for Public Distribution system (PDS) is fixed, the demand requirement of freesale quota is determined having regard to available stocks, prevailing prices, availability of other sweetening agents etc. and

accordingly releases are made. During the terminal year of the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan Periods, 105.09 and 136.40 lakh tonnes of sugar were released.

The rates of sugar for PDS as also open market during the terminal years of the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan periods are given below:

	(Rs. per Kg.)	
	PDS	Open Market
Terminal year of Seventh Plan period	5.25	8.10 to 9.20
Terminal year of Eighth Plan period	10.50	13.00 to 15.00

[*Translation*]

Urban Infrastructure Projects of Bihar

2079. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from Bihar seeking World Bank assistance for Urban infrastructure projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. On the basis of available information no proposal has been received from Government of Bihar seeking World Bank assistance for urban infrastructure projects.

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

[*English*]

Purchase of Computer

2080. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has requested to release the funds for purchase of a computer and its

accessories to be installed at the commissionerate of Civil Supplies under Centrally sponsored scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Kerala had sought financial assistance of Rs. 1.50 lakhs under the Central Plan scheme of "Training Research and Monitoring" for purchase of a computer and its accessories for networking of the office of Commissioner of Civil Supplies in Kerala with the National Informatics Centres. The proposal has been approved and sanctions issued recently for release of Rs. 1.35 lakhs as first instalment of the Grant-in-aid.

U.G.C.'s Coaching Scheme

2081. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the UGC's Coaching Scheme;

(b) whether this scheme applies to backward classes and other weaker sections;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of students coached during 1997 and 1998 examination-wise and the financial allocation made and the actual expenditure incurred during the said period, University-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Scheme (a) of Coaching Classes for competitive examinations for Weaker Sections amongst the educationally backward minorities, and (b) remedial coaching scheme for the benefit of the students belonging to Weaker Section of the Society particularly for those belonging to the SC/ST are being conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The selected

Universities organise coaching classes to prepare persons belonging to minority Communities to enable them to compete in various competitive examination for recruitment to different services and for admission to various courses.

Coaching Scheme for SC/ST provides remedial teaching for improving the academic skills and linguistic proficiency in various subjects and raising their level of comprehension and to reduce their failure and dropout rate.

(d) A *Statement* in respect of the Scheme of Coaching Classes for educationally backward minority communities is annexed.

Guidelines regarding UGC Coaching Scheme for SC/ST provide that minimum 100 students should be covered and as far as possible all subjects should be covered depending upon the assistance available under the Scheme. Assistance of Rs. 78.00 lakhs and Rs. 107.00 lakhs has been provided to Universities/Colleges during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

Statement

Scheme of Coaching Classes for Educationally Backward Minority Communities

S.No.	Name of the Universities	No. of students Coached during the year		Financial Allocation	Actual expenditure incurred by the Universities	
		1996-97 & 1997-98	1996-97 & 1997-98		1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Aligarh Muslim University Aligarh - 202 002 (U.P.)	390	—	2.50 lakh per annum	2,00,000	—
2.	Allahabad University Allahabad-211 001 (U.P.)	82	136	-do-	1,71,478	2,00,000
3.	Barkatullah Vishwavidalaya Bhopal (M.P.)	152	—	-do-	2,08,434	—
4.	Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya Indore (MP)	101	43	-do-	2,50,000	2,50,000
5.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Agra (U.P.)	36	29	-do-	2,00,000	2,00,000
6.	Gauhati University, Gauhati (Assam).	03	—	-do-	1,00,000	—
7.	Gorakhpur University Gorakhpur (U.P.)	355	372	-do-	2,50,000	2,50,000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi	27	116	-do-	2,43,400	2,50,000
9.	Jammu University Jammu (J&K)	27	—	2.50 lakh per annum	2,28,047	2,36,559
10.	Lucknow University Lucknow (U.P.)	107	86	-do-	2,50,000	2,00,000
11.	South Gujarat University Surat (Gujrat)	94	—	-do-	—	—
12.	Kakatiya University Vidyaranyaपुरी, Warangal (AP)	102	142	-do-	1,50,000	2,50,000
13.	Calicut University Calicut	298	—	-do-	—	—
14.	Nagpur University Nagpur	24	—	-do-	—	—
15.	L.N. Mithila University Kameshwaranagar, Darbhanga	46	45	-do-	—	1,51,954
16.	Kashmir University Srinagar (J&K)	—	15	-do-	—	—

Illegal Construction
2082-83

Unauthorised Encroachment

2082. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Government colonies in which unauthorised religious structures have been came up on the Government land; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) Notices under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 have been issued in most of the cases. However, encroachments could not be removed due to non-completion of legal formalities required under the rules, litigations and non-availability of Police Force.

Statement*Details of Colonies where Unauthorised Religious Structures have come up*

City	Name of Colonies	Name of Colonies
Delhi	Baba Kharak Singh Marg Kanpur Road DIZ Area Aram Bagh Rouse Avenue Area Press Road and Press Lane Ahilya Bai Road Turkman Road Minto Road Jahangir Road Barron Road Tagore Road Mahawat Khan Road Kalibari Marg Bharati Nagar Kasturba Gandhi Marg Jam Nagar House Mohammadpur	R.K. Puram Vasant Vihar Nanakpura I.B. Colony, S.P. Marg Chanakyapuri Netaji Nagar Sarojini Nagar Nauroji Nagar Kidwai Nagar Laxmlbai Nagar Timarpur Dev Nagar Sadique Nagar Srinivas Puri Kasturba Nagar Pushp Vihar Thyagraj Nagar HUDCO Complex, Khel Gaon Marg
Ghaziabad	Kamala Nehru Nagar	
Mumbai	Antop Hill Sehar Colony	
Nagpur	Seminary Hills	
Calcutta	Sentragachi Tolly Gunge Singhee Park Doverlane Extn. K.B. Block and K.C. Block, Salt Lake.	

Buffer Stock

2083. **SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of buffer stock held by each State at the end of 1998 for distribution through Public Distribution System foodgrain-wise;

(b) whether Kerala has sought an additional supply of foodgrains for distribution through PDS; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to supply additional requirements of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The Buffer Stocks of foodgrains are not maintained State-wise. However, the stock position of wheat and rice in the Central Pool maintained by Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on 1st January, 99 as compared to the minimum Buffer Stocking levels

prescribed for 1st January, 99 are as under:—

Statement

	(Million Tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat	Total
Stock as on 1.1.99	11.7	12.7	24.4
Buffer Stocking Norms as on 1.1.99	8.4	8.4	16.8

(b) Yes Sir,

(c) Kerala State is currently being allotted an additional quantity of 20,000 M.T. rice and 15,000 M.T. wheat per month at the rate applicable for the families above the poverty line over and above their normal Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) quotas.

Government Press

289-90

2084. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government Presses in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to expand/modernise some of the Presses and also to set up new Presses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the places identified therefor, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) There are 21 Government of India Presses, location-wise list of which is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal for setting up of new Presses. However, partial modernisation of the Government of India Press (Letter Press Unit), Faridabad, Haryana at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.50 crores has been approved.

List of Government of India Presses under Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment (Location-Wise)

1. Govt. of India Press (Photolitho Unit), Minto Road, New Delhi.
2. Govt. of India Press (Letter Press Unit) Minto Road, New Delhi.
3. Govt. of India Press, Mayapuri, New Delhi.
4. Govt. of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Govt. of India Press (Letter Press Unit) Faridabad.
6. Govt. of India Press (Photolitho Unit) Faridabad
7. Govt. of India Press, Allgarh.
8. Govt. of India Press, Nilokheri.
9. Govt. of India Press, Shimla.
10. Govt. of India Text Book Press, Chandigarh.
11. Govt. of India Press (Publication Unit), Santragachi, Howrah
12. Govt. of India Press (Forms Unit), Santragachi, Howrah.
13. Govt. of India Press, Temple Street, Calcutta.
14. Govt. of India Press, Bhubaneshwar.
15. Govt. of India Press, Coimbatore.
16. Govt. of India Press, Koratty.
17. Govt. of India Text Book Press, Mysore.
18. Govt. of India Staff College, Wellington.
19. Govt. of India Press, Nashik.
20. Govt. of India Patent Printing Press, Mumbai.
21. Govt. of India Press, Gangtok.

Visit of Study Teams to Bihar

2085. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Union Government have recently sent any study teams to Bihar to assess the law and order problems in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of reports submitted by the study teams; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) A Central Team had visited Bihar from February 1 to 3, 1999 to make an on-the-spot assessment of the situation following the massacre of 22 persons at Shankarbigha Tola, PS Mehandia, District Jehanabad. The Team observed that the situation was still tense and the possibility of such carnages could not be ruled out unless a multi-faceted approach was adopted to tackle the ongoing violence.

After assessing, *inter alia*, the law and order situation in the State, Bihar has been placed under President's rule by invoking the provisions of article 356 of the Constitution of India with effect from 12.2.1999. Steps are being taken to contain the situation prevailing on account of the activities of various senas/extremist groups, etc.

Rehabilitation Package for Surrendered Extremists

2086. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any rehabilitation package for the surrendered extremists of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) A scheme for Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation of militants in the North East is under active consideration of the Government. It is proposed to implement the scheme shortly.

Nagarpalika in Scheduled Areas

2087. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the legislation for extending the provisions of the 74th Amendment Act to Scheduled Areas have been prepared;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the name of the states and the Union Territories which have not given their comments so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The reason for delay in bringing the necessary legislations for extension of 74th Amendment Act to Scheduled Areas is the non-receipt of comments from some of the States having Scheduled Areas on the report of the Committee set up by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and employment in the matter.

(c) and (d) There are eight States having Scheduled Areas. A copy of the report of the Committee constituted by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment on extending the provisions of the constitution (74th Amendment) Act to Scheduled Areas was forwarded to these States for comments. Comments from five States have since been received and the remaining three States viz. Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan are yet to respond. The matter has been taken up at the level of Chief Ministers for early submission of comments of these three states.

DPEP in North East States

2088. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Primary Education Programme funded by the World Bank has been implemented in all the North Eastern States except Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide funds for implementing this project in the said States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. In the North-East District Primary Education Programme has been implemented only in Assam.

(b) and (c) District Primary Education Programme is funded by external assistance. External funding agencies have not shown willingness to provide funds for the programme in these states. For reason of inadequate resource availability the programme could not be expanded with domestic resource. Subject to availability of funds the requests of North Eastern States will be kept in view while considering expansion of programme.

[Translation]

2093 - 96

Foreign Assistance for Housing Sector

2089. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether housing projects have started with foreign assistance during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the countries provided assistance; and

(d) the manner in which this assistance has been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Lines of external grant/credit have been extended by Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), Federal Republic of Germany and Asian Development Bank; Manila to Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), National Housing Bank (NHB) and Housing Development Financial Corporation (HDFC), for weaker section housing and rehabilitation of victims of natural calamities. Details of KfW and ADB projects are given in *Statement-I* and II respectively.

Statement I

Foreign Assistance for Housing Availed from Government of Germany through Kreditanstalt Für Wiederaufbau (KfW)

HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. (HUDCO)

HUDCO-KfW IV

Under this line of grant assistance of DM 35 million, programmes for urban and rural weaker section housing and rehabilitation housing measures for victims of 1993 Latur (Maharashtra) earthquake have been undertaken. 75667 dwelling units in addition to 1319 earthquake rehabilitation units have been financed under this project. This project has since been completed.

HUDCO-KfW V

Under this line of grant assistance DM 35.34 million (including balance of DM 0.34 million transferred from HUDCO-KfW), urban and rural weaker section housing and Integrated Low Cost Sanitation and slum improvement through NGOs have been undertaken. So far, DM 34.54 million has been received under this line and 99731 dwelling units included under this programme.

HUDCO-KfW VI

Under this line of grant/loan assistance of DM 550 million (DM 30 million as grant and DM 20 million as loan), urban and rural weaker section housing and rehabilitation housing measures for AP Cyclone victims have been undertaken. So far, DM 16.24 million have been received under this line. Of this, DM 8.24 million has been utilized for financing 40,000 EWS dwelling units and DM 8.24 million for 13425 rehabilitation units for Cyclone victims.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION (HDFC)

HDFC-KfW II & HDFC-KfW III

Under HDFC-KfW II line of grant assistance, DM 30 million have been extended to HDFC to finance programmes for weaker section housing and for improvement of complementary infrastructure of Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations.

Under HDFC-KfW III line of grant assistance, HDFC shall use a partial amount of DM 28 million of the financial

contribution exclusively to refinance loans (sub-loans) to be granted by HDFC country-wide to Governmental and Non-Governmental housing agencies for the purpose of financing low-cost housing programme for EWS including complementary infrastructure measures. HDFC may use the balance amount of DM 2 million exclusively to refinance income generative loans to the EWS population through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

The above lines have been used for providing loans to the EWS beneficiaries in the State of Kerala, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. An amount of Rs. 11 crore was sanctioned during 1996-97 covering 11,232 tenements. In the year 1997-98 an amount of Rs. 16.00 crores was sanctioned covering 47,892 tenements.

Statement-II

Foreign Assistance for Housing Availed from Asian Development Bank

I. Asian Development Bank, Manila in the year 1996-97 has extended a loan of US\$ 100 million each to the following organisations to implement India Housing Finance Project. Agreement in this respective organisations. The loan has been guaranteed towards principal and interest by the Govt. of India.

1. HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. (HUDCO)

An amount of US\$ 50 million has been received against sanctioned loan of US\$ 100 million. The loan is intended to be used for financing schemes of State Housing Boards and Local Bodies, Workshed-cum-housing schemes, slum improvement schemes and cooperative housing schemes.

2. NATIONAL HOUSING BANK (NHB)

An amount of US \$ 50 million has been received against sanctioned loan of US \$ 100 million. The objective of this project is to extend financial assistance (sub-loans) to qualified enterprises viz. Housing Finance Institutions (HFIs), Community Based Financial Institutions (CBOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) etc, where at least 50% of the loan proceeds are required to be used for financing households with income level upto Rs. 4500 per month.

3. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION (HDFC)

An amount of US\$ 60 million has been received against sanctioned loan of US\$ 100 million. The loan is to be used for extending financial assistance to Government cooperatives, corporate bodies and individuals.

II. Asian Development Bank, Manila in the year 1996-97 has extended a loan of US\$ 20 million to Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) for extending sub-loans to qualified individuals in the State of Karnataka. 50% of this loan is meant for individuals under the Low-income Group (LIG) category. Complete amount available under this line has been availed by HDFC.

Welfare Schemes for Orphans in Bihar

2090. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD): Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are implementing any scheme for the welfare of the orphans in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance being provided by the Government for the implementation of said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir, The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is not implementing any scheme for the welfare of orphans in Bihar.

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

[English] 2-16-99 2:07:00

Complaints for All Indian Schools Cricket Team

2091. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Junior Indian School Cricket team had visited UK for playing informal/junior Cricket test there in 1996 and 1998;

(b) if so, whether there have been some complaints relating to non-payment of money/awards received from UK and other places to the players;

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

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) For visits of 1996 and 1998, Government has received complaints from few persons mainly relating to non-payment of money/awards received from U.K. and other places to the players.

(d) The Federation was asked for details and have stated that in 1996 no money/awards were received in UK for the players. However, the Indian High Commission in London invited the whole team to the High Commission and gave 300 pounds to each member, besides one watch and one set of sheaffears pen to each member of the team. The Indian School Team was also given awards in Abu Dhabi (UAE) by members of Indian community, where one exhibition match was played. These Awards/prizes were received by each member of the team individually during a function organised by them. During 1998 no money/awards were given to any member of the Indian Team by any one. 297-98

Demands of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers

2092. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SABNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 105 on 23.2.99 and state:

(a) whether any bilateral negotiations at the level of the Chairman-cum-Minister have since been held to settle the demands of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers;

(b) if so, the details of the conclusions arrived at;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to hold any such high-level bilateral meeting soon; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be held and the details of the persons invited to participate in the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have informed that no request for bilateral negotiations at the level of Chairman-cum-Minister to settle the demands of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers has been received from Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh (Jagat). However, a letter dated 22.2.99 from Shri Jaysinh M. Chauhan, M.P. addressed to the Minister for Human Resource Development has now been received after the rally of Adhyapak Sangh on 26.2.99.

(c) and (d) The Adhyapak Sangh are being advised to discuss their demands with KVS authorities and also

utilise the forum of Joint Consultative Machinery before any negotiation at the level of the Minister is considered in future.

Foreigners in Goa 298

2093. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreigners staying in Goa during the last three years;

(b) the number of foreigners who married with Goans and other Indians;

(c) whether these foreigners have not changed their nationality after marriage;

(d) the maximum time for their stay in India;

(e) whether any action has been taken by the Government against those foreigners who are staying in the country beyond the prescribed limit;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) As per available information 2053 registered foreign nationals were residing in Goa as on 31st December 1998.

(b) and (c) Central Government does not maintain data regarding foreigners married to Indians. During the last three years, nine foreign nationals married to Indian and residing in Goa applied for Indian citizenship Out of these, three applications have been accepted so far and the remaining six are under process.

(d) As per policy the foreigners married to Indians can generally stay in India on long term basis and the State Governments are empowered to grant them five years extension of stay at a time.

(e) to (g) Powers of the Central Government to identify, detect and deport foreign nationals residing illegally in the country have been delegated to the State Governments and UT Administrations and no data in this regard is Centrally maintained. Instructions have been issued/reiterated to the State Govts./U.T. Administrations, from time to time to intensify efforts to identify and deport foreign nationals staying in the country illegally.

304 - 300 2000

Computerised Data Bank of Habitual Offenders

2094. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY:
 SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
 SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU:
 SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK :
 SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
 SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT :
 SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH :
 SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have experimented with a novel project of compiling a computerised data bank of habitual offenders;

(b) if so, whether any album of such offenders has been provided to all the States;

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

(d) the number of incidents of dacoities, robberies, murders, thefts and other crimes occurred in trains during the last year till date, State-wise and crime-wise;

(e) the number of cases solved and number of persons arrested/punished;

(f) whether the Government pay compensation to the affected persons;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether State Governments have been providing help to check such incidents;

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

(j) the concrete steps taken by the Union Government to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The computerisation of data pertaining to important criminals has been done under the Crime Criminals Information System (CCIS) since 1994. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the nodal agency for this purpose. Habitual offenders' data is part of the total scheme. The present application software does not have provision for photographs. However, all other data of offenders is available at the NCRB for consultation by States.

(d) and (e) Available information in regard to incidence of dacoity, robbery and burglary in trains during the year 1998 is given in the enclosed statement. The number of cases charge-sheeted in connection with dacoity, robbery and burglary in trains during this period is given below :

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Burglary
1998	30	66	1

The information relating to number of persons arrested and punished for committing these crimes during the year 1998 is not yet available.

(f) and (g) Compensation is provided by the Railways only to those persons who are killed/injured in train accidents.

(h) to (j) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes in running trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. The Central Government has been advising the State Governments from time to time, to take necessary measures to ensure the safety of passengers and their belongings during train journeys. The measures suggested by the Central Government include, *inter alia*, the need for regular meetings between the GRP and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), posting of mobile police force in running trains, improvement in coordination between the police escort and the railway staff, removal of unauthorised hawkers, urchins and other undesirable elements, etc.

Statement*Incidence of Dacoity, Robbery and Burglary in Trains during 1998*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Dacoity	Robbery	Burglary	Remarks (Figs. are Upto the Month of
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	12	0	November
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	October
3.	Assam	5	10	20	October
4.	Bihar	NA	NA	NA	NA
5.	Goa	0	0	0	
6.	Gujarat	4	21	0	
7.	Haryana	1	1	0	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	October
10.	Karnataka	2	4	0	
11.	Kerala	1	4	0	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3	15	0	November
13.	Maharashtra	16	63	0	
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	November
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	August
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	November
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Orissa	2	9	2	September
19.	Punjab	0	1	0	
20.	Rajasthan	1	5	0	November
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	November
22.	Tamilnadu	0	6	1	
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	32	55	0	November
25.	West Bengal	36	48	0	November
Total (States)		108	254	23	
26.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	November
30.	Delhi	1	0	0	
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	
Total (UTs)		1	0	0	
Total (All-India)		109	254	23	

Source: Monthly Crime Statistics

- Note:
1. Figures are provisional
 2. NA stands for Not Available.
 3. Figs. of Daman & Diu exclude March to June and October Data.
 4. Figures of Pondicherry exclude November Data.

Article 356

2095. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation including Punjab in sub-committee of Inter State Council to discuss the issue of Article 356 of the Constitution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) According to available information, no representation for including Punjab in the Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council to discuss the issue of article 356 of the Constitution of India has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Genetically Modified Crop

2096. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHLE PATIL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Genetically-Modified Crop" can offer higher yields from fewer resources and reduce the need for spraying harmful pesticides.

(b) if so, the steps being taken during the last three years to encourage cultivation of Genetically-Modified crops alongwith the names of such crops which are already being cultivated; and

(c) the benefits of cultivating such crops?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes Sir, genetic engineering techniques provide the means to create novel species incorporating unique traits for agronomic practices. Over the past couple of years, crops have developed intrinsic pest and pathogen resistance. Plants transformed with BT gene impart resistance to the attack of broad spectrum of insect pests, thereby resulting in higher yields without increasing the area.

(b) In view of above, concerted efforts have been made during the last 3-4 years to generate various plant

species by incorporating BT gene. At the moment no genetically modified crop has been released for commercial use. However, a number of crops like tobacco, rice, cotton, mustard, potato, brinjal and cauliflower are being evaluated under field conditions to generate environmental safety data.

(c) there are ecological and economic benefits from such crops in terms of soil fertility, impact on non-target species, higher yield, savings on pesticides sprays and value addition.

[Translation]

Chief Secretaries' Meeting

2097. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had convened a meeting of the Chief Secretaries of States to discuss the prices of essential commodities;

(b) if so, the details and outcome of the discussions thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) A Meeting of the Chief Secretaries of all States/Union Territories was convened by the Cabinet Secretary on 7.11.98 at New Delhi to review the price situation of essential commodities in the country. The meeting discussed various aspects of the price rise and reached certain conclusion. A summary of the conclusions arrived at the meeting is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) The Government has accorded the highest priority to the control and stabilisation of prices of essential commodities. Apart from certain long term measures to increase the production of essential goods imports of items which are in short supply like pulses and onions have been placed under OGL at zero percent import duty and duty on the import of edible oils has been reduced to 15 percent from 25 percent in order to augment the total availability of these items. The export of onions was banned from 14.10.98. The ban has been lifted on 9.2.99 subject to a quantitative ceiling of 25,000 MTs per month for the next three months. Some of the essential

commodities like rice, wheat, sugar palmolein and kerosene are also supplied through public distribution at below market prices. Stringent actions are being taken by the State/U.T. Governments against hoarders, black marketeers and other indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act.

Statement

Meeting of Chief Secretaries of States/UTs taken by the Cabinet Secretary on 7.11.98 at New Delhi.

In pursuance of a decision taken recently by the Prime Minister in a meeting with the Group of Ministers, the Cabinet Secretary today held a meeting with the Chief Secretaries of State Governments and Union Territories to review the situation arising out of the recent increase in the prices of some essential commodities. The meeting took note of the abnormal increase in the prices and discussed measures, both short term and otherwise, to bring down prices and to avoid a reoccurrence of the problem. After a detailed review of the situation, the meeting reach the following conclusion:—

- (1) In the light of the damage caused to seedlings for the late kharif crop of onions, it was felt that the ban on their export, which currently is valid till 30th November, 1998, may be extended till the 31st January, 1999.
- (2) Restrictions on the movement of essential commodities including informal restrictions need to be lifted in the interest of their free flow throughout the country.
- (3) Stringent action should be taken against hoarders and blackmarketeers under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act. It was noted that necessary powers in this regard already stand delegated to the State Governments and Union Territories and they should invoke these powers whenever warranted.
- (4) Market intervention operations should be undertaken by the State Governments and Union Territories as last resort in a transparent manner so as to ensure that the maximum benefits are available to the vulnerable and weaker sections of the

society. Where necessary, the Central Government would be prepared to consider grant of financial assistance for this purpose on matching basis to the State Governments.

- (5) In addition to the above immediate measures, the meeting felt that action should be taken to improve the crop forecasting system so that crop production estimates are as accurate as possible. In this connection, the State Governments and Union Territories have an important role to play by way of input for the crop forecasts. It is essential therefore that they take urgent action in this regard. A joint monitoring mechanism will be set up between the Central and State Governments to make real times assessment of surpluses and deficits and to plan in response thereof. Towards this, the Government will set up a National Forecasting Centre for Agricultural Products.
- (6) Decisions on import to cover the anticipated gap between demand and supply should be taken at the stage of forecast prepared on the basis of area sown. That is to say such decision should be taken 3-4 months in advance of harvest. It was also felt that such imports should be undertaken on a centralised basis by Central Government agencies and not separately by individual State agencies.
- (7) Storage facilities at present are inadequate and are not evenly distributed throughout the country. Building up of storage capacity in different parts of the country is therefore, absolutely essential and an action plan should be immediately drawn up to augment capacities in this regard. States maintaining control on cold storages should repeal their cold storage orders. In order to improve country storage technology for agricultural products, Ministry of Agriculture will set up a high level expert group to identify the necessary policy measures.
- (8) Food Processing facilities also need to be strengthened in a big way. This will not only ensure that the loss presently due to wastage of vegetables etc. is avoided but also that such commodities are available processed from in times of shortage.
- (9) The distribution machinery in the States and Union Territories need to be tightened so

as to minimise the scope for any kind of diversion of stocks. Alongwith this the price monitoring mechanism in the States and Union Territories need to be strengthened on a priority basis to cover the rural areas also.

- (10) Additional allocations of rice, wheat and palmolein requested by some of the State Governments were agreed to.
- (11) State Government have been flexibility to exempt any edible oil from the provisions of the Compulsory Packaging Order so that no undue hardship is caused to consumers.
- (12) A special steady group will be set up to identify measures required to meet the needs of north-east States and Island territories regarding the supply of essential commodities.

[English]

Public Distribution System

2098. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "PDS doesn't work against poverty, says World Bank" appearing in the 'Times of India' New Delhi, dated February 9th, 1999;

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

(c) whether the Government have any plans to improve the delivery system and lower the cost incurring on the administrative machinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the news item there may be a strong case for targetting food subsidies to reach out to the needy rather than operating a universal PSD at huge costs and little benefit to the poor.

The huge PDS network can play a more meaningful role if it ensures availability of food for the poor households. The Targeted Public Distribution System

(TPDS) with its focus on the poor is a step towards this end, PDS could reach out more meaningfully to the needy if the non-poor are excluded from access to it. The proposal to bar access to the PDS for the affluent sections of the society was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers on Basic Minimum Services held during 4-5 July, 1996. The Conference, however, felt that as a large section of the population, who may be above the poverty line (APL) are also at present getting the benefit of the PDS, suitable measures should be taken to ensure availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices to this section. In the Conference of Chief Ministers and State Food Ministers held on 30.9.1997 to review the implementation of TPDS the general consensus was that there should be no reduction in the allocation to the APL families. It has not been possible to exclude the non-poor from PDS because of the lack of consensus on this issue.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have brought out a Model Citizens' Charter for TPDS for adoption by the States Union Territories with the objective of providing services under PDS in a more transparent and caring manner.

With a view to lower the costs incurred on the delivery system including the administrative machinery the expenditure incurred by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is constantly under review. Following steps are being taken to reduce the expenditure.

- (i) FCI is trying to achieve average capacity utilisation of 75% to reduce storage cost even though the procurement of grain is seasonal.
- (ii) The procurement and movement ratio is being adhered to the norm of 1:1.35 to reduce the expenditure in freight.
- (iii) Continuous efforts are being made to reduce shortages in handling of foodgrains.
- (iv) Efforts are also being made to reduce the incurrance of Railway demurrage charges.
- (v) Excess stocks are being released in the open market at prices above the Central Issue Price (CIP).
- (vi) Issue of old stocks, disposing of C&D category of stocks and introducing direct supervision on movement of foodgrains to control the incidence of transit and storage shortages.

- (vii) Machine stitching of gunnies and handling of foodgrains in 50 bags to reduce the storage and transit loss.
- (viii) Ensuring strict quality control measures during procurement storage.
- (ix) The FCI is controlling the administrative cost by following minimum re-recruitment of resultant entry level post irrespective of the increased volume of operations.

[Translation]

Tourism

Misbehaviour with Foreign Tourists

2099. DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police personnel and touts do not behave decently with the tourists at the airports as a result of which the image of India and Indians get tarnished in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of incidents of indecent behaviour with the tourists came to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty in this regard; and

(d) the action taken to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Some instances of mis-behaviour with foreign tourists by the police and immigration officials posted at the airports have come to notice. According to available information, 152 such cases involving immigration officials were reported at the five international airports situated in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram, 14 officials were suspended in this connection. Besides police cases were registered against four officials.

The police personnel deployed at the airports are under the disciplinary purview of the respective State Governments. Information relating to allegations of

indecent behaviour against such personnel is not maintained at the Central level.

With a view to avoiding inconvenience to foreign tourists at the international airports, various measures have been taken. These include, *inter alia*, identification of areas where malpractices take place; steps to remove delays in clearance of tourists at the checking counters; provision of hot-line to help tourists to contact the senior most official, and providing special training on behavioural management to concerned officials.

[English]

312-14

Edible Oil Industry

2100. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the impact of Vegetable Oil Products (Regulation) Order, 1998 on edible oil industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the capacity used by edible oil industry is below the installed capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve capacity utilisation of edible oil industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to reducing the areas of control and multiplicity of authorities, the new Order has helped in significantly reducing the cost of vegetable oil products particularly vanaspati.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The basic reason for the capacity utilisation of the edible oil industry being below the installed capacity is the shortage of raw-materials.

(e) Some of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve capacity utilisation of the edible oil industry are:—

- (i) Two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and Oilseed production Thrust Projects (OPTP) which were in operation till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme, namely, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP). This Scheme provides essential assistance to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology, with particular reference to mustard, groundnut, soyabean and sunflower.
- (ii) A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technology;
- (iii) Intensification of research efforts for increasing production of oilseeds.
- (iv) Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean and sunflower, exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin ricebran etc.
- (v) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.
- (vi) Assistance for oil palm development.
- (vii) Better incentive to producers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of major oilseeds.
- (viii) Identification of equipments of modernisation of processing units custom duty concessions on imports of certain equipments.

Central Assistance for Chandigarh

2101. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance was given to the Union Territory of Chandigarh by the Government to meet the deficit of its annual budget during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The entire Plan and Non-plan expenditures of the Union Territories (without legislatures) are met out of the Consolidated Fund of India. Hence, there is no requirement for providing further assistance to the Union Territories (without legislatures), including Chandigarh, to meet their Annual Budget deficit.

The actual expenditures for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and Budget provisions for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 in respect of the Union Territory of Chandigarh are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

	Actuals 1996-97	Actuals 1997-98	Budget Estimates 1998-99	Revised Estimates 1998-99	Budget Estimates 1999-2000
Non-Plan	367.02	484.86	485.74	583.56	589.00
Plan	100.20	121.17	130.58	137.76	143.64
Total	467.22	606.03	616.32	721.32	732.64

*[Translation]***Oilseed Crushing Industry**

2102. DR. SUSHIL INDORA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the optimum utilization of the installed capacity of oilseed crushing industry is not being made in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the percentage of the installed capacity used during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to give incentives to the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main reason for the installed capacity of the oilseed crushing industry not being utilised optimally is the shortage of raw-material. As per available information the overall annual capacity utilisation of oilseed crushing industry has been in the range of 30-35% in the last three years and in the current year.

(c) The Central Government do not provide any incentives specifically for the oilseed crushing industry.

*[English]***Fake Marks**

2103. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of a case of awarding fake marks to engineering students who were failed in that subject in Mumbai University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF

OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Manufacturing of Bulk Drug**

2104. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to handover the manufacturing of some bulk drugs to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main medicines of Allomenth therein and the reasons for decreasing production of these drugs; and

(d) whether the Cabinet Committee has approved the proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government have decided to dereserve and delicense the manufacture of five bulk drugs, namely, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Tetracycline, Oxytetracycline and Folic Acid which were hitherto reserved for production by public sector units only. The decrease in production of these drugs was due to stoppage of production by M/S. IDPL.

(d) Yes, Sir.

*[English]***Awareness about Fundamental Rights**

2105. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to implement recommendations contained in the J.S. Verma Committee

Interim Report to teach Fundamental Duties to the citizens of the country;

(b) if so, whether major changes have been proposed in the educational curricula at all levels to create more awareness among citizens about fundamental rights and duties; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Justice J.S. Verma Committee, in its Interim Report submitted to the Government, has emphasised a need for a fundamental transformation in the direction and approach to the curricula for teaching Fundamental Duties in schools and teacher education institutions. Views and comments of the State Governments/UT Administrations, educational institutions of repute, NGOs, autonomous bodies etc. have been sought on the interim recommendations of the Committee.

Residential Schools for the Girl Students

2106. SHRI BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided fund during 1997-98 and 1998-99 for establishment of residential schools for the girl-students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, whether this fund has been fully utilised;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Due to non-receipt of adequate complete proposals, the fund has not been fully utilised.

(d) All concerned State Governments and implementing agencies have been requested to send complete proposals.

Foreign Investment in Housing Sector

2107. SHRI VITHAL TUPE:
SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

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

(a) whether any proposal has been explored for foreign investment in Housing Sector during foreign visit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these proposals have been placed before the Cabinet for approval; and

(d) if so, the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (d) During the recent visit by Hon'ble Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment to USA, Canada and Europe, foreign investors took keen interest in investing in the housing & real estate sectors. Since foreign direct investment (FDI) is yet not permitted in the housing sector, it was not possible to give any positive reaction.

[Translation]

Overcharged by Drug Companies

2108. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
DR. SUSHIL INDORA:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to recover the overcharged amount from some drug manufacturing companies which charged more price than the fixed price;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the amount to be recovered from each of such companies separately; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the overcharged amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As and when overcharging cases come to the notice of the Government, necessary action to recover the overcharged amount under provisions of DPCO, 95 is initiated against the defaulter.

[English]

Projects Cleared by DDA

2109. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Urban panel flays DDA for violating urban regulations" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated February 4, 1999;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop violation of urban regulations by DDA?

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

(b) DDA has reported that the building plans of Radison Hotel were never submitted to its Building Section and hence there is no question of referring building plans of the Hotel to Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC) by DDA. The Building plans of NCUI were approved in February, 1976. The revised building plans were submitted on 5.8.1996 which were referred by Building Deptt. of DDA to DUAC. DUAC *vide* its letter dated 13.6.97 expressed its inability to react on the scheme as the same was substantially executed and observed that local body may act whatever they deem fit in the matter. The revised Building plans have not been sanctioned by the DDA.

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

Chief Ministers' Meeting for Security

2110. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting has been convened with Chief Ministers of Northern States to review the prevailing security scenario in their region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken to check the lawlessness in those States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Union Home Minister convened a Meeting of the Chief Ministers of Delhi, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan on 14.10.1998 to review the action being taken by these States to curb terrorist activities. The Meeting, among others, recommended setting up of Special Task Force to evolve and implement an Action Plan to identify and tackle the problems being created by terrorists and criminal gangs for coordinated operations against Inter-State criminals, greater coordination of intelligence and strategy, amending of old laws for effective countering of strategies adopted by criminals, and strengthening of State Police forces, etc. Concerned State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to implement the decisions taken at the meeting.

(c) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects, it is for concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to improve the law and order situation in the States. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorist operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of their activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocations for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

[*Translation*]**Infiltration**

2111. SHRI C.D. GAMIT:
SHRI M. RAJAIAH:
DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Bangladeshi infiltrators has doubled as compared to last year in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of Bangladeshi living illegally in the country;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(e) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry as to whether these intruders are affecting the social structure and creating terrorism;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government are contemplating to fence the Border; and

(h) if so, the time by which the fencing on the said border area is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, it is difficult to estimate the exact number of infiltrators from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(d) It is difficult to correctly estimate the expenditure being incurred by Government on Bangladesh infiltrators in India.

(e) and (f) Government is aware that illegal immigration of Bangladeshi nationals has contributed to

change in demographic complexion in areas bordering Bangladesh. This is also a cause for social tension due to limited economic opportunities. Reports also indicate that terrorists have been using these areas for negative activities.

(g) and (h) 896 kms of border fence has been sanctioned on Indo-Bangladesh border and 795.52 kms of fence has been completed upto 31-12-98. The target date for completion of this work is March 2001.

Drinking Water Scheme

2112. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD):
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the details of drinking water schemes pending with the Union Government as on date, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government for their clearance; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for drinking water schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Water Supply is a State subject. The Central Government, only supplement their efforts by providing financial and technical assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers for sanctioning water supply schemes (ARWSP) have been delegated to the States in 1995 and powers to approve submission schemes have also been delegated in 1998.

(b) Does not arise?

(c) A *Statement* is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise allocation of funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years

Sl.No.	State/UT	Allocation (Rs. in Crore)		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66.180	79.640	99.205
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.000	14.440	36.230
3.	Assam	20.260	24.380	61.200
4.	Bihar	77.950	93.800	117.685
5.	Goa	1.890	2.270	2.838
6.	Gujarat	41.970	49.870	58.605
7.	Haryana	24.410	27.360	21.909
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.310	15.960	19.671
9.	& K	36.880	44.310	55.146
10.	Karnataka	60.870	73.250	91.774
11.	Kerala	30.950	37.250	46.735
12.	Madhya Pradesh	73.270	88.170	110.631
13.	Maharashtra	88.100	106.020	133.015
14.	Manipur	4.400	5.290	13.300
15.	Meghalaya	4.720	5.680	14.250

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Mizoram	3.370	4.060	10.180
17.	Nagaland	4.220	4.220	10.580
18.	Orissa	34.680	41.730	52.365
19.	Punjab	11.050	13.300	16.686
20.	Rajasthan	103.870	118.630	109.545
21.	Sikkim	3.720	3.720	4.340
22.	Tamilnadu	52.470	63.140	79.225
23.	Tripura	4.180	5.030	12.620
24.	Uttar Pradesh	122.780	147.750	185.379
25.	West Bengal	47.400	57.040	71.696
26.	A&N Islands	0.250	0.125	0.125
27.	D&N Haveli	0.150	0.125	0.125
28.	Delhi	0.300	0.050	0.050
29.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.125	0.125
30.	Pondicherry	0.200	0.050	0.050
31.	Daman & Diu	0.100	0.125	0.125
TOTAL:		945.900	1126.900	1435.410

[Translation]

Ban on Donation to Private Schools

2113. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY:
 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
 SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
 SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY:
 SHRI C.D. GAMIT:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to ban the large amount of donations being taken by the private schools in Delhi at the time of admission of children and also to do way with practice of parents' interview;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the objective of providing education to all is fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Government of N.C.T. of Delhi have informed that the provisions of Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973 do not debar the Managing Committee of a school/society to accept voluntary donations. However, the Directorate of Education has already issued directions that voluntary donations must not be connected with the admission of wards, in keeping with the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

The Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973 do not provide for interview of parents at the time of admission of the children and as such Government of N.C.T. of Delhi have not issued any direction in the matter.

(c) Government has introduced in Rajya Sabha in July, 1997 Constitution (83rd Amendment) Bill, 1997, to make right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 6 to 14 years, a fundamental right.

With a view to revitalising the Primary Education System and to achieve the objective of Universalisation

of Primary Education, the District Primary Education Programme with a specific focus on the girls education, education of the socially deprived, working children and children with disabilities has been launched in 1994. The programme presently covers 163 educationally backward districts spread over 14 States. Further expansion of the Programme in about 50 Districts is in the pipeline.

With the objective of providing education to all, Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi is providing Free Text Books to all students of Primary Level and Uniform Subsidy in Cash to those students whose parental income is Below Minimum Wages Act of Delhi. The girl students from rural areas are provided Free Transport facility in addition to Cash Stipend on passing Middle Class and Secondary Class.

[English]

Mother Care Scheme

2114. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 500 sanctioned under Mother Care Scheme is properly reaching the mothers in time during delivery period;

(b) if so, the number of mothers benefited during 1998, State-wise;

(c) the details of fund sanctioned and utilised by each State, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide this assistance to the mothers in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) which is a component of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), a sum of Rs. 500 is given to expectant mothers belonging to households living below the Poverty line upto the first two live births provided they are 19 years of age and above. The District level implementing Authorities are required to ensure that the maternity benefit be disbursed in one instalment 12-8 weeks prior to delivery. While timely disbursement is to be ensured, the maternity benefit may however, be disbursed to the beneficiary even after the birth of the child.

(b) Latest compilation of the Progress Reports received from the States indicates that a total of 999411 mothers have already benefited from the NMBS during 1998-99. The State-wise position in this regard is given in the Statement.

(c) The State-wise position during 1998-99 in respect of allocation, release and utilisation of funds under NMBS is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(d) To bring about improvements in the implementation of the NSAP Schemes including NMBS, the Ministry had proposed certain changes in the existing NSAP Guidelines. The Government recently approved these changes. Under the modified Guidelines, the Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats have been given greater role in sanctioning and disbursement of benefits with a view to avoid delays. The Government of India has also given permission to allow all registered medical practitioners and nursing personnel (registered with the respective State Nursing Council) to issue Certificate of pregnancy for NMBS.

Statement

National Social Assistance Programme

NMBS 1998-99		(Provisional) (Rs. in Lakhs)				
Sl.No.	States/UTs	O.B. as on 1-4-98	New Allocation	Release	Exp. Reported	Total No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	606.92	1949.10	1915.71	1662.94	3160.20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.02	19.34	0.70	0.29	50
3.	Assam	152.45	292.34	88.16	67.44	1637
4.	Bihar	604.61	840.37	421.52	571.23	62100
5.	Goa	2.26	0.78	0.00	0.11	33
6.	Gujarat	49.77	104.00	21.04	30.37	1064
7.	Haryana	42.70	52.00	29.33	34.54	9596
8.	Himachal Pradesh	26.07	15.60	5.69	8.91	NR
9.	J & K	19.43	36.40	23.94	14.84	3148

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Karnataka	160.35	78.00	38.10	141.87	37403
11.	Kerala	74.18	160.00	83.08	77.39	17894
12.	Madhya Pradesh	214.12	1040.00	565.29	389.49	107333
13.	Maharashtra	287.90	312.00	227.31	375.73	104704
14.	Manipur	7.49	40.56	0.99	4.18	1383
15.	Meghalaya	1.13	30.31	17.43	8.72	1499
16.	Mizoram	0.64	15.91	7.96	5.98	NR
17.	Nagaland	8.45	27.77	3.95	5.96	NR
18.	Orissa	222.81	780.00	462.80	330.90	92826
19.	Punjab	12.17	52.00	21.39	11.39	4499
20.	Rajasthan	135.70	312.00	130.48	136.91	NR
21.	Sikkim	0.00	2.80	0.00	NR	NR
22.	Tamilnadu	197.70	906.30	266.32	55.23	0
23.	Tripura	18.32	101.40	64.52	16.36	4882
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1092.50	1300.00	511.79	312.92	73529

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	West Bengal	459.89	618.16	166.26	166.13	46526
26.	A&N Islands	0.00	1.09	0.90	NR	NR
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	2.36	0.00	NR	NR
28.	D&N Haveli	0.61	0.47	0.0	NR	NR
29.	Daman & Diu	0.11	0.31	0.00	0.00	6
30.	NCT Delhi	22.31	36.97	0.00	0.00	NR
31.	Lakshadweep	0.14	0.16	0.00	0.00	NR
32.	Pondicherry	0.26	7.54	7.54	1.42	NR
TOTAL:		4321.75	9259.27	5060.88	4329.92	999411

NR: Not Reported.

533-34

**Allocation to Ambedkar University
for Ninth Plan**

2115. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has made less allocations to the Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University for its construction and development activities as demand by the university for the 9th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the University has represented against inadequate plan-allocation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) As against the demand of Rs. 219.53 crores raised by the Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University for the 9th Five Year Plan, the UGC has allocated an amount of Rs. 18.00 crores only. The University has represented against this. The demand of the university has been considered but it has not been found possible to allocate more funds to the university due to financial constraints.

334-36

Appointment in IFFCO

2116. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the appointments made in IFFCO during the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the number of SC/ST appointed out of them, category-wise; and

(c) the SC/ST backlog is likely to be filled up in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) The appointments made in IFFCO during the last 3 years from January, 1996 to December, 1998, number of SC/STs appointed category-wise and their backlog to be filled are as under:—

Category	No. of appts. made	No. of SC/ST appointed		Backlog to be filled	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
A	118	19	2	4	4
B	—	—	—	—	—
C	190	38	5	3	1
D	07	1	—	—	—
Total	315	58	8	7	5

Nehru Yuva Kendra

2117. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN;
SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH:

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

(a) the details of Nehru Yuva Kendras functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of activities organised in these Kendras, State-wise;

(c) the total amount spent on these Kendras during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise; and

(d) the amount sanctioned for each of the Kendras during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (d) The

information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Village Defence Committee in Jammu and Kashmir

2118. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of village defence committees in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the types of arms/ammunition and fund given to each committee;

(c) whether there is any proposal to strengthen these committees by providing more arms/ammunition and communication system;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the amount of honorarium; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) As per the information received from the State Government, 1455 Village Defence Committees (VDC) are presently sanctioned and functioning in Jammu & Kashmir. The State Police is motivating volunteers to form some more Village Defence Committees.

(b) to (e) Village Defence Committees are provided with 303 rifles and ammunition. State Police has also started the process of providing some communication equipment to selected VDCs. Training of the Village Defence Committee is also being conducted. The Village Defence Committee is also being conducted. The Village Defence Committee members are volunteers, who are given training and supplied with arms and ammunition. They are supported in their efforts by a nucleus of SPO's. Each SPO receives an honorarium from the State Government. Central Government is presently reimbursing to the State Government for a fixed number of SPOs. The norm for reimbursement on this account have been finalised recently.

Unemployment in Gujarat

2119. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large scale of unemployment in the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have set a target for elimination of unemployment by 2002 AD in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to achieve this target and the percentage of additional avenues of employment required to be generated annually for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The number of jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in Gujarat, as on 31.3.97 is 9,27,000. The number of placements effected by the Employment Exchanges in Gujarat during 1997-98 was 67,700. The major poverty alleviation programmes which provide employment in rural areas are Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In urban areas, the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana

(SJSRY) has been launched and has become operational from 1.12.97. The scheme seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under-employed poor through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures or provision of wage employment. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a Central Plan Scheme to provide employment opportunities to educate unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas. A scheme entitled Pandit Din Dayal Sankalit Swavlamban Yojana has been sponsored by the Government of Gujarat with a view to create self-employment opportunities for the unemployed.

The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and under employment.

It is estimated that if full employment is to be achieved by 2007, the yearly growth of employment has to be 2.8%.

Upgradation of Indian Sugar Industry

2120. SHRI S.S. OWAISI:
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:

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

(a) whether a number of research project has been undertaken by his Ministry under mission mode project in sugar production technologies aimed at upgradation of the Indian sugar industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of factories selected in Maharashtra for this purpose;

(d) the results thereof and the achievements made due to these technologies;

(e) whether there is any proposal to undertake more sugar factories in Maharashtra for upgradation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Fifteen projects have been undertaken under the Mission Mode Project in Sugar Production Technologies as given below:

- (i) Separate Clarification of Vacuum Filtrates.
- (ii) Decanter Centrifuge
- (iii) Cane Separation System
- (iv) Integrated Clarification Control System
- (v) Film Type Sulphur Burner
- (vi) Blanco Director Process
- (vii) Low Pressure Extraction System
- (viii) Short Retention Classifier
- (ix) NIR Technique
- (x) PTH System for prevention of scaling in evaporators
- (xi) Automation control for pan boiling
- (xii) Use of membrane for juice treatment
- (xiii) Masseccuite Filter
- (xiv) DRP Process
- (xv) Chemically Modified Bagasse.

(c) Two projects namely 'Separate Clarification of Vacuum Filtrates' and 'Low Pressure Extraction System' have been implemented at Ajinkyatara SSK Ltd., Satara, and Shree Vighnagar SSK Ltd., Junnar, Pune respectively in Maharashtra.

- (d) (i) Separate Clarification of Vacuum Filtrates has been tried and declared successful at Ajinkyatara SSK Ltd., Maharashtra. The process has resulted in reduction of sugar losses and achievement of better juice quality. This technology is under replication in other sugar factories in the country.
- (ii) Low Pressure Extraction System is under trial at Shri Vighnagar SSK Ltd., Junnar, Maharashtra.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The proposal is from one factory namely Padmashri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil S.S.K. Ltd., P.O. Pravaranagar-413712, Tal. Shirampur, district: Ahmednagar, Maharashtra for modernisation and capacity optimisation of the plant.

Border Surveillance Equipment

2121. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSF has requested the Union Government to purchase Israel-made border surveillance equipment to detect unauthorised entry of terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab;

(b) if so, whether trials of this equipment has been successfully made; and

(c) whether financial constraints are the reasons for not procuring the equipments?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Receipt of Money by Indian Hockey Federation

2122. SHRI SADASHIV BAO DADODA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Hockey Federation is getting Rs. 5 lakhs from Doordarshan per Hockey match for telecast in India as per agreement with his Ministry;

(b) if so, whether Indian Hockey Federation has also introduced the Scheme to give prize money of Rs. 1.5 lakhs to the tournament committee for telecast; and

(c) if so, the details of money collected from Doordarshan and provided to tournament Committee since inception of this scheme, till-date tournament and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) Yes, Sir.

Indian Hockey Federation is getting Rs. 5 lakhs from Doordarshan for A Grade Tournaments and International matches.

(b) It has been reported by Indian Hockey Federation that a scheme was finalised for payment to the Tournament Committee, but subsequently the same has been withdrawn with effect from 12-9-98.

(c) Year-wise details of payments received from Doordarshan by Indian Hockey Federation are given below:—

196-97	—	Rs. 1,55,00,000
1997-98	—	Rs. 72,50,000
1998-99	—	Rs. 69,12,500
Till Date		Rs. 2,96,62,500

[*Translation*]

Fake Degrees

2123. SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons are involved in the racket of preparing and issuing fake degrees in the country;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducting in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the persons responsible?

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

[*English*]

Death in Judicial Custody

2124. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 79 per cent of deaths in Judicial custody were as a result of Tuberculosis infection;

(b) whether the National Human Rights Commission has directed all the States to ensure medical examination of all jail inmates in accordance with the directions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) 'Prisons' is a State subject as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Information relating to specific causes of deaths in judicial custody is not maintained by the Central Government.

(b) and (c) the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has advised the State Governments to ensure that all prisons inmates have periodical check-ups to detect if they are suffering from infectious diseases. The NHRC has also emphasised the need to have a comprehensive medical screening of all prisoners on admission in jails.

Child Abuse

2125. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of child abuse have rapidly increasing during the last one year;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take any step to check child abuse;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Although a nation-wide assessment to determine the incidence of child abuse during the last one year has not been undertaken by the Government, provisions already exist in different Acts to check child abuse. Realising that the justice system as available for adults is not suitable for children, the Juvenile Justice Act, a Central Act applicable to the entire country except the State of Jammu & Kashmir, was enacted in 1986. Under the Act a separate chapter is devoted to offences in respect of juveniles including punishment and

finer for: cruelty to children; employment of children for begging; giving intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug or psychotropic substance to a child and exploitation of juvenile employees. Efforts are being made on a continuous basis by the Government to provide for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of children and to check child abuse.

Loans to SCs/STs

2126. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of interest leviable on the loans being extended to the persons belonging to SCs/STs from National SCs/STs Development Finance Corporation have been increased and the quantity of loan amount being presently extended in individual cases has been reduced;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Crimes in Delhi

2127. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the reasons for steep increase in crimes in Delhi is restrictions imposed by Delhi is restrictions imposed by Delhi Police on the issue of Arms Licenses to the people for self defence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to ease the restrictions and issue licenses freely atleast to the Income Tax Payers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of applications received by the Government for arms licences for Revolvers and Pistols only in Delhi during the last three years and the number of licences sanctioned upto 31st January, 1999 ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) The arms licences are granted to the applications for self-defence after verification of their character and antecedents and genuineness of their claim. There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to modify the existing procedures.

(e) The requisite information is given as under:—

Year	No. of Applications received	No. of arms licences sanctioned
1996	1620	537
1997	1850	707
1998	1839	887
1999 (Upto 31.1.99)	314	45

Training by Pakistan

2128. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI RAMAKRISHNA BABA PATIL:
SHRI ADITYANATH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people indulging in terrorist activities in the country are being trained by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Pak youths are being trained to act as Sikh militants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Pakistani Intelligence agencies have established a number of training camps to provide training to militants in Pakistan/POK.

(c) and (d) Some such instances have come to notice.

(e) Government have consistently demanded that Pakistan should dismantle the infrastructure that exists in Pakistan for training terrorists, close down its training camps and hand-over terrorists and fugitives from the law who have been given sanctuary in Pakistan.

Government have also brought to the attention of the International Community Pakistan's active involvement in the instigation and sponsorship of terrorism against India. Government is aware of the activities of the ISI and is keeping a close and continuous watch on the situation and all necessary efforts including sustained operations against terrorists and subversive elements are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed.

Sports under the Concurrent List of the Constitution

2129. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

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

(a) whether any proposal to bring sports under the Concurrent List of the Constitution is pending with the Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(d) the funds allocated by the Government for the promotion of sports at National and State level during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The proposal of bringing 'Sports' from the State List to the Concurrent List of the Constitution is under consideration since 1988. The process of bringing Sports under Concurrent list is under process and an all party meeting to discuss the subject is slated to be called by the Hon'ble Minister for Parliamentary Affairs shortly.

(c) As on date while 16 states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh have agreed to the proposal, 10 State Governments viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have not agreed to the proposal.

(d) The details the fund allocated by the Government at the National and State level is enclosed in *Statement-I* and II respectively.

(e) The Government is pursuing the matter with the State Governments who have not agreed to the proposal of bringing 'Sports' from the State List to the Concurrent List. An All Party Meeting on the subject is likely to be held soon.

Statement-I

Funds allocated by the Central Government on Sports during the last three years

Year	Rs. (in Crores)
1995-96	64.13
1996-97	80.79
1997-98	81.64

Statement II*Statement showing State-wise details of Grants Released during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98*

(All amounts in Rupees)

Sl.No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12,50,000	21,50,000	45,00,000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20,65,000	NIL	NIL
3.	Assam	46,20,000	8,00,000	33,00,000
4.	Bihar	25,92,400	NIL	NIL
5.	Goa	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.	Gujarat	5,17,242	2,16,613	7,12,000
7.	Haryana	38,88,000	98,33,400	51,94,500
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,86,000	89,10,400	95,05,275
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NIL	NIL	38,90,000
10.	Karnataka	64,34,300	837,94,558	73,24,850
11.	Kerala	6,00,100	31,26,132	40,99,170
12.	Madhya Pradesh	70,00,000	NIL	21,60,000
13.	Maharashtra	1,17,90,500	18,00,000	15,80,000
14.	Manipur	NIL	43,50,000	10,00,000

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	NIL	NIL	NIL
16.	Mizoram	1,07,74,500	86,19,600	NIL
17.	Nagaland	25,00,000	NIL	30,00,000
18.	Orissa	4,95,000	90,00,000	NIL
19.	Punjab	NIL	2,50,000	NIL
20.	Rajasthan	8,25,000	13,30,000	8,21,200
21.	Sikkim	NIL	9,68,454	8,10,000
22.	Tamil Nadu	3,32,925	35,15,575	25,52,400
23.	Tripura	NIL	14,50,000	123,67,500
24.	Uttar Pradesh	54,39,488	8,00,000	21,50,000
25.	West Bengal	5,86,490	35,00,000	NIL

UNION TERRITORIES

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	Chandigarh	1,75,500	1,75,500	17,50,000
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NIL	NIL	NIL
4.	Daman & Diu	NIL	NIL	2,82,000
5.	Delhi	NIL	12,50,000	NIL
6.	Pondicherry	NIL	NIL	NIL
7.	Lakshadweep	NIL	NIL	NIL

*[Translation]***National Family Assistance Scheme**

2130. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for fixing target of National Family Assistance Scheme (Rashtriya Parivar Sahayata Yojana);

(b) whether the Union Government provide assistance to States, based on the actual death rate figures within a fixed timeframe;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Zila Panchayats are allocated funds for National Social Security Schemes in accordance with their demands; and

(e) if so, the funds demanded and the allocation made for National Social Security Schemes for Zila Panchayats in Madhya Pradesh, District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (e) The National Family Assistance Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Mid Day Meal to Kerala**

2131. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of rice allotted to Kerala for Mid-day meal during 1998-99 was less than the quantity allotted during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Allotment of foodgrains is made on the basis of enrolment data of eligible primary school children supplied by the State Governments. The number of eligible primary school children in Kerala as reported by the State Government of Kerala for 1998-99 was less than that of the preceding year.

Illegal Weekly Bazars

2132. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to unauthorised/illegal weekly bazars and putting up wedding tents on roads in Delhi, free flow of traffic is hampered and inconvenience is caused to Delhiites;

(b) if so, the number of cases of illegal weekly bazars/wedding tents reported in Delhi during 1998-99 and as on date;

(c) the reasons for inactiveness of police and the corporation officials in the matter; and

(d) the stern action taken by the Government against the police/corporation officials for lack of duty?

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

(b) As per the information received from Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council, there were, as in December 1998, 67 unauthorised weekly bazars operating in the areas under their jurisdiction. The information about illegal wedding tents is not maintained.

(c) and (d) The municipal authorities take regular action with the assistance of police to remove such encroachments and seize articles/goods from such vendors.

Deputation of IPS

2133. SHRI P. SANKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have envisaged any criteria for central deputation for Indian police service officers including limitation on tenures at the centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is ignoring these guidelines;

(d) if not, whether the Government repatriate those IPS officers on completion of their central deputation; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Central deputation of IPS officers is governed by the "tenure policy" with *inter-alia* provides the tenures as under:—

SP Level — 4 years	1995-96	Rs. 1,48,70,964.00
DIG level — 5 years	1996-97	Rs. 1,70,18,058.00
IG level — 5 years	1997-98	Rs. 2,83,57,890.00

If an IPS officer already working as DIG on central deputation is promoted as IG, the combined tenure as DIG-cum-IG shall not be less than 5 years but the tenure will be so extended as to give the officers a minimum of 3 years as IG. IPS officers working in sensitive organisations like IB, CBI and R&AW are allowed longer tenure in view of the special requirements of these organisations.

(c) No, Sir. However, relaxations are made if necessary in the interest of the concerned organisations.

(d) and (e) IPS officers have to go back to their parent cadre on completion of their deputation tenure.

[Translation]

Protection of Monuments

2134. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps has been taken by the Union Government to protect the monuments situated in Uttar Pradesh especially in Lucknow and Agra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on these monuments during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Archaeological Survey of India has 785 centrally protected monuments in Uttar Pradesh, which include 323 and 362 monuments respectively in Agra and Lucknow Circles.

(c) The overall expenditure incurred by the Archaeological Survey of India during the preceding three years on monuments in Uttar Pradesh including Agra and Lucknow Circles is as under:

1995-96	Rs. 1,48,70,964.00
1996-97	Rs. 1,70,18,058.00
1997-98	Rs. 2,83,57,890.00

[English]

Projects in Goa

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2135. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:
SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

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

(a) the projects undertaken in Goa providing self-employment opportunity to SCs and STs;

(b) the number of persons to whom self-employment opportunity has been provided through these projects during the last three years; and

(c) the assistance given to these projects during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment implements the Integrated Rural Development Programme aimed at providing self-employment opportunities to families below poverty line in the rural areas. Within the target group SCs/STs are also covered.

(b) The total number of persons assisted under Integrated Rural Development Programme in the last three

years is given below:—

Year	Total No. of persons assisted	SCs	STs
1995-96	1486	18	—
1996-97	1982	6	—
1997-98	897	11	—

(c) During the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 50.97 lakhs, Rs. 49.03 lakhs and Rs. 53.97 lakhs respectively has been provided under Integrated Rural Development Programme, in the State of Goa.

[Translation]

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Unemployment in Rural Areas

2136. SHRI HARJ KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons in rural areas in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the number of agricultural labourers out of them; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for eradication of unemployment in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) The number of unemployed persons in the rural areas as per the latest estimates available from the 50th Round Survey (1993-94) of NSSO on Employment and Unemployment is given in the enclosed *Statement*. The distribution of unemployed by the industrial sector is not assessed.

(c) The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment has formulated several schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Development of

Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) which are implemented by the State Governments in the rural areas of the country for eradicating unemployment.

Statement

Statement showing number of Unemployed Persons in Rural Areas*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Unemployed persons (in thousands)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	196
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
3.	Assam	502
4.	Bihar	511
5.	Goa	33
6.	Gujarat	134
7.	Haryana	97
8.	Himachal Pradesh	110
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	27
10.	Karnataka	157
11.	Kerala	747
12.	Madhya Pradesh	132
13.	Maharashtra	287
14.	Manipur	8
15.	Meghalaya	2

1	2	3
* 16.	Mizoram	2
17.	Nagaland	5
18.	Orissa	260
19.	Punjab	82
* 20.	Rajasthan	48
21.	Sikkim	2
22.	Tamil Nadu	405
23.	Tripura	22
24.	Uttar Pradesh	410
25.	West Bengal	517
All India		4712

•Usual principal Status Basis, based on NSSO 50th Round survey (1993-94)

[English]

Historical Monuments in Gujarat

2137. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of historical monuments in Gujarat which have been identified as International/National heritage sites;

(b) whether some of them are neglected and necessary protection is not being provided by the Archaeological Survey of India;

(c) if so, the details the such monuments; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to protect such rich heritage in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The monuments in Gujarat which have been declared as monuments of national importance under the Archaeological Survey of India are given in the enclosed *Statement*. There is no World Heritage site as recognised by the UNESCO in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) The nationally protected monuments under the A.S.I. are not in a neglected state of protection and are maintained and conserved as per their requirements subject to the availability of resources.

Statement

Gujrat State

1	2	3
1.	Three Gates	Beside Bhadrakali temple
2.	Bhadra Tower	—do—
3.	Sidi Saiyad's mosque	Opp. Sardar Bagh
4.	Ahmad Shah's mosque	Lal Darwaja Opp. Civil Court

1	2	3
5.	Teen Darwaja or Tripolia gate	Opp. Karanj Police Station Bhadra
6.	Shah Khub Saiyed Masjid	Karian Khas Bazar
7.	Jami Masjid	Na Manek Chawk
8.	Tomb of Queens of Ahmed Shah	—do—
9.	Ahmed Shah's tomb	—do—
10.	Panch Kuwa Gate	Khadiya
11.	Queen's (Malika Sarang) Mosque	Sarangpur, Khadiya Char Rasta
12.	Tomo	Sarangpur, Khadiya Char Rasta, Near Queen's mosque
13.	Brick Minars	On Ahmedabad Railway Station
14.	Sidi Bashir's Minars and tombs (Shaking)	Opp. Sarangpur Darwaja
15.	Delhi Gate	Delhi Chakla
16.	Qutubudin shah's Mosque	—do—
17.	Dada Harir's mosque & tomb	Asarva
18.	Data (Bai) Harir's stepwell	—do—
19.	Kalupur Gate	Near Old Rly. Station
20.	Sarangpur Gate	Sarangpur
21.	Dariyapur Gate	Dariyapur
22.	Premabhai Gate	Near Vadigam
23.	Mata Bhawani's Well	Asarva
24.	Achyut (Kuks) Bibi's Masjid & tomb	Dudheshwar
25.	Dariya Khan's tomb	Baok of Dudheshwar

1	2	3
26.	Muhafiz Khan's mosque	Pitalia Bamba Ghee Kanta
27.	Rani Rupvati's mosque	Mirzapur
28.	Kaji Mohamed Chisti's Masjid (Shaikh Hasan)	Shahpur
29.	Saiyed Usman's Mosque & Tomb	Usmanpura
30.	Shah Alam's tomb with all surrounding ancient buildings	Shah Alam Darwaja
31.	Small Stone Mosque (Rani Masjid)	Paldi Kocharab
32.	Rauza of Azam Khan' & Muazzam Khan	Vasna on Sarkhej
33.	Dastur Khan's masjid	Astodia Chakla
34.	Rani Sp. Sipri's mosque & tomb	Astodia Darwaja
35.	Astodia Gate	Astodia
36.	Malik Alam's Mosque	Tola Naka Dani Limda
37.	Raipur Gate	Raipur
38.	Inlet to Kankaria tank	Kankaria
39.	Bibiji's masjid	Rajpur/Hirapur
40.	Haibatkhan's masjid	Jamalpur gate
41.	Baba Lauli's masjid	Behrampur Saptarushi Ashram
42.	Nawab Sardarkhan Masjid & Outer Gate away in Survey No. 6814.	Jamalpur Pagathia
43.	Nawab Sardarkhan's Rouza with its compound Bearing CS No. 6811	Jamalpur Gate

1	2	3
44.	Tomb of Mir Abu Turab	Back of Calico Mill, Jamalpur
45.	Jethabhai's Stepwell	on Vatva GIDC Rd.
46.	Small Stone Mosque (Gumte Masjid)	On Vatva GIDC Rd.
47.	Tombs (Kutub-I-Alam)	In the Village
48.	Great Mosque	Near Santaram
49.	Great Tank, Palace & Haram	—do—
50.	Pavilion	Before Tomb of Ganj Baksh
51.	Roza of Bava Alisag & Bawa Ganj Baksh	—do—
52.	Tomb of Bibi (Rani) Rajbai	—do—
53.	Tomb of Mohammad Begarh	—do—
54.	Tomb of Shaikh Ahmed Khatau Ganj Bakshi	—do—
55.	Jami Masjid	Heart of Dholka
56.	Malav Tank	Near ST Depot
57.	Khan Masjid	—do—
58.	Bahlol Khan Gazi's mosque	Nr. Sadhna Cinema, Dholka
59.	Ruined building	Nr. Khan Tank
60.	Masjid of Regusha Pir	3 km. Foundland Luku, Dhandhuka Ranpur Rd.
61.	Jami Masjid	In Revillage
62.	Ghazi Masjid	—do—
63.	Saiyed Masjid	In Revillage
64.	Mansar Talav & Shrines	Nr. City Gate

1

2

3

AMRELI DISTRICT

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 65. | Ancient Site Gohilwad
Timbo (Mound) | Old Bed River outside
Regillave |
| 66. | Fesco on the wall of
Kashivisvanath temple | Amreli Dhari Rd. <i>Via</i> Dam
Nagar Village |
| 67. | Ancient Site | Nr. Mota Kakadia Village |
| 68. | Ranchhod Rayaji temple
with wasteland around the
chowk of Mahadev temple | On Sea-shore 5 Km. |

BHAVNAGAR DISTRICT

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 69. | Ancient Site | 1/2 Miles from Brahma Kund |
| 70. | Darbargarh | In the town |
| 71. | Ancient site | 1/2 Km. away in north western |
| 72. | Jain temple | Bhavnagar-Talaja Rd. |
| 73. | Talaja Caves | Bhavnagar-Talaja Rd. |

BHARUCH DISTRICT

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|----------|
| 74. | Jami Masjid | Parsivad |
|-----|-------------|----------|

PANCHMAHALS DISTRICT

- | | | |
|-----|--|---------------------------|
| 75. | Tomb of Sikandar Shah | Nr. S.T. Depot |
| 76. | Ex-Minar-Ki-Masjid | Nr. Khund Pir |
| 77. | Panch-Mahuda-Ki-Masjid | Way to Pavagadh |
| 78. | Tomb | Nr Panch-Mahuda-Ki-Masjid |
| 79. | Helical Stepped Well
(with 50' space around
at Pathway 10 vide to
nearest road) | Behind Bus Stand Pavagadh |
| 80. | Sakar Khan's Dargah | Nr. City Gate |

1	2	3
81.	City Gate	Nr. Kasib Talva
82.	Citadel Walls	Surrounding Village
83.	City walls at the S.E. corner of the citadel going up the Hal	Behind ST Stand
84.	East & South Bhadra Gates	Towards mines
85.	Sahar-Ki-Masjid (Bohrani)	Inside the Halol Gate
86.	Three Cells	Inside Citadel Walls Nr. Sahav-Ki-Masjid
87.	Mandavi or Custom House	Nr. Sub-office
88.	Jami Masjid	Outside Godhra Gate
89.	Stepwell	North of Jami Masjid
90.	Kevada Masjid	Outside Delhi Gate
91.	Tomb with a Brick dome in the centre and small corner domes	near Vada Talva
92.	Cenotaph of Kevda Masjid	Nr. Kevda Masjid
93.	Nagina Masjid	Behind Kevada Masjid
94.	Cenotaph of Nagina Masjid	Nr. Nagina Masjid
95.	Lila Gumbaj	Nr. Pavagadh Rly. Station
96.	Kabutarkhana Pavilion	North Bank of Vada Talav
97.	Kamani Masjid	Nr. Pavagadh, Rly. Station
98.	Bawa Man's Mosque	On the Hill
99.	Gate No. 1 Atak Gate (with two gateways)	—do—

1	2	3
100.	Gate No. 2 (with three gateways) Budhiya Gate	On the Hill
101.	Gate No. 3 Moti Gate Sadanshah Gate	On the Hill
102.	Gate No. 4 with Big Bastion with cells in the interior	Near Mint
103.	Sat Manzil with steps right upto bastion	Nr. Machi between Gate No. 4 & 5
104.	Mint above Gate No. 4	Nr. Point
105.	Gate No. 5 Gulan Bulan Gate	Nr. Machi
106.	Gate No. 6 Buland Darwaja	Nr. Makai Kothar
107.	Makai Kothar	Nr. Gate No. 6
108.	Patai Rawal's Place with Tanks	East side of Makai Kothar
109.	Gate No. 7 Makai Gate	Nr. Iron Bridge
110.	Gate No. 8 Tarapore Gate	Nr. Jain Temple
111.	Fort of Pavagadh & Ruined Hindu temples & Jain temples on the top of Pavagadh Hill	Nr. Tarapore Gate
112.	Navlakha Kothar	West side of Gate No. 9
113.	Walls of Fort on top	—do—
114.	Rudra Mahalaya temple	Near Talav
115.	Kankeshvara Mahadev Temple	Heart of Village
116.	Ratneshvara Old temple with sculptured screen	Near Canal
117.	Old Ruined temple of Mahadeva	Bavka

1	2	3
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GANDHINAGAR DISTRICTS

- | | | |
|------|------------------|--|
| 118. | Rudabai Stepwell | A'bad-Kalol Rd.
Nr. entrance of the village
Opp. Police Chowky |
|------|------------------|--|

JAMNAGAR DISTRICT

- | | | |
|------|---|--|
| 119. | Durvasa Rishi's
Ashram & its site | 1/2 Km. of village |
| 120. | Kalika Mata temple | In village |
| 121. | Gokeshwara Mahadev
temple | —do— |
| 122. | (Gadhi Fortress) and
temple in Survey No. 106 | East of Dwarka |
| 123. | Temple of Rama | Near Sea Shore |
| 124. | Dwarkadhist Group of
temples with its outer
compound S.No. 1607,
1608 & 1609 | In the town |
| 125. | Kshatrapa Inscriptions | In sub-office compound |
| 126. | Rukmini temple | Rupen Part Rd. |
| 127. | Dharashnvel temple | Out of village 1 Km. |
| 128. | Guhaditya temple in
Survey No. 655 | Dwarka |
| 129. | Junagadh (Jain) temple | Dwarka, Vasai Rd. in the
village |
| 130. | Kankeshvara Mahadeva
temple and other shrines | —do— |
| 131. | Gop (Sun) temple | Jamnagar, Porbandar,
Jodhpur Rd. Via Gop in
Village Zinawall |

1	2	3
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JUNAGADH DISTRICT

- | | | |
|------|---|--|
| 132. | Ashokan Rock (Edicts) | 2 Km. east side road to
Girnar Taleti |
| 133. | Buddhistic Cave | Inside Upperkot |
| 134. | Baba Pyare, Khapra
Kodia Caves | —do— |
| 135. | Ancient Mound | East side of Hill |
| 136. | Birth Place, House of
Mahatma Gandhi | Rajkot Porbandar Rd. N.H.No. 8 |
| 137. | Jami Masjid | Outside the Town |
| 138. | Bibi Masjid | —do— |
| 139. | Raveli Masjid | Inside the Town |
| 140. | Od Parsvanath temple | Porbandar Veraval Rd. |

KHEDA DISTRICT

- | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 141. | Stepwell | Vadodara Borsad Rd. |
| 142. | Vithalbhai Haveli | In the town Nadiad, Petlad Rd. |
| 143. | Jami Masjid | Vadodara-Khambhat Rd.
Via Vasad |
| 144. | Bhamaria Well | Nr. Rly. Station inside Rd. |
| 145. | Temple of Galteswarā | Via Dokor Near Bank of |
| 146. | Tomb of Saif-Ud-Din
& Nizam-Ud-Din | Out of village Nr. Vatrak
River |
| 147. | Tomb of Mubarak Saiyad | G E B Office |

KACHCHH DISTRICT

- | | | |
|------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 148. | Rao Lakha Chhatri | Nr. Hamirsar Talav |
| 149. | Siva Temple | On the Bank of Shinay |
| 150. | Excavated Site | Proper Surkotda |
-

1	2	3
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MEHSANA DISTRICT

151.	Gateway of Khan Sarovar	Jakat Naka way to Modhera
152.	Rani Vav	Old Kalika temple
153.	Sahastralinga Talao (excavated)	Samalpati Old Kalika temple
154.	Shaikh Farid Tomb	Northside of Sahastralinga Tank
155.	Jami Masjid	Bank of Saraswati River in the city
156.	Ruins of Rudra Mahalaya temple	—do—
157.	Nilkantheshwara Mahadeva temple	Patan Unja Rd. Near the village tank
158.	Sivai Mata temple	—do—
159.	Nilkanteshwar Mahadeva Temple	Patan Unja Mehsana Rd.
160.	Sanderi Mata temple	Patan Via Sanak Rd. Mehsana
161.	Malai Mata temple	Mehsana Unja Rd. via Manidar
162.	Sittlamata temple	Mehsana Visnagar Rd.
163.	Torana with a Sun image	Mehsana Torana Rly. line Mehsana
164.	Hinglaj Mata temple	Unja Visnagar Rd.
165.	Sabha Mandapa (Double Shrines)	On the tank
166.	Limboji Mata temple	Chanasma Harij Rd. in the Village
167.	Jasmalnathji Mahadev temple	Visnagar Kukarwada Rd. in the village
168.	Ajapal Kund	Vishnagar to Kheralu Rd. out of village

1	2	3
169.	Inscription & Arjun Bari Gate	Visnagar to Kheralu Rd.
170.	Torana	—do—
171.	Kund	Visnagar-Vijapur Rd.
172.	Sun temple, Suaya Kund with adjoining to the temples & loose sculptures	Chanasma-Bachuchraji Rd.
RAJKOT DISTRICT		
173.	Caves	Upleta, Jamjodhpur Rd. 3 Km. away: Kharchia stop, Nr. Dhanakpur Village
SABARKANTHA DISTRICT		
174.	Tomb of Sikandarshah	In Bazar
175.	Group of temples & Khed Roda	Himatnagar Khedchandani Rd. village Raisinghpur
SURAT DISTRICT		
176.	Dargah Known as Khawaja Dana Saheb's Rouza	Badekhan Chakla
177.	Old English tombs	Adamvidi
178.	Tomb of Khawaja Safar Sulemani	Mullawad Chakla Bazar
179.	Old Dutch & Armenian tombs & Cementaries	Behind Garden Mill
180.	Ancient Site Comprising S. Plot No. 535	On Tapti river out of village
181.	Fateh Burj	Nakuwada on the Tank.
SURENDRANAGAR DISTRICT		
182.	Ranak Devi's temple	On the southern bank of Bhogaro river

1	2	3
183.	Ancient Mound	Dhandhuka Limdi Rd.
184.	Sun temple	Chotila Than Rd.
185.	Vaviakha temple	Chotila Sayala
186.	Ancient site (Ganesh temple)	—do—
187.	Darbargarh	Dhangadhra Halvad Rd.
188.	Ananteshwara temple	In the Bazar
VADODARA DISTRICT		
189.	Fresco Rooms in Bhau Tambekar's Wada	Raopura Rd.
190.	Historic Site S.No. 431, 435	Akota on Vishwa Mitri Rd.
191.	Hazira or Qutbuddin Mahmad Khan's tomb	Makarpura Rd.
192.	Ancient Site (Excavated)	Nr. Rly. Station
193.	Gateway of Torana	In Bazar
194.	Ancient site of Samdhyapura	Goraj, Vadodara
195.	Vadodara Gate & its adjacent construction	Hira Bhagol
196.	Hira Gate with S.No. 38, 41, 45, 47 & Ticca No. 102 & 103	Vadodara Bhagol
197.	Mahudi (Champaneri) Gate and adjacent construction	Nandodi Bhagol
198.	Nandoni Gate with and adjacent construction	Nandodi Bhagol
199.	Saptamukhi Vav	Southside in the tank
200.	Microlithic site S.No. 311, 12, 13 & 298	Amarpura

[*Translation*]

381-82

Terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir

2138. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has deteriorated due to extremist outfits;

(b) if so, the names of the extremist outfits which are operating in Kashmir;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for destroying the clues of these outfits from March, 98 to January, 99;

(d) the number of persons belonging to these outfits arrested and weapons seized during this period; and

(e) whether the Government propose to handover these weapons to the Military?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The law and order situation continues to be under control despite all our efforts by militants to step up violence in the J & K.

(b) The following prominent terrorist organisations are active in J & K:

- (1) Hizb-ul-Mujahideen
- (2) Harkat-ul-Mujahideen
- (3) Laskar-e-Toiba
- (4) J & K Liberation Front
- (5) Al-Burq
- (6) Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen
- (7) Al-Jehad
- (8) Al-Umar-Mujahideen
- (9) Hizbullah
- (10) Dukhtran-e-Milat

(c) The intelligence inputs received by the Government about the plans/activities of the militants and militant outfits, are shared with the State Government and Security Forces to assist them in thwarting the

designs of the militants. During the period from March '98 to January '99, 938 militants have been killed.

(d) During the period March '98 to January '99, 453 suspects/militants have been arrested under substantial laws. 1392 AK Series rifles, 474 pistols/revolvers, 60 UMGs, 2 LMGs, 24 sniper rifles, 3 SLRs, 8 (303) rifles, 14,12-bore guns, 87 RPGs and 116 rocket launchers, alongwith large quantities of assorted arms, ammunition, accessories etc. have been recovered in J&K during the period.

(e) Disposal of seized/captured weapons is done in accordance with the law.

[*English*]

382-83

Welfare Programme for Minorities/SCs/STs

2139. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued certain directions in July, 1996 to State Governments to give special attention to the welfare programmes relating to the welfare of Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government have started complying with the said directions of the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have reviewed or propose to review the welfare related work of the State Governments in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (f) As the nodal Ministry for the welfare and development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and other disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the society, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ensure that the constitutional and other legal safeguards provided for SCs, STs and Minorities are enforced. Apart from the schemes/

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programmes implemented by the Central Ministries, State Govts./U.T. Administrations, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also implementing various schemes/programmes for the educational, economic and social upliftment of the target groups through Central/Centrally-sponsored schemes, and extending financial assistance to the States/UTs. Details of these schemes/programmes are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1997-98, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

Review of the progress of implementation of the schemes is an on-going exercise. Apart from getting periodical reports from the States Governments/UTs, review meetings are held with the representatives of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations where deficiencies noticed, both in physical and financial terms, are brought for rectification. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been standing their cooperation in ensuring that the schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of the target groups are implemented.

Financial Assistance by NFC to SCs/STs

2140. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given by National Financial Corporation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1997-98 and 1998-99, State-wise; and

(b) the reasons for not providing this financial assistance to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) State-wise details are given in *Statement-I* (1997-98) and *Statement-II* (1998-99-upto January, 1999).

(b) The state of Maharashtra has also been given the assistance as shown in the *Statement*.

Statement I

Details of State-wise Sanctions and Disbursement from 1.4.97 to 31.03.98

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	No. of Schemes	Cost	NSFDC Share	Beneficiaries			Net Disbursement
					SC	ST	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	29	2086.85	1458.32	1531	262	1793	1007.37
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	33.82	26.30	0	14	14	21.30
4.	Assam	7	176.11	146.77	85	0	85	0.00
5.	Bihar	8	1418.50	1109.25	1675	0	1675	146.97
6.	Chandigarh	4	116.50	91.05	70	0	70	56.92
7.	Delhi	4	117.05	78.75	56	0	56	138.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Dadra N. Haveli, D & Diu	3	67.61	55.3	0	36	36	4.25
9.	Goa	4	88.17	73.12	29	0	29	36.55
10.	Gujarat	15	1577.44	1123.31	290	217	507	1178.34
11.	Himachal Pradesh	15	240.27	185.03	72	29	101	153.40
12.	Haryana	6	585.90	432.70	225	0	225	281.10
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	75.00	62.40	8	12	20	7.33
14.	Kerala	21	346.08	267.14	559	85	644	57.31
15.	Karnataka	26	1174.18	765.91	2073	514	2587	572.21
16.	Lakshdweep	3	43.67	35.76	0	3	3	9.76
17.	Maharashtra	34	1593.15	1157.66	883	150	1033	1379.51
18.	Manipur	4	156.50	132.40	6	156	162	8.51
19.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
20.	Mizoram	14	160.23	134.55	0	290	290	160.72
21.	Madhya Pradesh	18	2332.12	1812.12	408	718	1126	1793.49
22.	Nagaland	18	178.09	150.11	0	111	111	150.52
23.	Orissa	3	60.05	50.90	30	41	71	441.52
24.	Pondicherry	2	85.43	62.40	27	9	27	69.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25.	Punjab	7	586.25	491.25	575	0	575	126.64
26.	Rajasthan	10	1032	842.75	367	233	600	100.00
27.	Sikkim	6	103.10	85.16	15	47	62	85.46
28.	Tamilnadu	13	1455.05	972.10	499	43	542	810.36
29.	Tripura	7	280.86	237.08	61	220	281	313.81
30.	Uttar Pradesh	3	425.00	296.00	200	0	200	2.50
31.	West Bengal	34	1723.17	1400.66	1023	216	1239	311.98
Total		331	18320.15	13736.39	10767	3397	14164	9424.27

Statement II*Details of State-wise Sanctions and Disbursement from 1.4.98 to 31.1.99*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	No. of Schemes	Cost	NSFDC Share	Beneficiaries			Net Disbursement
					SC	ST	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	16	1773.30	1233.80	1870	294	2164	671.81
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	14.88	11.80	0	3	3	8.90
4.	Assam	1	65.25	52.50	15	0	15	129.98
5.	Bihar	2	385.24	299.60	238	0	238	493.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Chandigarh	3	77.00	63.40	25	0	25	34.86
7.	Delhi	1	53.50	36.60	10	0	10	72.90
8.	Dadra N. Haveli, D & Diu	2	54.97	45.95	2	10	12	83.94
9.	Goa	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	21.62
10.	Gujarat	12	1399.05	952.25	1835	111	1946	915.98
11.	Himachal Pradesh	6	136.26	113.90	21	13	34	102.65
12.	Haryana	1	88.00	68.00	40	0	40	60.60
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
14.	Kerala	9	266.72	214.40	292	39	331	5.80
15.	Karnataka	29	956.84	708.32	340	80	420	117.33
16.	Lakshdweep	1	1.05	0.85	1	0	1	26.00
17.	Maharashtra	7	133.56	99.77	38	70	108	29.85
18.	Manipur	8	99.85	84.47	6	82	88	118.91
19.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
20.	Mizoram	5	116.75	100.42	0	214	214	165.43
21.	Madhya Pradesh	6	757.50	593.61	152	195	347	437.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22.	Nagaland	13	92.76	54.75	6	56	56	82.46
23.	Orissa	9	488.93	411.72	84	88	164	23.38
24.	Pondicherry	5	98.89	96.92	49	9	44	4.49
25.	Punjab	3	156.50	116.44	25	4	25	1.11
26.	Rajasthan	5	366.75	291.00	190	60	250	114.41
27.	Sikkim	3	189.00	157.20	28	117	145	79.00
28.	Tamilnadu	30	370.45	245.08	151	69	220	289.47
29.	Tripura	8	583.91	495.11	95	118	213	40.05
30.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
31.	West Bengal	11	904.60	729.07	1113	276	1389	1.77
Total		199	9630.71	7289.89	6611	1887	8490	4129.52

Socio-Economic Condition of SCs/STs

2141. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any programme for improving the socio-economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes living below the poverty line during the last eight months upto January 31st, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount earmarked for the implementation of these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir. However, all earlier schemes were reviewed and revised during this period and are being effectively implemented.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

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**Share Capitals to State Scheduled Caste
Development Corporation**

2142. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been increase in allotment of funds in share capitals to the States Scheduled Caste Development Corporation in 1998-99;

(b) if so, the break up of funds received by the Scheduled Caste Development Corporation in each State and Union Territories as per the revised quantum;

(c) whether the Orissa State Scheduled Caste Development Corporation, Bhubaneswar has not advanced any loans to the candidates recommended the district authorities of Balasore and Bhadrak during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A *Statement* is enclosed.

(c) During the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 one beneficiary of District Bhadrak was advanced loan.

(d) The less coverage of beneficiaries during the period is attributable to lack of co-operation from the banks to provide funds for Schemes implemented by Orissa SC&ST Finance Development Corporation.

(e) By resorting to Direct Lending System from the year 1997-98, the Corporation has taken steps for financing 30 beneficiaries in Balasore District and 10 Units in Bhadrak Distt. during the current financial year.

Statement

S.No.	State	Name of SCDC	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1	Karnataka	Karnataka SC&ST Development Corporation Ltd.	970.39
2.	West Bengal	W.B. SC&ST Dev. Corporation	1101.47
3.	Uttar Pradesh	UP SC Fin. & Dev. Corporation	741.15
4.	Kerala	Kerala State Dev. Corp. for SC&ST	153.02
5.	Punjab	Punjab SC Land Dev. & Fin. Corpn.	175.17
6.	Tamil Nadu	TN Adi Dravidar Housing and Dev. Corporation	318.50

1	2	3	4
7	Haryana	Haryana Harijan Kalyan Nigam Ltd.	41.15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh SCs & STs Dev. Corpn.	143.22
9.	Madhya Pradesh	MP State Co-op. SC Fin. & Dev. Corporation	4.77
10.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh SC, BC & MC Fin. & Dev. Corpn.	24.60

30/3/70/30 395
Inclusion of Christians in SC List

2143. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request for including Christians of Scheduled Caste origin in the list of Scheduled Castes; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government is seized of the matter, ad no time-frame can be specified.

395-406
Waste Land

2144. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT:
 SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
 SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
 SHRI A.C. JOS:
 COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

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

(a) the progress of work made for development of wasteland in the country for the last three years, year-wise and state-wise as against targets set—both physical and financial under Centrally sponsored schemes, scheme-wise;

(b) the scales/norms and terms of financial assistance provided by the Union Government as well as by the World Bank of Individuals/cooperative societies/NGOs for development of waste land, state-wise; and

(c) the details of proposals received/cleared and pending with reasons during the current year state-wise;

(d) the progress of ongoing projects during the current year and project-wise, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUA PATIL): (a) The Department of Wastelands Development is not implementing any Centrally sponsored Schemes. However, the Department is implementing a Central Sector Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) Scheme for development of non-forest wastelands on watershed basis. Under this scheme, no state-wise physical and financial targets are fixed. The projects are sanctioned on project to project basis for development of wastelands. Under the Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme, funds released

to treat area during the last three years are given as under:—

Year	Funds released (Rs. in crores)	Area to be treated (In Ha.)
1995-96	51.00	58,000
1996-97	50.80	84,000
1997-98	53.95	90,00
Total:	155.75	2,32,000

(b) Under Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme, projects are sanctioned on project to project basis to District Rural Development Agencies/Zilla

Parishads subject in conformity with the "Guidelines for Watershed Development" for development of non-forest wastelands @ Rs. 4000/- per ha. The Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Co-operative Societies can also be appointed as Project Implementing Agency by the District Rural Development Agencies/Zilla Parishads. Further, the Department is also implementing a Central Sector scheme namely "Support to NGOs/Voluntary Agencies". Under this scheme, Central grant is made available to registered Voluntary Agencies, Cooperative Societies for undertaking work directly or indirectly encouraging afforestation and wastelands development. No project has been funded by the World Bank under the schemes being implemented by the Department.

(c) The details are given in the *Statement-I*.

(d) The progress of on-going projects during the current year is given in *Statement-II*.

Statement I

Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) Scheme

Sl. No.	State	Proposals received during 98-99	Proposals cleared/ sanctioned	Proposals returned	Proposals under process	Clarifications awaited from DRDAs/ZPs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	2	—	3	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	—	—	—	2
3.	Assam	7	—	3	1	3
4.	Bihar	5	—	1	1	3
5.	Gujarat	6	2	1	2	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—	—	—	3
7.	Haryana	2	—	1	—	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	1	—	—	1
9.	Karnataka	8	1	—	7	—
10.	Maharashtra	34	1	1	10	22
11.	Manipur	5	1	—	1	3
12.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3	—	—	2	1
14.	Orissa	14	1	1	4	8
15.	Rajasthan	5	1	2	2	—
16.	Sikkim	3	—	—	—	3
17.	Tamil Nadu	3	1	1	—	1
18.	Uttar Pradesh	21	1	8	11	1
19.	West Bengal	1	—	1	—	—
Total:		133	12	20	44	57

Statement II*Statement Showing Release of Funds during the Period 1998-99*

Name of the District	Project Period	Total Area (in ha.)	Total Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Release 1998-99 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
STATE: AP				
Nalgonda	92-93 to 95-96	4059	302.09	50.07
Nellore-II	94-95 to 97-98	9320	416.59	64.15

1	2	3	4	5
Nizamabad	93-94 to 97-98	8570	357.58	90.78
Prakasam-II	94-95 to 98-99	4200	335.51	103.50
Chittoor-I	96-97 to 99-00	8085	323.40	64.68
Kumool	95-96 to 98-99	7330	293.20	50.00
Chittoor-II	96-97 to 99-00	8280	331.20	114.79
Nellore-III	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Khammam	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Medak-II	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Khammam-II	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Sub total		99844	4359.55	837.97
STATE : GJ				
Panchmahal	93-94 to 97-98	3370	287.89	71.87
Amreli	94-95 to 98-99	5500	359.45	60.96
Jamnagar	94-95 to 98-99	2480	245.89	49.46
Kheda	96-97 to 99-00	812	32.48	3.08
Vadodara	98-99 to 01-02	11275	451.00	67.65
Bhavnagar	98-99 to 01-02	11002	440.00	66.00
Sabarkantha	98-99 to 01-02	12000	480.00	72.00
Junagarh-II	98-99 to 01-02	12340	493.00	73.95
Panchmahal-II	98-99 to 01-02	12200	488.00	73.20
Sub total		70979	3277.71	538.17
STATE: HP				
Mandi	98-99 to 01-02	12567	499.00	74.85
Chamba-II	98-99 to 01-02	12351	494.00	74.10
Sub total		24918	993.00	148.95
STATE: JK				
Jammu	98-99 to 00-01	5730	230.00	34.50
Kathua	98-99 to 01-02	8650	346.00	51.90
Sub total		14380	576.00	86.40

1	2	3	4	5
STATE: KA				
Gulbarga	97-98 to 00-01	11847	474.00	142.22
Belgaum	98-99 to 01-02	12481	499.24	74.88
Bellary-II	98-99 to 01-02	12400	490.00	73.50
Kolar	98-99 to 01-02	12239	489.56	73.43
Tumkur-III	98-99 to 01-02	12412	496.48	74.47
Bidar	98-99 to 01-02	12485	499.40	74.91
Sub total		73864	2948.68	513.41
STATE: MA				
Sindhudurg	98-99 to 01-02	11320	452.80	67.92
Amravati	98-99 to 01-02	11424	456.96	68.54
Sub total		22744	909.76	136.46
STATE: MN				
Imphal (West)	97-98 to 00-01	6675	267.00	53.40
Senapati	97-98 to 00-01	1393	55.72	16.72
Tamenglon	98-99 to 00-01	12500	500.00	75.00
Imphal (West)-II	98-99 to 01-02	11000	440.00	66.00
Sub total		31568	1262.72	211.12
STATE: MP				
Durg	94-95 to 97-98	3680	215.94	48.10
Narasingpur	97-98 to 00-01	7000	280.00	83.13
Sehore	98-99 to 01-02	12000	427.18	64.07
Sahdol	98-99 to 01-02	10555	422.22	63.33
Sub total		33235	1345.34	258.63
STATE: NG				
Mokochung	97-98 to 00-01	12000	480.00	48.00
Tuensang	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Mon	98-99 to 01-02	12500	500.00	75.00
Sub total		3700	1480.00	198.00

1	2	3	4	5
STATE : OR				
Dhenkanal-I	94-95 to 98-99	691	45.97	7.15
Dhenkanal-II	96-97 to 99-00	2515	100.60	30.18
Jharsuguda	97-98 to 00-01	7216	288.64	28.86
Keonjhar	98-99 to 01-02	5145	205.74	30.86
Angul	98-99 to 01-02	6037	241.50	36.22
Sub total		21604	882.45	133.27
STATE: PB				
Patiala	96-97 to 99-00	550	22.00	6.60
Sub total		550	22.00	6.60
STATE: RJ				
Jaipur-I	93-94 to 96-97	3381	329.40	22.00
Jaipur-III	93-94 to 96-97	4748	414.05	50.00
Palli	94-95 to 98-99	5049	320.85	80.00
Bundi	96-97 to 99-00	686	27.30	8.19
Sub total		13864	1091.60	160.19
STATE : TN				
Pasumpon	94-95 to 98-99	3073	284.73	100.00
Coimbatore	96-97 to 99-00	480	19.20	1.91
Dindigul	97-98 to 00-01	5090	200.00	20.00
Coimbatore-II	98-99 to 01-02	9058	362.32	54.34
Sub total		17701	866.25	176.25
STATE: UP				
Fatehpur	96-97 to 99-00	9880	395.20	117.80
Agra	96-97 to 99-00	12295	491.80	96.52
Jaunpur	96-97 to 99-00	11718	468.72	92.80
Varanasi	96-97 to 99-00	9645	385.80	177.93
Kanpur (C)	96-97 to 99-00	5510	220.40	65.44
Unnao	97-98 to 00-01	12041	481.64	144.48
Sonbhadra	97-98 to 00-01	10106	404.26	121.29
Raibareli-II	97-98 to 00-01	12100	484.00	100.00
Sitapur	98-99 to 01-02	12058	482.32	72.35
Chandauli	98-99 to 01-02	11000	444.00	66.60
Lakhimpur	98-99 to 01-02	12240	489.60	73.44
Kanpur Dehat	98-99 to 01-02	12039	481.56	72.23
Sub total		130632	52229.30	1200.88
Total		592883	25244.36	4606.30

60 +

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Karnataka

2145. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether vocational courses for students studying in Kendriya Vidyalayas in Karnataka and other States have been started along with regular curriculum; and

(b) if so, the details of the vocational courses already started or proposed to be started?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

2000

Employment Guarantee Scheme

2146. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had launched "Employment Guarantee Scheme" in year 1993-94 to provide employment to the youths belonging to the rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, whether any targets were fixed for providing employment during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the number of youths provided employment under this scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Government had launched "Employment Assurance Scheme" during 1993-94 to provide gainful employment for 100 days of manual work during lean agricultural season to all able bodied adults, living in rural areas, who are in need of work and seeking it.

(b) and (c) EAS is a demand driven scheme, hence no targets are fixed under it. The scheme is open to all

rural poor including the youths. Number of individuals benefited under the scheme is not monitored. Only the wage-days generated is monitored.

[English]

8

Prisoners

Tihar Jail Security

2147. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jailbreak: Shocked Tihar Officials Plan Security Revamp" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated January 15, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the gang war on communal basis have also been operating in the jail;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) The report that a group of persons wearing khakhi clothes attempted to jump over the prison wall is factually incorrect. However, there was a minor incident of violence which broke out when the prisoners in one of the barracks refused to observe their prescribed daily routine.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

20/5/00

Inclusion of Caste/Community in Central List

2148. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed a list of Castes/Communities included in the state list of SCs/STs and OBCs of Orissa to be included in Central List;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Amendments to the Central List of OBCs are made by the Government on the basis of recommendations of the National Commission for Backward Classes. No timeframe can be specified.

Census Bungling

2149. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 30th report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes reveals census bungling in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to set right the distortion of census data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The 30th Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes does not reveal any census bungling.

However, under Annexure 4 of the Report an article written by Shri Sharad Kulkarni is enclosed as miscellaneous papers. This article titled as 'Distortion Census Data on Scheduled Tribes' states that the increase in tribal population as depicted in 1981 census over 1971 census is due to two reasons viz,

- (i) 'Removal of Area Restrictions (Amendment) Act, 1996' made the lists (of Scheduled Tribes) applicable to all areas in the state whereas in 1971 it was restricted to the members of any specific Tribe, only if they were living in the area specified for that tribe.
- (ii) Deliberate fraudulent responses given to the census enumerators by non-tribal households.

However, the contents of the article do not reflect any bungling in the census process.

(c) Wide publicity is given during census about provisions of the Census Act according to which the respondents are required to give correct information and it also binds enumerators to record the information truthfully.

Data is collected at each census with due care by well-trained enumerators and as per the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as appearing in the 'Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order 1956' as amended from time to time.

Stray Animals

2150. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fund allocated for 1998-99 to look after stray animals were used;

(b) if so, the amount allocated and utilised so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Rs. 5.00 crores has been allocated in the R.E. 1998-99 of the Ministry of Environment & Forests and it has been allowed to be utilised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for new schemes for Animal Welfare. Out of this amount Rs. 238.34 lakhs has been utilised so far under two new schemes for looking after stray animals. The remaining amount is expected to be utilised in full by the end of this financial year.

Scholarship Schemes for SCs/STs

2151. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budgeted amounts under Pre-Matric and Post Matric Scholarship schemes for SCs/STs students have been reduced in 1998-99 as compared to 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the break up of figures of funds allotted to each of the States and U.Ts of the country during the above period; and

(c) the reasons for such a decrease in quantum of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Budget amount under these schemes for 1996-97 is not comparable with 1997-98

and 1998-99 as expenditure at the end of VIII Five Year Plan i.e. 1996-97 level is committed to the State budget. Allocations for 1998-99 as compared to 1997-98 have been increased.

(b) *Statement-I* and II showing Statewise/Union-Territory-wise Central assistance released under these schemes during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are annexed.

(c) There has been no decrease in 1998-99 as compared to 1997-98.

Statement I

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to Children of those engaged in Unclean Occupations

Central Assistance released since 1996-97

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (as on 28.2.99)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	49.66387	2.61442	14.50
2.	Bihar	16.08	Nil	2.75
3.	Gujarat	377.34425	83.77803	76.48949
4.	Haryana	58.14456	Nil	62.83581
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	0.04
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	1.2145	0.69
7.	Karnataka	12.33637	27.3395	9.47
8.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	0.70
9.	Madhya Pradesh	340.16	9.73225	90.22125

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Maharashtra	67.644	21.2514	90.9805
11.	Orissa	11.64912	Nil	Nil
12.	Punjab	64.22409	Nil	Nil
13.	Rajasthan	115.1875	Nil	Nil
14.	Sikkim	0.50	Nil	0.07375
15.	Tamil Nadu	74.133	27.926	34.4335
16.	Tripura	14.656	1.6863	2.9082
17.	Uttar Pradesh	201.33626	24.4575	8.55
18.	West Bengal	1.37908	Nil	Nil
19.	Goa	Nil	Nil	0.3575
Total:		1404.43	200.00	395.00

Statement II

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to SC and ST students—Central assistance released Since 1996-97

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (As on 28.2.99)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3124.637	3197.288	2639.458
2.	Assam	52.038	0	285.98652

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	0	0	797.152
4.	Goa	0	0	NIL
5.	Gujarat	494.89	0	50.254
6.	Haryana	2.26	0	57.57
7.	Himachal Pradesh	24.73	0	19.83?
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	78.07	14.9	44.85
9.	Karnataka	1374.526	0	NIL
10.	Kerala	634.495	—	NIL
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1982.79	0	NIL
12.	Maharashtra	2371.8	967.78	471.24
13.	Manipur	374.5	0	507.8
14.	Meghalaya	371.843	0	749.058
15.	Mizoram	144.5	0	521.008
16.	Nagaland	404.9	0	1084.26
17.	Orissa	531.43	47.16	57.35

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Punjab	0	0	551.2841
19.	Rajasthan	934.75	84.7	450.53
20.	Sikkim	0	0	0.3729
21.	Tamil Nadu	1817.74	396.78	958.86
22.	Tripura	29.346	0	113.48448
23.	Uttar Pradesh	2070.823	705.392	621.65
24.	West Bengal	1146.122	0	NIL
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.85	0	1.0613
26.	Daman & Diu	2.089	0	1.15164
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	1.83
28.	Delhi	0	0	NIL
29.	Guwahati Project	3	3	—
30.	Pondicherry	20	0	NIL
Total		17993.129	5417	9988.0429

CPWD Employees in VIP Areas

2152. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work done by CPWD employees in VIP areas like South Avenue, North Avenue etc. are not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of CPWD in these areas;

(c) whether there is any plan to privatise the entire system of CPWD in these VIP areas; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The C.P.W.D. has reported that works in VIP areas are being carried out satisfactorily, although there is always scope for improvement.

(c) and (d) There is no such move. C.P.W.D. has the capacity to maintain the system to the satisfaction of the clients.

Housing
Pavement Dwellers

Pavement Dwellers

2153. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several poor and downtrodden people in the country dwell on pavements;

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

(c) whether the Government are formulated any scheme to rehabilitate them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) With a view to ameliorate the living condition and shelter problems of the absolutely shelterless

households till such time as they can secure affordable housing and to mitigate their hardship, the Government of India has formulated a scheme named Night Shelter and Sanitation Facility for Urban Footpath Dwellers under the Central sector. This Scheme has following two components:

1. Construction of community night shelters with community toilets and baths. Under this component a Central subsidy amounting to Rs. 1000/- and HUDCO loan of Rs. 4000/- per beneficiary is being provided.
2. Construction only of community pay and use toilets/baths for the homeless. Under this component a Central subsidy of Rs. 350/- per user per seat is given.

The Scheme primarily caters to the needs of urban footpath dwellers as assessed by State Governments and borrowing agencies.

The Scheme is formulated, constructed and operated by the municipal bodies or agencies designated by State Governments. Apart from State or local agencies, private agencies including voluntary organisations recommended by State Government or its agencies can be associated with the implementation and management of the Scheme.

[Translation]

FCI Godowns

FCI Godowns

2154. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJHARPUR):
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns constructed/under construction in Bihar, capacity-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct more godowns in the State;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to construct godowns in various States during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL

SINGH YADAV: (a) A statement showing the number of godowns constructed/under construction by the FCI in Bihar, capacity-wise, as on 31.12.1998 is enclosed at *Statement-I*.

(b) to (d) Government does not propose to construct more godowns presently in Bihar as the existing storage capacity available with FCI in Bihar is considered to be adequate.

(e) and (f) The construction of godowns is a continuous activity. The construction programme is drawn keeping in view the specific requirements of the States and availability of funds.

However, during the first two years (1997-99) of the Ninth Five Year Plan, FCI has taken up construction of godowns at the centres indicated at *Statement-II*.

Statement-I

Statement showing the Number of Godowns Constructed/Under Construction in Bihar, Capacity-wise

(Fig. in '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of the Centre	Covered (Capacity-wise) (Owned)
1	2	3

A. CONSTRUCTED GODOWNS

1.	Jasidhih	12.50
2.	Darbhanga	5.74
3.	Jai Nagar	9.67
4.	Gaya (FSD)	64.72
5.	Gaya (Silo-Bine)	32.00
6.	Dhanabad	13.74

7.	Chanpatia	6.28
8.	Mazaffarpur	7.60
9.	Narainpur Anant	36.67
10.	Buxar	25.00
11.	Dighaghat	32.44
12.	Mokamah	57.63
13.	Phulwari Sharif	56.97
14.	Belouri (Purnea)	8.98
15.	Katihar	10.84
16.	Saharsa	14.64
17.	Dalton Ganj	14.64
18.	Jamshedpur	10.84
19.	Ranchi	11.67
Total:		432.57

B. GODOWNS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

1.	Gumla	5.00
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Statement II*List of Centres where construction have been taken up during the 1st and 11nd year of 9th Five Year Plan*

Year	Name of State	Name of Centre	Capacity (in M.T.)
1997-98	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	3330
		Baramulla	3340
	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1670
	Karnataka	Udupi	10000
		Kushalnagar	2500
		Tumkur	5000
	Uttar Pradesh	Dhamora	20000
		Roza	10000
	Madhya Pradesh	Dhamtari	10000
	Maharashtra	Sholapur	5000
1998-99	Uttar Pradesh	Dhamora	5000
	Maharashtra	Sholapur	10000
	Bihar	Gumla	5000
	Orissa	Jharsuguda	10000
	Kerala	Meenangadi	5000
		Arakulam	5000
	Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair	2500
	Punjab	Rajpura	10000
		Tanda Umar	10000
	Haryana	Taroori	10000
Total:			143340 MT

Natural calamity

Foodgrains to flood affected areas of Bihar

2155. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains allocated from Central Pool to the flood and drought affected areas of Bihar during the last three years;

(b) whether any demand has been raised recently by the State to face the flood havoc in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The following quantity of wheat was allocated from Central pool to the State of Bihar for flood relief in addition to the normal allocation of rice & wheat for Public Distribution System/Targetted Public Distribution System, during the last three years *i.e.* from 1995-96 onwards:

Year	Allocation
1995-96	Nil
1996-97	15,461 MT Wheat
1997-98	40,000 MT Wheat
1998-99	70,000 MT Wheat

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

PLT 125

Notification under Sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 etc.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): I beg to lay the following papers on the table:

(1) A copy of the Foreign Contribution (Acceptance or Retention of Gifts or Presentation) Amendment

Regulations, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 37(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1999, under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2500/99]

(2) A copy each of the following Orders (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982:—

(i) Special Order dated the 22nd January, 1999 made by the President sanctioning additional funds under Schedule II to the Governor of Tamil Nadu for the financial year 1995-96.

(ii) Special Order dated the 22nd January, 1999 made by the President sanctioning additional funds under Schedule II to the Governor of Tamil Nadu for the financial year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2501/99]

(3) A copy of the National Security Guard (Group 'C' Posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 254 in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 139 of the National Security Guard Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2502/99]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2503/99]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Annual Report, Review of the working of the Central Warehousing Corporation, New Delhi etc.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Vegetable Oil Products (Regulation) Order, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 741(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1998, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2504/99]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Warehousing Corporation, New Delhi, for the year, 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Warehousing Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2505/99]

Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review of the Working of Auroville Foundation for 1997-98 etc.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1997-98.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2506/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2507/99]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1997-98.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training, Chennai, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2508/99]

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2509/99]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1997-98.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2510/99]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Calcutta for the year 1997-98.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2511/99]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the District Primary Education Programme, Gujarat, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the District Primary Education Programme, Gujarat, for the year 1997-98.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2512/99]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 1997-98.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2513/99]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2514/99]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 1996-97.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2515/99]

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lok Jumbish Parishad, Jaipur for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lok Jumbish Parishad, Jaipur, for the year 1997-98.

(22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2516/99]

(23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2517/99]

(25) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98 together with Audit Report thereon.

(26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2518/99]

[English]

Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts and Review of working of National Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2519/99]

(3) A copy of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under Article 338(6) of the Constitution:—

(i) Third Report of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(ii) A copy of the Action Taken memorandum (Hindi and English versions) on the Third Report of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2520/99]

Notification under Section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standard Act, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Recruitment to Administration) Finance and Other Posts (Amendment) Regulations, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 757(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st December, 1998 under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2521/99]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Calling attention, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): I have a notice.
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we will take up 'Zero Hour'
and later the Calling Attention.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call one by one. I have called
Shri Mitrasen Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

Now the 'Zero hour'

MR. SPEAKER: I have already called his name. After
that I will call your name.

Shri Mitrasen Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called his name; that is why
he is speaking.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Mitrasen Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He is on some other matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except
what Shri Mitrasen Yadav says.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling the names one by one.

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would
like to submit that the bones of the dead bodies have
been dragged out from the graveyard in Ayodhya through
tractor, which has resulted in communal tension in
Ayodhya. The law and order situation in the city, is in
danger. Prior to it there was law and order and communal
harmony but due to this act of the Ayodhya Municipal
Corporation and also due to these activities of some of
the communal organisations and on account of digging
out the graveyards the law and order situation there is in
danger...(Interruptions) My submission is that there should
be demarcation of the land of graveyard in Ayodhya so
that the communal harmony can be maintained and the
tension can be averted. This much is my submission
...(Interruptions)

Shri Mitrasen Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand. Forty-eight hon.
Members have given notices for special mentions in the
'Zero Hour'.

Please understand. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

12.06 hrs.

RE: DISMISSAL OF FORMER NAVAL CHIEF
AND ALLEGATIONS MADE BY HIM
AGAINST DEFENCE MINISTER

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA (Guwahati): This is
a matter of national importance. We have all given notices.

[Translation]

[English]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker,
Sir, I would like to bring to your notice a very important
issue. Ayodhya Municipal Corporation has imposed a ban
on the disposal of dead bodies in the city area by passing
a resolution. The result is that problem has cropped up
before a particular community, which dispose of the dead
bodies in the graveyards...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling the father of the House,
Shri Indrajit Gupta.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir we
have given a notice to raise the issue in the House for
the termination of Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

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SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, kindly listen to what I am saying. It is very important. I believe that a large number of hon. Member have given notices referring to the dismissal of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat, by the Government. This is a very serious matter which we wish to raise on the floor of the House because already three months have passed since his services were dispensed with. Up to now, we have had no chance of discussing this matter or hearing the Government explaining the reasons for its action. It is an unprecedented action. Such a thing has never happened since the country achieved independence.

Therefore, we request you that as soon as possible you kindly admit our notice under Article 239 for a comprehensive discussion on this matter. It is agitating the whole country. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We are not discussing the matter. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I am appealing to you to please take your seats. Please understand that the Chair has not given any ruling. I have called Shri Kamal Nath.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Why are you agitated? ...*(Interruptions)*. There is no reason to be agitated. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Kamal Nath.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Kamal Nath says.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, you have to control them. They do not want that it should be raised in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Khanduri, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order during Zero Hour. What is your submission, Shri Kamal Nath?

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...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I do not know why they are so much agitated on this matter. For the last three months the nation is witnessing a sordid drama in the Defence establishment, both in the Ministry with the Defence Secretary, etc. and in the Armed Forces, which is unparallel in the history of this country. The Chief of Naval Staff has not only been sacked but has been sacked in a manner which has been shrouded and clouded...*(Interruptions)* Sir, why are they worried? Let me complete what I am saying...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath, what is your submission?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, my submission is that an event has taken place which is unparallel in the history of the country...*(Interruptions)* Sir, are you allowing them to speak?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb him. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: What is your submission please?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, my submission is that an event has taken place which is unparallel in the history of this country. It is not merely the seeking of a Naval Chief...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh): Sir, the matter is very serious. it relates to the security of the nation...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath, what is your submission?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, if you want me to speak, you have to control them...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a discussion, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your submission, Shri Kamal Nath?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I can make my submission if you control them.

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha): Sir, I have to make a submission. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat. I have allowed Shri Kamal Nath, not you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Kamal Nath says.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

[Translation]

Shri Prabhunath Singh, Please Sit down. Shri Chaubey, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

Shri Kamal Nath, what is your submission?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called his name. I will call you later. Please understand the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that I have called Shri Kamal Nath.

...(Interruptions)

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

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaubey, please take your seat. I have called Shri Kamal Nath.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath, what is your submission?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Kamal Nath, you please sit down. you can speak later on.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, this is not...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you after him.

Shri Kamal Nath.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, from all the events...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that I have already called his name. How can you speak now?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not good.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing you to please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please take your seat. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, from all the events and overtones, there is only one objective appearing in this matter and that is how to have a compliant bureaucracy and compliant officers in the Armed Forces. The whole matter has a needle of suspicion, whether it is aircraft carrier or frigates, whether it is submarines or frigates and whether it is torpedos or missiles. The whole matter is reeking of corruption. Sir, the nation needs to know that has happened in this matter. We had a statement of the former Chief of Naval Staff.

We also have a statement of the former Chief of Air Staff. In this connection, I have given a notice for appointing a Joint Parliamentary Committee. I want to know whether you are accepting the motion moved by us and many others for constituting a Joint Parliamentary Committee?...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very surprising that the Parliament of India cannot discuss an unprecedented event. ... (Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is the dismissal of the Naval Chief a usual and routine matter? Can the Parliament not discuss it? The Defence Minister is going on the television...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Somnath Chatterjee, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not good. Please take your seat. You please sit down.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, if the hon. Members on that side think that they can throttle the entire Opposition, then they are totally mistaken. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, what is this? This is not good. I have called Shri Somnath Chatterjee. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete. I will allow you after him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Banka): Mr. Speaker Sir, you said that you will allow me after him. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't do so. You please speak afterward.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, Senior Ministers and leaders are sitting there. Can they not control them?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaubey, please take your seat. What is this? What is going on here?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is this? Do they not want to hear what we want to say? Let them controvert it. I am sure, there are very eminent people on that side. Mr. Speaker, whatever may be said, justified or unjustified, this is an unprecedented event. In 50 years, since Independence, for the first time, a Chief of one of the...
...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram): In 'Zero Hour', without giving any notice to the hon. Speaker, they cannot raise it. Unless they have given a notice, they should not be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed him. Please take your seat. What is this?

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY: It cannot be discussed during the 'Zero Hour'. Current issues alone can be raised in the zero hour. Otherwise it will lead to a bad precedent to the proceedings of the House because the matter raised in the House is not a current subject. It can be raised by any other rules of the Parliament proceedings.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : There is a procedure. It is not a matter to be raised during 'Zero Hour'
...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (Calcutta North-East): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram): A senior leader is not being allowed to speak. We will not let them go on doing like this. ...
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I have already permitted him. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxer): This is a very bad thing, he has cheated.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaubey, please take you seat.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Das Athawale, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gopal, please take your seat. I allowed Shri Somnath Chatterjee to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, I am on a Point of Order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no Point of Order during Zero Hour. Please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we have seen several versions coming out in the papers. Many statements have come out. Hon. Defence Minister has given his version on the television. Hon. Prime Minister has also referred to ...
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members. I appeal to you to take your seats. This is not good. I have called Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj): What happened to the Bogus vote casted by in the name of Gani Khan Chaudhary ...
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: If Shri Somnathji has to speak, he should speak about casting of vote in the name of some other member...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaubey, please understand that I will have to take action against you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, if I says anything improper or unparliamentary, you will judge it and take a decision.

What I have been saying is that since the dismissal of the Naval Chief on the 30th of December, several versions have appeared in the press. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The High Court has already given its judgment in this regard then why are you raising this issue here...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, you are disturbing the House unnecessarily. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, I am giving you a warning. Please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you.

Hon. Defence Minister has made statements which have appeared in the press outside the House. He has also given an interview on television. Hon. Prime Minister has referred to this dismissal outside the House. I feel the Parliament of India will be failing in its duty if it does not refer to this matter, advert to it and discuss it with all the seriousness it demands. It is a matter of great

concern. We talk of parliamentary democracy. The Government also talks of parliamentary democracy. But, neither the Prime Minister nor the Defence Minister comes to the highest forum of democracy in this country and takes the House into confidence. Either of them does not make a statement here. We are totally kept in dark as to what is the real reason, if there was any reason at all.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY (Khagaria): Why it has not been raised three months ago. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The former Naval Chief has even held a press conference, we find from the newspapers, in which serious allegations have been made as to how such a decision was taken. He has made allegations of impurities. He has made allegations of corruption in defence deals. Does not the Government feel obliged to come before the House and take the House into confidence and tell the country through this House as to what has happened and what is the response of the Government? A very serious charge has been made by the Defence Minister that the former Naval Chief had become a security risk. That was the most serious allegation that could be made against an Army officer or a Naval Officer.

Sir, with regard to that, there is not a single response. What has the Government or the Defence Minister said in reply to Shri Bhagwat's press conference? I do not take any notice of it.

Sir, this is an amazing thing which is happening in this country. Is there a Government? The purpose of trying to post a particular officer who has made allegations on the communal basis, as to the religion of a particular person is on the record of the Defence Ministry...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Chetan Chauhan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: After giving promotion to such an officer, such action has been taken. There are comments about the adverse comments being quashed by the Defence Minister himself, and this House does not know anything about it. We have to go by conflicting reports in the newspapers.

* Not Recorded.

Therefore, Sir, we command an immediate discussion on this issue as to why there is no action taken. Otherwise, nothing can be done.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Chetan Chauhan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, you allow those who have given notices...(Interruptions). We have given notice. You allow us first...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, please listen to us also...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received several notices. I am calling one by one.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): You have not given a chance to our side to speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Sir, it seems that they have only permitted Somnath Dada...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

We allowed him to speak...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We will definitely listen, you please sit down. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Chetan Chauhan, what is your submission?

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to say three things. The thing is that this a very sensitive issue. The discussion should be held on all such officers which are likely to be removed or already removed during the last 50 years. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Every official who works for the Government of India works at the pleasure of the President of India. The Government has every right to remove anybody, and especially on such sensitive matters.

If such matters are going to be raised in Parliament, no Government will be able to function here. Today it is our Government. Tomorrow, it can be their Government...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Mohan Singh.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Sir, I have not completed yet. I want to raise two more points...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Singh has also given notice.

...(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakapatnam): We are the main Opposition party. You should call from our side also...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Sir, I agree with what Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said that it is unprecedented. But it is also unprecedented that people who are sacked, their issues are being raised there. If such issues are going to be raised here, this Parliament will become a place of the sacked people only...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Defence Minister had convened a meeting of all the leader in Rajya Sabha for briefing them on this issue in the presence of Mr. Prime Minister and took them into confidence. Could this process also not be applied to the leaders in the Lok Sabha? This is a sensitive issue related with the security of Indian Border and no effort is being made to raise the issue in wrong or right manner in the country through newspaper of the Government can brief the leader in Rajya Sabha about it, what was the problem in briefing the leader in ... as well. The Government of

India should make a statement on this important issue and it is necessary that the Union Government should clarify the position, regarding the serious allegations levelled by the Naval Chief and the manner in which the issue has been raised.

This issue has demoralised the defence services and a doubt has been created in the public about the sincerity of the Government. Therefore, this service issue should be discussed in House and all the facts should be brought before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point that Shri Mohan Singh has just raised, carries weightage...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan): Sir, we are not here to damage the image of defence by raising a very sensitive issue. I agree with the views expressed by several Members in this House. But my primary concern is, after the dismissal, when the hon. Defence Minister tried to convince the whole country by using the electronic media and the print media, it is not our fault. With folded hands I request everyone of you, friends, as representatives of the people of this country, as a sovereign body, that this apex institution has every right to know from the Defence Minister who has used the electronic media and the print media about this matter. I am not going to discuss now whatever the allegations he raised. Let me make myself clear. I am not going to make any charges or repeat those charges, what the hon. Defence Minister through electronic and print media has raised to defend his action and to justify his action of the dismissal of the Naval Chief. Has this House no right to know from the Government under what circumstances such an extreme stand has been taken? When I was heading the Government, I appointed this man as Naval Chief. In the last two years when I was there and my successor Shri I.K. Gujral was there, we did not have any security threat from him or receive any report from RAW or IB which have got their own way of collecting information about security risk from the Naval Chief. They have not given any such information to me. I do not know if they have given it to my successor. I do not know that. We have appointed a person. If this integrity and patriotism are questioned, then I must owe an apology to the nation. I am not going to lie low on this matter. We cannot ignore this matter like this. We have taken up only the issue of the dismissal of the Naval Chief. We have not gone to the other aspect of kickbacks. We do not want to raise that issue now.

I have already sent a notice under Rule 193. My friend has raised a point of order that in 'zero hour' such a serious matter should not be raised. This is his contention. We have sent the notice under Rule 193 and Rule 184. It is for your good self. You asked us to convince you. That is the question you asked "To convince you whether to admit this discussion". With all sincerity, I request your good self to ponder over this issue because 545 elected Members from the people of this country have got a right to know under what circumstances the Naval Chief has been dismissed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Nath, it is clear now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Sir, I am picking up from what the former Prime Minister has said.

I am picking up also from what my friend on the other side has said. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, let me finish ...*(Interruptions)* How can I speak when they are interrupting?...*(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM (Garhwal): Is this the way to address the Chair?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI H.P. SINGH (Arrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you just also listen to us. Only Senior Members are given a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)* We do not get a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I am picking up from what Shri H.D. Deve Gowda has said. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: They belong to the same Congress Party which had committed Bofors

scam...(Interruptions) The whole party is engaged in committing scam....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: You speak on Bofors and Urea scam.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not called you. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: This is not merely a question of the sacking of a Naval Chief. I am not on that point. I am not trying to question the civilian supremacy. I am not talking about any appointments; I am not talking about any court cases; I am not talking about CRs or how they were dealt with.

The whole matter is reeking of corruption. We have had a Statement of the former Naval Chief; we have had a statement from the former Air Chief. There is bribe involved whether it is submarines or aircraft carriers, whether it is frigates or torpedoes or missiles or spare parts or avionics. This is a matter which requires to be discussed in the House. Therefore, I have moved a motion under rule 184 for a discussion. The minimum that the House needs is to have a JPC. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH (Satna): They should feel ashamed as they are levelling allegations against George Fernandes...(Interruptions) The Parliament and the country are proud of Shri George Fernandes...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramanand Singh, please sit down.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: This dismissal has a nexus with the arms lobby and this dismissal has a nexus with kickbacks. That is the main reason for this dismissal but now it is sought to be clouded and shrouded with other reasons, which have no relevance. ...(Interruptions) We demand that a JPC be constituted. I have moved a motion for your consideration for the setting up of a JPC. I would like to know what you are doing, what is your decision on my notice for a JPC. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have denied natural justice to the Naval Chief by dismissing him as if he were a peon. Such a Defence Minister should be dismissed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I entirely agree with all the hon. Members who have spoken from the Opposition. When they said that an important event, if it takes place in the country, this House cannot be barred from discussing it. If, till today, issues of this kind and issues of this nature are not raised in the House, it is not because we do not have the right to raise them but because we impose a restraint on ourselves only in order to ensure that the Armed Forces of the country remain totally apolitical. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): But you can take it up in the television!...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am sure that democracy in India is what it is. One of the essential ingredients of our strength is that it is not like in other countries where there is an intermingling interconnection between the armed forces and the political representatives and on that account very many situations follow. It is in this context that when this development took place, there was an informal interaction between some leaders of the Opposition and the Government.

Therefore, till today—though so many months have passed - there had been so many occasions in-between and this issue normally had not been raised by us. ...(Interruptions) Sir, let me complete. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete. Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please let him complete. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Shri Mohan Singh drew our attention to a very pertinent fact. Shri Sikander Bakht, who is the Leader of the other House, is present here; he also pointed out to me that that was what was done in the other House, that is, the leaders of all the parties

* Not Recorded.

got together along with the Chairman and the Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I must complete. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please let him complete.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete. What is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: That time has passed. There must be a discussion on this issue this matter should be investigated...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, we obey your order. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: In the other House, the leaders agreed that this matter would not be raised in the House and that would be confined to that discussion.

So far as this House is concerned, you are the custodian. Sir. Shri H.D. Devegowda just mentioned that he had given a formal notice of a motion, etc.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We have also given.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: All right. The objection that was being raised was that this issue was being discussed during Zero Hour. That was the objection. But so far as we are concerned and the Government is concerned, the Government entrust this issue to you, Sir; and in whatsoever manner you resolve it, we will accept it.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : I wanted to raise a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, What is your submission? You can make only submission.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I would say this. I support Shri H.D. Devegowda when he said that the country has a right to know, not only the Members. My objection is this. We, the Members of this House, have

framed the rules, with your blessings. The rules provide specifically to raise matters of urgent public importance. It may be done by moving a motion or if it is a very urgent one, we may also have a Short Notice Question. When a notice is given to you under Rule 184 or under Rule 193, it is for you to decide. I would submit with all humility that you cannot allow it to be discussed here, before a decision is taken by the Chair. But if you want to hear those hon. Members who have given notices before your decision, then you may in your chamber hear them and decide about allowing it to be discussed under Rule 184 or under Rule 193. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, may I complete?

Otherwise, it is a very sensitive issue; our defence system is in question. Therefore, confidence is a must; the Lok Sabha must have full confidence in the defence system. So, kindly decide about it, keeping this in mind. But, we have a right to know and the people have a right to know.

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have only one request to the whole House, through you. What we cannot often say in a normal debate, I think, should not be adopted as a procedure in the Unlisted Business. Essentially, we cannot make charges against Ministers or Members, except by following the relevant Rules. Not only in this matter, but generally also, whenever we make charges which are against any Member or a Minister, the relevant Rule should be followed. So, we cannot do it in the normal procedure.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati): What have you done in the case of Shri Sukh Ram? You have stalled the proceedings for 18 days. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati): Sir, what is your decision?

MR. SPEAKER: I will give my decision.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: Sir, I may also be heard. Here, a lot of people are becoming the sponsors of Services and its morale. I think, I should be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Khanduri, what is your submission?

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: Many things are happening here; I am only requesting you.

453 *Re: Dismissal of former Naval Chief PHALGUNA 18, 1920 (Saka) Re: Dismissal of former Naval Chief 454*
and allegations made by him *and allegations made by him*
against Defence Minister *against Defence Minister*

MR. SPEAKER: We are not discussing the matter now; you can only make a submission.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: Everybody has spoken. We have taken so much time only to discuss this.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your submission?

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: Here, I want to state only this and request the House. *...(Interruptions)*

I have spent 38 years in the Army. *...(Interruptions)* What is happening here is very sad. Political mileage is sought to be derived at the cost of services and service organizations. *...(Interruptions)* This is my opinion. We have heard you. I would like to remind them that when we were in the Opposition, I raised the issue of defence services again and again. Everytime the reply was, 'Do not ask us. This is a holy cow'. The same was the reply even for the questions regarding budgetary proposals. It is agreed that information should be made available. I entirely agree that the House should get the information. But what is the methodology? If you want to raise any allegation, there is a method to raise that allegation and then the House can discuss that issue of allegation. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. P.J. Kurien, please sit down. Both of you are Chief Whips.

...(Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: I am only stating that whatever be the methodology of discussion, kindly ensure that it does not in any way affect the sanctity and the type of atmosphere that prevails in the defence services. This is my request as an ex-soldier and not as a politician. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please hear me.

I have received notice for Motions, Short Duration discussions, Calling Attention, Zero Hour mentions, *inter-alia* regarding allegations made by the former Naval Chief, Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat against the hon. Defence Minister. The issue being sensitive, the Ministry has been asked to send the facts. It is understood that three public interest writ petitions have been filed in the Bombay and Delhi High Courts. In this regard, their status has to be

ascertained. The notices are under my consideration. I also propose to consult the leaders on this issue today itself. Please cooperate with me.

With regard to Shri Mohan Singh's notice for Adjournment Motion, I would like to say that it was received after 10 a.m. today and it is invalid for today.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH (Satna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojna is being a failure in the Satna district of Madhya Pradesh due to red-tapism, high handedness and corruption prevalent in district industries centre and nationalised bank. Crores of rupees have been lapsed under the said scheme during last year 1997-98 but the educated unemployed persons have not been provided loans.

12.54 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Only seven percent out of the total amount has been provided to the educated unemployed as loan upto January, 1999 this year and not more than 15-20 percent amount would be provided as loans upto 31 March, 1999.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Members to take their seats.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH: Therefore the Government of India is requested to direct the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Nationalised banks to avoid carelessness in providing loans to educated unemployed persons under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojna so that much persons could avail of this scheme.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the irregularities

committed in Chandrapura Thermal Power Station in my Parliamentary Constituency and pollution created in Damodar River. The ash of Thermal Power Station is being thrown in Damodar river due to which the pollution is increasing in the river on the large scale. The ash pond of this station has been full of ash for two years and the ash has not been disposed so far. I request the Minister to conduct an enquiry into the depotism and disorder prevalent there. The officer and vigilance department there are not taking any action because they themselves are corrupt...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Pandey, what are you reading?

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Regarding ash pond in Chandrapura Thermal Power Station.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is Zero Hour. You can not read out. You must speak as to what you want to say to the Statement.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: I would urge the Government to order a probe to check pollution in Damodar river from Chandra Pura Thermal Power Station and immediate action be taken against the prevailing corruption there.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, in December 1996, a large number of arms were dropped in Purulia district. The case is pending in a Special Court in Calcutta. A startling revelation has now come and the matter was raised in the British house of Commons.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, this is 'Zero Hour'. You should not read it in 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I am not reading it. I am only referring to a news item which appeared yesterday. This matter was raised in the British House of Commons. It was said that a relevant portion of the document which was sent to the Special Court has been deleted and has been altered or tampered with. As a result, the Court has not come to any conclusion as yet. How could that happen and who is responsible for it? Sir Teddy Taylor has charged that the British Government has deliberately altered and tampered with the vital piece of evidence of a hand written note of a meeting between the main suspects, Peter Bleach and North Yorkshire Police in September, 1995. In the document given to the

Indian Court, significant portions at the beginning and in the end have been removed. It has been alleged...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not to make a statement. You just have to call the attention of the Government. I will not permit you to proceed further. You can just tell as to what do you want the Government to do.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government of India should take up this matter with the British Government and find out as to who has tampered with the document and what has happened to the inquiry conducted by the CBI? What action has been taken by the Government of India? As this is a serious matter, I demand a clarification from the Government of India.

13.00 hrs

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards creation of a separate State of Uttaranchal. The proposal for a separate State of Uttaranchal was moved in the House in the last session, however, no further action has been taken on it so far. I would earnestly request the Minister of the Parliamentary Affairs and the Union Home Minister that the proposal for a separate State of Uttaranchal be brought and passed in this very session.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House to a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*. Sir, under this Government not only the honest officials are threatened but a judge whom a Minister does not like is sacked. The unceremonious ouster of Justice Shivappa of the Chennai High court smacks of political vengeance. An inquiry was conducted based on an anonymous complaint...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam): Sir, he is questioning the conduct of the President himself...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Allow him to complete.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH: Sir, how can a Member be allowed to go into the conduct of the President himself?

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, an inquiry was conducted without going into the facts which is against the principle of natural justice...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What do you want the Central Government to do?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am requesting all of you to maintain peace in the House so that everybody could get a chance. Otherwise, I will adjourn the House and go. Please cooperate with me.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, the Minister of Law himself has sent a fax message and the fax was delivered to the judge...(*Interruptions*). Justice Shivappa was dealing with the corruption cases of the former Chief Minister and former Ministers of Tamil Nadu. I condemn this action of the Government...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram): Sir, a High Court judge is appointed by the President. He can be removed only by the President...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): Who has given this power to the Minister?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I have given notice on this subject itself.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already called Shri Tripathy. I will come back to you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI (Rewa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Babu Lal Kori, the Surpanch of Padia development block in my Parliamentary Constituency gave in written notice to the District Magistrate on 7.2.1999 that if the developmental works including the works proposed by me are not done and the destitute pension scheme is not introduced in this area then he would resort the self immolation. Sir, the D.H tried to make him

understand and assured him that this work will be done in 15 days period however it was not done and the Surpanch committed suicide on 22.2.1998. The father of the deceased wrote again to the D.M. that if the action was not taken against the guilty then he would also do the same, at that, the D.M. got the father of late surpanch arrested. Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the negligence of the Panchayati Raj and self immolations by the elected representatives. Shri Babu Lal Kori, the surpanch of the village Panchayat, Padia committed suicide against the high handed approach of the D.M. as he did not agree to do the job for which I had given funds from the MPLADS. The D.M. of Rewa does not even reply to the letters written by me and elected representatives. The surpanch had to commit suicide. I would like to urge that action be taken in this direction and the guilty be punished...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gopal.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): Sir, he is raising a point of order. How can a point of order be allowed during 'Zero Hour'?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not a point of order.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you raising a point of order?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No point of order should be raised.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is making submission.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, he has not given notice.

SHRI C. GOPAL: No, Sir. I have already given notice.
...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I want to know whether the Chair would permit a point of order to be raised during 'Zero Hour'...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was mentioned by the hon. Speaker repeatedly today that there will be no point of order during 'Zero Hour'. Shri Gopal, as I understand, is making a submission. Kindly be brief, Shri Gopal.

SHRI C. GOPAL: Sir, my friend from the Communist Party has raised a point. I would like to say that it was only the order of the President which was communicated by the Minister. The order of the President cannot be discussed here. Therefore, it should be deleted from the record. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not disturb now.

SHRI C. GOPAL: It was only a communication of the order of the President. Only the communication has been sent by the Minister. Therefore, I request you to delete the matter from the record because it should not be in the record. It must be expunged, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Khiri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important issue that talented students from urban as well as rural areas of Khiri district in Uttar Pradesh are facing a lot of inconvenience due to non availability of a Kendriya Vidyalaya there. There comes a impediment in the study of Governments employee's wards owing to which they do not put up their best and feel reluctant in going there on transfers. I therefore urge the Union Government to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya there at the earliest possible.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the law and order situation in Prime Minister's Parliamentary Constituency, Lucknow has completely deteriorated. The criminal in prisons have got mobile phones and they contact people outside jails through them. Illegal weapons and incriminating materials have been recovered from criminals in jails. Recently on 5th February, an incident occurred right before the State Assembly wherein a rickshaw puller was killed in a firing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the situation in Lucknow is going from bad to worse and a State Minister had to say that the Government was patronising the dacoits. Not

only that five girls from West Bengal were sold in Lucknow. Therefore it appears that the law and order situation in the State capital and the Prime Minister's Parliamentary Constituency, Lucknow has completely paralyzed. The Prime Minister should look into it.

[Translation]

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): Hon'ble Member is one of the senior most Members and after hearing him it seems that the question is related to the State Government. If a senior Member raises such questions here then the Parliament would become the State Assembly. ... (Interruptions)

I would like to make request that in future the law and order situation of the State... (Interruptions) should not be raised like this in the House.

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a train accident occurred in my Lok Sabha constituency on the 5th. E.M.U. train started from Khurja. There were some stones lying on the track at some distance from Dankaur. When the train left the Dankaur Station, sparks flew out from the stones and a smoke emanated making the driver feel that a fire had erupted. He applied brakes immediately. As soon as the train halted the passengers hurriedly jumped out of the train. While they were doing so the Gomati Express which was coming from the other direction hit four-five passengers who received serious injuries. And later on, they succumbed to their injuries. I would like to urge the Government, through you, that the people who died in this accident were innocent. If at all an error was committed, it was committed by the driver or the Railways therefore proper compensation should be given to the affected persons.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are they innocent, who have died?

SHRI ASHOK PRADAN: They are innocent. Why blame them? I had spoken with them. They jumped from the train, it was their mistake but they said that the driver on seeing the smoke emanating applied brakes which made them feel that a fire had broken out and they jumped. Therefore, I reiterate that they are innocent. I want to say that they must get the compensation and

the dependents of the deceased must be given employment. Hon'ble Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways is present here. I would like to ask him to speak on this matter.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it can be called a strange accident because some explosive material was thrown out of the train. This accident occurred because of the train coming from the opposite direction. Whatever has been stated by the hon'ble Member is broadly correct. Therefore, we will consider over providing assistance to the family of the deceased.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Human Resource Development Minister is sitting here. I am raising a most important issue regarding the non-formal education which was started in Andhra Pradesh in 1978-79.

The point is that the Supervisors and the Instructors have given several representations to the Union Government in respect of getting increased salaries. We are paying Rs. 250/- for the Instructor and Rs. 500/- for the Supervisor. Each Supervisor has been entrusted with 25 schools. There is no TA/DA for them. The present Government is most interested in the Government's Education Policy. Moreover, the Government's Education Policy is already there in the National Agenda. Even in the present Budget also, they are giving a lot of thrust on the primary education. This is exclusively for the unemployed children and the uneducated school drop-outs. We are providing the non-formal education in our State.

In this connection, I would like to state that they are demanding increased salary and payment of TA/DA. The other point is this. Suppose, they have been working for twenty years, they have no other avenue for getting the B.Ed. teacher training. In respect of the teachers working in the State Government schools, after five or six years of their service, they are given the B.Ed. teacher training. A special thrust is laid on this training. So, the Supervisors and the Instructors have submitted their demands to the hon. Human Resource Development Minister. I would request the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to kindly go through all the demands and consider them.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, with great anguish, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government, through you, to the likely sell-out of the HTL Limited in my

constituency. Formerly, it was known as the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited. Now, it has been re-named as the HTL Limited. This company is producing products which are used for telecommunications and Information Technology. It has been earning profits continuously for more than two decades. It is also one of the "Mini Ratnas." it gives employment opportunities for 2000 people directly and 3000 people indirectly.

On 14.2.1999, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had also drawn the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to look into the state of affairs.

He also requested him to see that the company is not handed over or disinvested to the extent of 100 per cent so that the interests of the labour union is preserved. I request this Government not to resort to this and extend a red carpet for the *videshi* as this Government is not for *videshi* concept. I request this Government not to disinvest to the extent of 100 per cent. If they want to disinvest, they should at least restrict it up to 49 per cent. The interests of the labour should be preserved.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Krishna Bose.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government are aware of what I want to say through you. Previous BJP Government in Rajasthan had demanded Rs. 1500 crore from the Central Government in the month of September. 20,000 villages in Rajasthan have already been declared as scarcity-hit villages and 5000 more are to be declared as scarcity hit villages. In spite of it, no funds have been allocated so far by the Government for live stock, and potable water for the people so as to provide relief to the people from the serious problems like employment and fodder. The Rajasthan Government have only Rs. 112 crore remained with them out of the funds allocated earlier and Rs. 198 crores are likely to be given this year. More than Rs. 217 crore have already been spent out of that and only Rs. 193 crores have remained. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Don't give a speech, just tell what is required to be done.

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we need Rs. 1147 crore. We have demanded

Rs. 950 crore from the Central Team. My request is that in view of the desert region the Central Government must honestly and immediately assist the Rajasthan Government for the employment generation.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Krishna Bose.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chaman Lal Gupta, how can I accommodate everybody together? I am coming to everybody. Do not get impatient. You should also cooperate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, this is not the way to behave. I do not encourage this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur): Mr. Deputy-Speakér, Sir I was trying to draw your attention to a very disturbing news item appeared in today's *The Hindustan Times* about the Calcutta Medical College.

As we all know, the Calcutta Medical College is the oldest medical college in this country and has been the premier institution in Asia. *The Hindustan Times* of today says that the Medical Council of India has drastically reduced the number of seats in the MBBS course from 155 to 100. I have been an educationist all my life. I can tell you that this will be a great blow to the medical students in West Bengal, in eastern States and all the North-Eastern States. Why has this happened? I cannot really blame the Medical Council of India. They have given three warnings in 1993, 1997 and 1998 to the State Health Department and to the State Education Department that if they do not do anything or if they do not rectify the deficiencies, they will take some drastic action. The Medical College was going down; the buildings are collapsing; there was no infrastructure, no equipment and no teaching.

I rise today to call the attention of the House, through you, that education is in the Concurrent List. The HRD Minister is present in the House. I would ask him to

advise our West Bengal Government, the State Health authority and the State Educational authority to do something so that the Medical College of Calcutta gets back its pride.

I would also request the Medical Council of India to give us back 150 MBBS seats that we originally had. This is my submission. Thank you.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to a very serious matter. The Food Corporation of India is transporting substandard and damaged foodgrains to Kerala which are not actually having the required quality. It is substandard and it is not fit for human consumption.

Sir, it is a matter of common knowledge that foodgrains had been damaged in large quantity in Andhra Pradesh and Punjab due to natural calamities. These foodgrains are being procured by the Food Corporation of India and deported to Kerala and from last January onwards, the damaged rice, which is not fit for human consumption, is allotted to Kerala for the Public Distribution System. This is done at a time when the Government of India has increased the issue price of foodgrains meant for distribution through the Public Distribution System. The ration dealers in Kerala are not actually taking delivery of this type of foodgrains, because they are afraid that the people of Kerala, who are very much aware of their consumer rights, will not buy it. The supply of such foodgrains has not been stopped and it is still continuing.

Sir, I also apprehend that on this ground there will be a cut down in the demand of foodgrains in the Public Distribution System which will be reckoned by the Government of India for reduction in the allotment of foodgrains. So, I would request the Government of India to look into the matter and I would also request that a Half-an-Hour Discussion should be allowed on this matter.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (Kurukshetra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that even 10 percent of the funds given under various schemes, in which the grants of the Members of Parliament and Member of Legislative Assemblies could also be included is not spent on development work. The mediators grab that amount.

The people come to the people's representatives, if any work is not done properly, if it is delayed or if the sub-standard material is used in the developmental work. The people's representatives are responsible for that, whereas bureaucrats have got hold on all financial, executive and administrative powers. If any Deputy Commissioner create any obstacle in any work of public utility and does not work despite of many repeated reminders from the Members of Parliament, then what power do a Member of Parliament process against him? what action he can take against him? The Government should specify the powers given to members of Parliaments in this regard.

I want to take two more minutes to say one thing more. A Member of Parliament can only lodge a complaint but it takes months to take necessary action on that complaint. This boost the morale of the bureaucrats, which encourage them a lot. The public representative do not have financial, administrative and executive powers, which make them handicap to take any action. A law may be made by making amendment in the Constitution, which should clearly specify the powers of Members of Legislative Assembly or Members of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What the Government of India should do in it, you please tell that.

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI: The Government of India should enact a law, which may specify the powers of members of Parliament. Unless the powers are specified, the bureaucracy would be more powerful in democracy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not completed the issue, please given me one more minute. A few days earlier the Prime Minister had said that bureaucracy create obstacles in the development works. What are the rules made by the Government in this regard? Has the Prime Minister taken any positive steps in this regard? A statement of the Prime Minister was published in the News papers that the Swiss Prime Minister had told him on the telephone that a huge amount of corrupt persons of India is in the Swiss banks. Have the Government taken any initiative to bring that money back to India, any positive step has been taken so as to complete major development projects, big dams, power plants, refineries, which have been lying pending for a long time and poverty, unemployment and starvation could be uprooted from India. Why the Government is not taking any initiative in this regard?

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I want to say something about Himachal Pradesh. There is a Government Dental College in the State at Shimla, where the students have been on strike since 3rd February, 1999. I would like to say something about the recognition being given to the college. This college has been recognised by Government of India and recommended by Dental Council of India and so far it is being recommended by it every year. But the Union Health Ministry has denied recognition to the college this year because of which teaching and admissions are not being taking place. I would urge upon the Government to check the vicious atmosphere of shimla and take step to end the strike. The students of Dental college are on strike. The matter of granting recognition to the college creates hurdle in the admission and examination of the students. Therefore, the matter should be settled. The State Government have also provided eight crore rupee for the construction of the college building. The question is not which Government is in power in the State, question is how to provide education to the students there. Though the college has been recognised since 1984, its recognition is renewed every year. Today the students of the college had approached me in this regard in the morning. Therefore, I am raising this issue in the House that the Government should grant recognition to it every year. A Dental Council of India also gave report in this regard. There is second college in Mandi District where recognition has been renewed every year. This year it has been granted recognition but the further admission have been stopped. I urge upon that both the Dental Colleges located in Sunder Nagar and Shimla should be granted recognition and the examination be conducted.

[English]

SHRI S. MALIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to submit one thing. We come here by nine O'clock and give our notices. During all these sessions, we have not been able to open our lips. We have not been given an opportunity because something or the other comes in the way.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Like Bihar.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Yes. We are not able to ventilate our grievances on the floor of the House about the burning problems of our constituencies.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You know that normally the national issues can be raised during 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: It is true.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can raise matters relating to your constituency under Rule 377.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: No, no; it is not like that. I am raising a national issue relating to my constituency. I am not raising issues pertaining to the State subjects. I am raising only such matters which are of great national importance and are recent ones.

There is a National Highway running from Bangalore-Kolar-Shimoga. To the extent of 30 kms, it is a double road. The remaining length of 40 kms, shall have to be doubled. It is pending since a very long time.

During the period of the Tenth Lok Sabha, an amount of Rs. 3 crore was sanctioned for acquisition of land. The acquisition of land is not yet over. Every day, a minimum of two or three accidents are taking place. The cases are pending in the courts. We have been insisting upon the Government for a long time to take action. But unfortunately, the Government is not taking any action at all. It is not a State subject. It is a national subject. The Central Government has also announced it. In spite of all these things, no action is taking place. Who is going to be responsible for this? The people die every day. The road is very narrow. Heavy traffic is there. Every minute, one truck passes through.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Shri Ramachandran has got a very bitter experience. It is surprising. It is an important matter. Therefore, I request the Government to take immediate action. They cannot play with the lives of the people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hope some people will be taking note of it from the Government's side.

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): I will be responding, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: You will be responding on a positive note. I want a response from a positive note.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Yes.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam): Please give a positive reply, Sir.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Many truck drivers have become victims. Their children have become orphans. They cannot go to courts. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mallikarjuniah, now let him react.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: How long will it remain? This is not the first time that I have been raising this issue. I am raising this issue for the last several years. I have been pained so much. Many of our friends travelling on that highway would be able to tell what actually it is. Why is the Government not taking any action?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Who is going to react?

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: I believe, Shri Ram Naik will take active participation in this.

SHRI RAM NAIK: The hon. Member has certainly raised this issue on many occasions. I know that because I have heard him saying so. The other hon. Members also supported him. I will bring this issue to the attention of the Minister for Surface Transport and try to see how the difficulties can be solved. I will request the Minister for Surface Transport to have a special meeting with him and ensure that the problem is solved.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA (Chandrapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I had given a privilege motion on 25th and we have not through that motion...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will find out whether you have given a privilege notice. If it is there I will look into it. I do not know whether you have given a notice.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Whatever you want to decide, please decide.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri R.S. Gavai.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R.S. GAVAI (Amaravti) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am bringing to your kind notice an issue of national importance.

Sir, the Prime Minister of India, hon. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has visited Pakistan on 20th and 21st February, 1999 on the inaugural run of the Delhi-Lahore bus service. During the visit, the Prime Minister conveyed to the Government and the people of Pakistan, India's deep desire for peace and friendship with them and to develop the comprehensive cooperation for the benefit of the peoples of both the countries. The Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration which is designated a landmark for peace and security of the two countries. But later, the reactions of the peoples of both the countries which appeared, were unpleasant and contrary to the spirit of the Lahore Declaration. This may be because of the ambiguity of the Lahore Declaration. Hence it is very much essential to spell out the Lahore Declaration for the peoples of India and Pakistan.

I personally feel that because of the ambiguity, these contrary reactions are coming.

I, therefore, urge upon the Prime Minister to clarify the position in this respect.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. I would like to

urge upon the Government that this problem should be solved. During the last session, I had raised a matter regarding the Kol tribals caste. These people are living from Jhansi to Chakiya in Banaras. They are very poor people. Even today it is seen that the people of this caste do not have their own houses and source of earning their bread. In the tribal areas of Kol tribals have been put into the category of scheduled tribe in other states like Madhya Pradesh and provided all facilities. Through you I would like to say that about 7,000 Kol tribals reside in my Parliamentary Constituency. An effort was also made to start Kol Development Council with the help of the Ministry of Social Welfare. The housing was to be provided by the Ministry. But even no fund has been received from the Ministry for the construction of houses of Kol tribals. There are large number of Kol tribals even in the constituency of my leader and Hon. Human Resource Development Minister. These people have their own problem. I would like to request.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Tell us what do you want from the Government?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: I urge upon the Govt. that Kol tribals should be included in the category of Scheduled Tribes. Last time our Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had given an assurance in this regard. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh had given its recommendations which have been notified by the State Assembly. If the Government had notified, the Government of Uttar Pradesh would have been out of power

...(Interruptions)

Those people would have got job facility and the Kol tribals of Uttar Pradesh would also have been included in the category of Scheduled Tribe. This is what I request to the Government of India.

SHRI HANAAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very specific problem of Delhi. All the employees of Super Bazar, Delhi had marched in processions to the Parliament. The Super Bazar was set up to provide cheap and good quality goods to the people of Delhi and whole country, but now cheaper and quality items are not being provided there. Today no good items are to be found in many branches of Super Bazar and even all the items are not available in the shops. The employees are levelling charges against the management that the management want to close it down. The Super Bazar will be closed because of the losses, it might suffered due to corruption therein. Sir, the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission had not

been implemented in the Super Bazar and the employees are not even getting HRA etc. Therefore they are very sad and took out the processions.

Therefore, I demand that the Government should supply quality items to the Super Bazar in adequate quantity and also meet the demands of the staff so as to ensure smooth functioning of the Super Bazars. I would earnestly request the Government as well as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to solve the problems of the Super Bazar in Delhi.

[English]

SHRI P. SANKARAN (Calicut): Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention to the plight of the coffee growers of Kerala. Kerala is the second largest coffee producer State in India, with almost 73,000 small time planters in the fields. Due to the Government's decision to sell the coffee to Coffee Board, the conditions of the small planters have become very worse. They are compelled to sell their products to Coffee Board at a low price.

As a result of that they are finding it difficult to maintain their estates. They availed various types of loans from the Coffee Board and now they are unable to repay the loan and interest to the Board. The Coffee Board started filing civil suits against the coffee planters. As a result of this, they are in a pitiable condition. So, I request the hon. Minister of Commerce to quash the interest as well as the principal amount.

There was a scheme in 1990 when Shri V.P. Singh was the premier of this country. At that time an Agricultural Rural Debt Scheme was introduced and debts were written-off but this was not made applicable to the coffee growers. As a result, the interest was accumulated and now they are not in a position to repay the interest as well as the capital amount. Unless this is written-off, they will be in such a pitiable condition.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What do you want the Central Government to do in this regard?

SHRI P. SANKARAN: I want the Central Government to write-off the principal amount and the interest amount.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, there was an assurance given by the former Minister of Commerce that interest would be waived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala): Sir, through you I would like to draw kind attention of the Government to a very important issue. There is grave financial crisis in Punjab. The State employees have not got their T.A. & D.A. bill paid. The Government had committed to give 300 crores of rupees which it did not. The Union Government should provide special financial assistance to the State of Punjab to improve its economy and save it from total bankruptcy.

Second issue I would like to raise is that of the Prasar Bharati Staff has been on strike for last 24 hours. Pay scales of some of the staff have been hiked and some other have been left out. The news being telecast is that collected 24 hours before and confusing the country. I would urge upon the Government to bring about parity in their scales of pay.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) On 20th and 21st March when the Prime Minister went to Pakistan on a goodwill visit, as many as 24 innocent persons were slain in my constituency. These killings were executed by the I.S.I. trained agents. These incidents occurred in Chaisana, Bariana and upper hill areas. I had seen from my own eyes that only four children have survived in a family. The youngest is only one and half year old and the oldest only 8 years. I would urge upon the Government to create a fund so as to ensure their future studies and meet other expenses.

I would also like to state that in last one year alone as many as eight genocides have been committed. As many as 26 persons were killed in Prankot and likewise 25 persons were killed in Mari and Kisthwar. These things can only be challenged by the local people. These challenges can not be met by only para-military forces or the B.S.F. As the Government have already initiated, more village defence committees should be constituted. All the village defence committees should be provided with sophisticated weapons and wireless sets and there manning those committees should get Rs. 1000 as honorarium so that they can defend themselves. The strength of the forces deployed there should be augmented to combat the militants who are forcing the people to migrate from there. 4 lakhs people have migrated from Kashmir and this process has started in Jammu also. This can only be arrested by strengthening the village defence committees, augmenting the strength of the armed forces and giving them free-hand to combat the militants.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir for the information of the House and also the hon. member, I would like to inform that already there is a Calling Attention on this issue in today's List of Business. The Home Minister will be making a statement on this issue, about which the hon. Member has raised now.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now I call Shri S. Ajaya Kumar to raise his issue.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (Ottapalam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also support the demands raised by Prof. A.K. Premajam. I demand an inquiry into the whole problem of PDS in Kerala.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Pant Hostel in Allahabad was started by the efforts of the then Chief Minister Pt. Govind Valabh Pant. This is a 80 rooms hostel and the students competing for I.A.S. and I.P.S. are given training and coaching here. It also gets a grant of 22 lakhs of rupees from the Ministry of Social and Empowerment. Students from our own country as well as from abroad are studying here, our Human Resources Development Minister has been professor there. I would urge upon him to ensure the release at the grant of 22 lakhs of rupees so that this hostel could function smoothly and the students are benefited. The time-scale employees have not been getting their salaries for last four months and are on the verge of starvation. I would again request that the grant of 22 lakhs of rupees should be immediately released to Allahabad University.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned for Lunch till 1445 hours.

1345 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till forty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at forty-nine minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[English]

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up the Calling Attention.

17-2-89
**CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Situation arising out of killing of some persons
by extremists in Jammu region**

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of killing of 22 Hindus by extremists in Jammu region and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): In three separate militancy related incidents, 20 people of a particular community were killed in the intervening night of 19th/20th February, 1999.

The first incident took place at Bajjalaran in Rajouri Police Station (District Rajouri). The militants attacked the house of a teacher around 2245 hours where a marriage ceremony had just concluded. They fired indiscriminately with automatic weapons, killing five persons on the spot. The members of the Village Defence Committee retaliated and the militants fled away from the spot. Ten persons were also injured in the said incident, out of which two later succumbed to their injuries making a total of persons killed seven.

In the second incident in the intervening night of 19th/20th February, 1999 at Morha Patta near Khudbani in Dhamsal Police Station (District Rajouri), four persons were killed when militants attacked a house at 0130 hours and started indiscriminate firing on persons who were sleeping in the houses.

The third incident took place at village Baryana in Amas area in Police Station Reasi (District Udhampur) in the intervening night of 19th/20th February, 1999 where

[Shri L.K. Advani]

the militants fired indiscriminately on the inmates, after forcing entry into the house, killing nine persons and injuring one. On hearing the gunshots fired by the militants, members of the Village Defence Committee of nearby Morha Village retaliated due to which the militants fled away from the spot taking advantage of darkness. The injured was shifted to a hospital for treatment.

On the 20th February, 1999, the Minister for Education and Minister for Sheep husbandry alongwith the Divisional Commissioner and the Inspector General of Police visited the village. On the 21st February, 1999, the Chief Minister accompanied by Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, Member of Parliament and the Director General of Police followed by the Divisional Commissioner visited Baryana village to take stock of the situation. Senior Police, Civil and BSF officers have also visited Morha Patta on 20-21 February. The State Government and the district administration initiated prompt action in providing relief as well as additional security in these areas.

Immediately on getting information about the incidents, a two-member Team headed by a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs also visited Jammu and Kashmir. The Team held discussions with various authorities of the State Government and the Security Forces and talked to the villagers at Baljalaran.

Immediately on hearing about the incidents, the Security Forces undertook extensive combing operations. Encounters took place at several places, resulting in the killing of 21 militants within five days of the massacres, from the 20th to the 24th February. Due to sustained operations carried out by the Security Forces during the month of February, a total of 51 militants have been killed in Jammu Division.

To further consolidate the situation, the State Government is working *inter alia* on strengthening the Village Defence Committee System by providing them training and improved weaponry and communication equipment in select cases; increased frequency of patrolling by Security Forces of sensitive and vulnerable areas; clustering of minority population near their places of work for providing security, periodic visits by Senior State Government and Security Force Officers to remote and minority areas; and checking of infiltration of men, weapons and equipment. In addition, there is a constant monitoring of the security situation by the respective Unified Headquarters level at Jammu and at Srinagar. The situation is also monitored in the Department of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs of the Ministry of Home Affairs at regular intervals.

We would like to assure this august House, that the Government of India would continue to provide support to the State Government and the Security Forces in their efforts to tackle the militancy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam): Sir, as per the facts and also as per the information given by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, so many people were killed just one day before the visit of the Prime Minister to Pakistan. Our party also welcomed the Prime Minister's visit; everybody welcomed it.

But the sad thing is that, at 10.45 p.m., when some marriage was going on in Rajouri village, militants entered and brutally killed innocent people.

Again, in the second incident, in another village, when people were sleeping in the night, at about 1.30 A.M., they killed innocent people. Another incident also took place on the same night in which they killed 22 people. My question is: What the Government of India or the Ministry of Home Affairs was doing about six or eight months back when militants were killing innocent people?

Secondly, when our Prime Minister was going to Pakistan to develop relationship between India and Pakistan, was it not the duty of the Government of India or the Ministry of Home Affairs to take utmost precautions from the security point of view in Jammu and Kashmir. Why did they not visualise any attacks by terrorists.

Again, when Shri Gujral was the Prime Minister, he was going to Sri Lanka for holding some discussions with Pakistan. At that time, in the border, a lot of firing took place and I questioned at that time the firing took place. It means that there is a knowledge and thinking that militants will take some advantage of such situations. Why have you not visualised it? This is my question. Unfortunately, the entire nation was shaken to hear that 22 people have been killed. After this incident, the Congress President, Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji, personally visited that area and also speech to the bereaved family members. They informed her that one unfortunate victim who was attacked about seven and a half hours earlier was not rescued by anybody and by the time he was rescued, he was almost at the fag end of his life and died afterwards. She was also informed that in the second incident one boy was not rescued till two and a half hours. Afterwards, that boy also died. So, it seems that there is some negligence and lack of concentration in the security.

Now, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs says that after the incident, the Health Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Government went on the next day. The Chief Minister also went there. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs sent only two members' team headed by the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was very sad from the Opposition's point of view and it is not correct also. It would have been fair on the part of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to go himself to give a moral boost to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We feel very sad about it. No doubt, Prime Minister has also expressed his distress about these incidents when he was in Amritasar. But still I want to know when he had brought it to the notice of the Pakistan's Prime Minister, Shri Nawaz Sharif, what was his reaction and also what assurances he has given that in future such things should not take place.

Now, I would like to quote what the President of Pakistan has said in Islamabad on 20.2.1999, on the day of the visit of the Indian Prime Minister:

"Pakistan is continuing its moral and political support to Kashmiris. He said that peace and security in the region depended entirely on the resolution of the Kashmir dispute. Pakistan will continue its political, diplomatic and moral support to the Kashmir on all fronts."

It was very unfortunate. I want to know when the President of Pakistan gives such a statement, whether our Prime Minister brought it to the notice of his counterpart, that is, the Prime Minister of Pakistan. What was the assurance given by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, this august House would like to know.

Then, afterwards, we are also surprised that Pakistan's Prime Minister gave a statement as if our Prime Minister has agreed to have a plebiscite on the Kashmir issue.

15.00 hrs.

Of course, our Prime Minister has denied it. But I would like to know why confusion is going on. Last time America said that the Minister of External Affairs says that we have agreed to sign CTBT. Afterwards Shri Jaswant Singh clarified that they have not agreed. Similarly, here also the Prime Minister gives a different version. Of course, our Prime Minister has given a statement that he never said like that. I want the Home

Minister also to once again assure that whatever might happen in the relationship and in the development talks between Indian and Pakistan, Kashmir will be an integral part of India. The people of India and this august House expect a categorical assurance from the Home Minister on this point.

My next point is with regard to the proxy war. If proxy war is going on, where is the end to it? So, we must dream of stopping the proxy war and developing the relationship between India and Pakistan, and we must make all efforts without losing our integration and strength on this issue.

I am rather surprised by the various facts given by the Home Minister not only on today's Calling Attention Motion but even in the answer to an Unstarred Question given two days back regarding the special measures taken by the Government of India to prevent terrorism. The reply said: "Public order and police being a State subject". It is not appropriate to say that. I do agree that law and order is a State subject, but in Kashmir, where terrorists are being given weapons by Pakistan and they are killing the innocent people brutally, mercilessly and in an inhuman manner, how can they consider law and order as the State's responsibility? How can they say that they will be only strengthening their hands and will only be monitoring the situation from here? The Home Ministry must draw the strength of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in his body and show a phenomenal result to the people of this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, sufficient explanation has been there. You frame your questions now.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I shall take only two or three minutes, Sir. I have to make some important points. I shall read the reply given by the Home Minister and then ask the question as to what is the solution to those points. The reply said:

"Public order and police being the State subject, it is for the concerned State Government to decide various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorism operations of different States and to improve the flow of information useful for control of the activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, development of financial assistance, etc."

[Shri T. Subbarami Reddy]

Here, I would like to know how they can treat the situation in Jammu and Kashmir like in any other State. Then how do they expect to control terrorism completely? They have to fully concentrate on this problem and see that some new system is evolved so that the Central Government is totally involved in tackling the Jammu and Kashmir's law and order situation and the question of protection of the lives and property of the people of Jammu and Kashmir should not be considered like in any other State. So, I want a categorical assurance on how they are going to solve it. I do not want to find fault with the Government, but people do say that during this year only, incidentally or accidentally, more incidents of killing have taken place. So, on that also I want a clarification whether the killings have increased this year or whether these are under control as compared to the previous year. If he says these have reduced, we shall be very happy, but if these have increased, then we would like to know how he is going to control them.

We would like to know that also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I am the only man who is talking. There is no other person to talk. This is an issue not concerning my house or your house but the whole country. I do not think, I am wasting time or I am accusing anybody, abusing anybody or attacking anybody. I am only talking facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We agree that these are very good points, but you have also to ask the question which the Minister will reply to.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I will be concluding very shortly. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakashi): His party has created the whole mess in Jammu and Kashmir for the past 45 years. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am on a point of order. Is it proper for this House to specify victims as Hindus? We do not mention the name of any community when there is any communal trouble or riot. Is it proper to specify the victims as Hindus? We do not mention the religion of extremists. The extremists are the militants and we do not specify their religions. Then, why should we specify the religion of the persons who are killed? Is it necessary? Is it proper?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Here, I fully agree with him. That word has come by mistake. I withdraw that word even though by chance the Hindus are killed. *...(Interruptions)* I agree with him. I am not arguing. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: He is not correct. I do not agree. I always agree with him, on this aspect because he is from this side. *...(Interruptions)*. If this word had come from the other side, I would have no objection. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, you have made the point and he has also agreed to that. The whole House agrees with you. Let us not prolong it like this.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I did not use the word 'Hindu' while calling the attention of the hon. Minister.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: He should not give communal colour to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, that point is appreciated by the whole House. So, please let him complete now.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, he did not notice one point. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made the point very correctly.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: He did not notice one point. When I called the attention of the Home Minister, I did not use the word 'Hindu'. By mistake, this word is found in the print. I removed that word because it is totally wrong to use the word 'Hindu'. Actually, I agree with him and therefore, I did not use the word 'Hindu'. I cannot use the word. *...(Interruptions)* I am opposing it.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I think that this procedure should be observed in future also. Let us not say atrocities on 'Christians or Muslims'. We will say atrocities on 'Indians'. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Yes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: They should also say that. At that time, they should not say that atrocities on

Christians or Muslims. ...*(Interruptions)* I hope that they will not say like that in future. ...*(Interruptions)*

- MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

-> MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not necessary. Let Dr. Reddy conclude.

Shri Reddy, any more question, I think, you have already put six questions.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I would like to put in a nutshell what I want to know from the Minister. We always take the policy that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. The Home Minister must give categorical assurance to this august House and the people of India that there will not be any change in the police of Govt. under any circumstances. Second, proxy war should be tried to be stopped as much as possible. Third, the Central Government should not throw all the blame on the State Governments saying that they have been given equipment and all other things and security is there. Home Minister's regime, Let us see what he is going to tell not for ally my questions.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Chairman Sir, first of all, in so far as militancy in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, the Government of India is fully involved in the battle that is being waged against militancy. So, when we mention a constitutional fact that law and order and public order are State subjects, it does not mean, in the least, trying to abdicate the responsibility of the Government of India in so far as militancy in Jammu and Kashmir or, for that matter, in any part of the country is concerned. In every part of the country wherever we are faced with militancy, it has an implication not only on public order. In the border States, it has relevance even to national security.

So, the Government of India is very much involved. As to the second point, we are waging a battle against militancy and proxy war with determination and resolve to quell it. Simultaneously, efforts are being made to bring about some kind of normalcy in Indo-Pak relations. Now, these two will go on simultaneously. There will be no let

up on either front and certainly in so far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned. This Government regards it as an article of faith to which the entire House and the country is committed that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, and there can be no compromise on this issue at any point of time. On these issues, we are all unanimous, we are all clear.

So far as these particular incidents are concerned, the hon. Member pointed out that you need not have used this word and you withdrew it.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I did not use it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It was in the Calling Attention Notice (as framed). But I would say that we should understand that the militants have an objective and that objective is not merely to kill people and create a sense of fear, but if possible, to provoke communal disturbances in various parts of the country. Therefore, this is a matter of design that this has happened. It is not incidental that those killed belong to a certain community. As I have said, it is a design has to be frustrated. So far as we are concerned, we are conscious that the world over, those who indulge in these terrorist activities think that are certain occasions where if you do it, the focus of attention will be greater. Therefore, when an effort was being made by the Prime Minister of India to proceed to Lahore by bus, which is going to evoke the attention of the whole world and establish the credentials of this country in so far as bringing about normalcy in India and Pakistan is concerned, they might have thought as to why not use that occasion to spoil the atmosphere by this kind of a thing. So, there is little doubt that this was a calculated design and planned to be done on that very night. We had certain apprehensions and we warned the State Government, we alerted our security forces. But even then, in a remote part, these incidents did occur. As I have said, immediately thereafter, the action was taken. Even otherwise, the action that is being taken has succeeded to a certain extent in quelling this situation. In this area, this is the first major incident after nearly five or six months. Six months ago something similar happened. Now, once again, it has happened. We are vigilant in this respect and we would continue to intensify our efforts at fighting militancy.

It is a matter of gratification for the Government that, for the first time in many years, this year's Republic Day was observed throughout the State, in almost every *tehsil* place, every district place, without a single incident occurring anywhere. They used to be a target for them. We were able to do it but at the same time, as I have

[Shri L.K. Advani]

said, we do not think that the militants who are indulging in it, whether within the country or from across the border, have abandoned their designs or objectives; those objectives are still there. Therefore, we are all the while vigilant, keeping the State Government as well as the security forces always on alert, and fighting them wherever it happens and providing the victims whatever relief is necessary.

So far as the number of militants who have been killed this year is concerned, I may mention that the number of militants killed during 1998 is 999, touching nearly four figures which is, perhaps, the highest in many years

It is a vigorous action. But the more important aspect of this battle against militancy is that the people who are killed and the militants who are apprehended are mostly mercenaries. The number of people who are being recruited by these militants from Jammu and Kashmir itself is lessening. It is gradually becoming lesser and lesser. This is a very welcome sign. So much so that, for all practical purposes, 1998 in the Kashmir valley has been very very quiet and peaceful. As a result of that Kashmir valley, the valley proper, which has been the focus and centres of attraction for tourists from throughout the country and abroad is regaining its past status. Tourism that has dried up in the last eight-ten years suddenly picked up in a very big way in 1998.

More than one lakh tourists from within India and abroad visited the Valley besides the one and a half lakh pilgrims who went to Amarnath for the *yatra*. Everyone knows that film producers and film companies have always found Pahalgam, Srinagar and Gulmarg as very picturesque places to shoot their films in. But, for several years now all those who wanted to have such scenes in their films were going to places like Ooty, Kullu-Manali, Darjeeling or abroad. They were hesitating to go to Srinagar or Gulmarg. This year, once again, there has been a rush of such film producers trying to shoot their films there. I am mentioning all these facts because Jammu and Kashmir has been moving towards normalcy. The businesses of those who survive on tourism, the houseboat owners, the restaurant owners, hoteliers, etc., is back again. I would not say that they have become absolutely normal but there has been a big spurt in their occupancy, etc. It is a matter of satisfaction for us. These unfortunate incidents that have taken place on that particular day had a very definite objective and that objective should be understood by all. We are alive to it. We have been pursuing the battle against militancy with all the strength at our end.

I would like to add that State Government also has been exerting in a very powerful manner. The coordinated effort on the part of the security forces, the paramilitary forces, and the Central Government has brought about the sea change in the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, hon. Home Minister did not touch in his reply the point raised regarding the Pakistan Prime Minister.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: So far as we are concerned, as you have read in the papers also, the Prime Minister while talking to his counterpart in Pakistan drew attention to these killings in Rajouri and in Udhampur and said that if this continues, we cannot bring the situation to normal. That is all that I would like to say. So far as we are concerned, we drew attention to this.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: The issue of plebiscite is also left out.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There is no question of plebiscite.

1519 hrs.

MOTION : RE TENTH REPORT OF BUSINESS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIRMAN : Item No. 9—Shri P.R.
Kumaramangalam.

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-
CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R.
KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 8th March, 1999"

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 8th March, 1999."

The motion was adopted.

15.20 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

**(I) Need to restore services of specialist doctors
in CGHS Dispensary No. 79, Vivek Vihar, Delhi***(MUR)*
[Translation]

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi): Mr. Chairman Sir, the representatives of the Planning Commission Co-operative House Building Society have demanded that a specialist doctor should visit the C.G.H.S. Dispensary No. 79, located in Vivek Vihar which falls under my Parliamentary Constituency, once a week so that the patients of this area may be examined properly.

Many retired Government officers are residing in this area who are our senior citizens. In the absence of a specialist doctor they have to travel a distance of 30-35 kilometers while going to and coming back from the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital due to which they waste a lot of time as well as face mental agony. They say that they had this facility earlier but this has been withdrawn just an year ago.

Therefore, through you, I would urge upon the Government to restore the services of a specialist there. This should be expedited keeping in view that the U.N.O. has also declared the Year 1999 as year of the aged.

**(II) Need for construction of a over-bridge in
place of a level crossing No.14A between
Nimiyaghat and Parasnath Railway Station,
Bihar**

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Dhanbad Railway Division has recently sent a proposal on 08.07.1997 to construct a road overbridge on N.H-2 in place of second railway level crossing No. 14A, 317'00 kilometers between Nimiyaghat and Parasnath Railway Station, Eastern Railway. In this connection I had also meet the then Surface Transport Minister, Government of India during the year 1997, and had requested to expedite this work, but the construction of the bridge in pending till date.

In this connection, meetings have been taking place between the circle National Highway officials and the Public Works Department, Bihar, since 1997 but no positive result has been achieved so far. The present

second railway level-crossing No. 14 A is situated on Grade Chord Rail Division and G.T. Road due to which there is heavy traffic on that level crossing. In such a situation the level crossing remains closed for about 12 hours.

This tribal dominated area is under developed. The Police and the administration have to face a lot of difficulty to maintain law and order situation when this rail level crossing is closed. The construction of this bridge would benefit lakhs of people and would save time also.

Therefore, I would to urge upon the Union Government to expedite construction of the above overbridge on the level crossing No. 14A.

**(III) Need to review the decision to acquire 'Deep
Complex' by Chandigarh Administration**

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): Mr. Chairman Sir, Candigarh is a Union Territory. Hundreds of people have constructed their houses since long there near the village Hallomajra. This area is known as 'Deep Complex'. Most of the people here do not belong to the affluent section of the society, but to the poor section of the society.

Few months back the Chandigarh administration had set in motion the process to acquire this land but the people belonging to this area have opposed it. These people say that if this land is to be acquired, hundreds of the houses will have to be demolished which is not in favour of anyone. On the one hand, the Government propose to construct 20 lakhs houses per year keeping in view the shortage of houses whereas on the other the Chandigarh Administration is bent upon to demolish these houses. This is something contradictory as would further aggravate the problem of the shortage of houses. In this connection. These people have sent memoranda to many high officials including hon. Union Home Minister. These people have been on agitation for the last several days. On the other hand the Chandigarh administration has completed all the formalities to acquire this land and due to it the resentment amongst the people is increasing.

Therefore I urge upon the Government to issue direction to the Chandigarh administration to withdraw the process set in motion to acquire this land so that hundreds of houses can be saved from demolishing. I also urge upon the Government to regularise the constructed houses there and to issue power and water connections.

(iv) Need to direct the State Government of U.P. to denotify "Benam Bhumi" as forest land in Uttaranchal

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora): The residents of Uttaranchal region in Uttar Pradesh have traditional rights over the forest land and the forest produce for thousands of years. During 1993 the traditional rights of acquiring fodder, fire wood, timber, slate stone, soil, stone etc. have been recognised under the Forest Bandobast Rights which they have been continuously enjoying.

But the Government of Uttar Pradesh vide their order dated 17.3.97 and 19.3.97 under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 have imposed a ban on the use of the forest products of the land other than the land owned by the residents at Uttranchal, which is generally known as 'Benam Bhumi' by declaring that land as Forest lands. In the name of the orders of the hon. Supreme Court, the residents of Uttranchal have been denied to use soil, stone and wood etc. from their own land also at present. If anyone uses these things as a matter of right, he is being punished.

By imposing a ban on the traditional rights of the residents of Uttranchal by the Forest Department and the administration and by imposing restriction on the use of fuel, stone and sand stone etc., on one hand all the developmental works have come to a stand-still on the other hand the common man are deprived of their own houses and agriculture.

Therefore I, request the Central Government to issue immediate directives to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to restore the above right to the residents of Uttranchal region in the above matter.

[English]

(v) Need to direct NABARD to provide interest free loans to Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank for the benefit of farmers affected by natural calamities

DR. B.N. REDDY (Miryalgouda): Sir, the Reserve Bank of India have instructed that the reschedulement period of loans following the effect of drought and pests on crops should be fixed for a maximum period of nine years including moratorium period of two years. However, NABARD is agreeable for reschedulement of APCOB dues for a maximum period of seven years including moratorium period of two years.

The Reserve Bank of India has also been asked to direct NABARD to extend interest free loans of at least Rs. 51 crore for two years to the Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank so as to tide over its financial problems. It has also been requested that the interest rate applicable to short term crop loans from NABARD to APCOB should be at the minimum possible rate of about 5 per cent per annum so that the benefit can be passed on to farmers affected by natural calamities and who have sustained heavy loss of crops.

Since the matter is pending for a long time now and the farmers affected by natural calamities who had sustained heavy losses of crops could be helped by this decision, I urge the Union Government to expedite action in the matter.

(vi) Need for construction of new buildings for Post Offices at Rahuri and Sangamner Tehsils in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE (Kopergaon): Sir, Rahuri and Sangamner Tehsils are the two prominent and fast growing cities in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. These two cities have a total population of near about one lakh. Rahuri is industrially important having cooperative sugar mill, cooperative spinning mill and Mahatma Phule Agricultural University. Sangamner is industrially and commercially an important place and many offices of Maharashtra Government are situated here. In these two cities there are no permanent buildings for operation of postal facilities. The old building was washed away in the high floods of the river in 1946 and since then post office is working in the ruined building. In Sangamner also there is no building for post office for its smooth operation. The rural people mostly depend on the postal service as this the main mode of communication for them. Residential accommodation has also not been provided to the employees of postal Department.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to build new and permanent buildings for post offices in Rahuri and Sangamner Tehsils and the initiative to construct the official accommodation for the employees of Postal Department.

(vii) **Need to take effective steps for early setting up of proposed Power Project at Bilthara Road, Ballia, U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Sailempur): Sir, the matter with regard to the setting up of a proposed 3x250 M.W. thermal Power Project at Bilthara Road, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh is under consideration by the Union as well as State Government for last one decade. The Project is pending due to laxity on the part of the Union Government as well as the State Government as both are shifting the responsibility on each other.

Therefore, I demand the Government is this august House that concrete steps should be taken for setting up the above Thermal Power Project so that the backward area could be developed.

15.27 hrs

[PROF. RITA VERMA *in the Chair*]

(viii) **Need to increase positioning of Modern Aircraft at Netaji Subhas Airport, Calcutta.**

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadhavpur): Madam Chairperson, there is going to be a reduction in the future schedule of positioning of modern aircraft at the Netaji Subhas Airport, Calcutta. Presently, there are two A300s and three A320s (earlier, it was four A320s). In the coming summer, it is going to be only one A320.

This reduction in positioning of A320 aircraft will adversely affect pilots in getting adequate experience in modern aircraft. It will also adversely affect engineering personnel in getting experience in maintenance of modern aircraft fleet.

It is requested that the Central Government may direct the Ministry of Civil Aviation to increase the fleet of A320 aircraft for Netaji Subhas Airport, Calcutta. The positioning of these modern aircraft is essential for practice and training of pilots and engineering personnel.

(ix) **Need to abolish duty on products made of non-conventional Raw Material to protect the interests of Domestic Newsprint Industry**

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North): Madam Chairperson, at present, there is a crisis in the domestic newsprint mills which are played with huge stocks for want of buyers. The Tamil Nadu Newsprints and Papers Limited, which is a joint venture of the Government of Tamil Nadu and IDBI using non-conventional raw material other than wood, i.e., bagasse for large scale production of printing and writing paper. Printing and Writing Paper was completely exempt from excise duty upto 1994-95. Thereafter, a duty of five per cent was charged on the first 1,500 MTs and a further levy of eight per cent in excess of that quantity was also charged. This measure has a penalising effect on the large unit which has to spend much more on capital intensive infrastructure and pollution control equipment to handle higher quantities.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi has also requested the Union Government to reduce the excise duty on the newsprint produced in the country and to impose higher customs duty on the import of the newsprint to help the domestic industry.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Finance to abolish the duty on the products made of non-conventional raw material or do away with the slab system and the entire output may be charged at a lower rate. Similarly, paper meant for printing of school textbooks by Government institutions should be charged nil rate of excise duty.

Further, I would request the Government to levy anti-dumping duty on the import of newsprint, as recommended by the Designated Authority of the Ministry of Commerce, which practice is also prevalent in China.

(x) **Need to take immediate steps for renovation of Andhra Victoria Marthanda Canal between Kanyakumari and Ernakulam**

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil): Provision of inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari would accelerate and promote greatly the economic and tourist activities of the South Western region of our country. Such a facility could be easily achieved by the renovation and removal of the gaps that exist in some places, mainly between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum. Previously, there was continuous and regular inland water transport facility between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum through the ancient Ananda Victoria Marthanda

[Shri N. Dennis]

Varma Canal which promoted trade and commerce. Subsequently, breaches have closed in several portions of the A.V.M. Canal with sand and earth and they have not been removed for years. Due to poor maintenance and non-closure of breaches, there is no continuous water transport facility. If the gaps in the A.V.M. Canal are removed and renovated, continuous water transport facility could be easily achieved between Trivandrum and Kanyakumari too. By carrying out renovation, desilting and maintenance work further more between Trivandrum and Quilon, a very useful inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari can be secured. Such a cheaper and popular transport facility would greatly promote trade, commerce and tourism and also national integration.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps for the speedy implementation of this inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari at the earliest.

(xi) Need to Reform the Christian Personal Laws and bring related bills in current Session of Parliament

DR. BEATRIX D'SOUZA (Nominated): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to proposals made by a consensus of the Christian people of India, through the Christian Churches and Church-related organizations and recommended by the National Minorities Commission, to reform and update the Christian Personal Law, pertaining to four specific Bills—the Christian Marriage Bill, 1997, the Christian Divorce Bill, 1997, the Christian Succession Amendment Bill, 1994 and the Christian Adoption and Maintenance Bill, 1997.

Some of the provisions of the archaic, century-old Christian Marriage Act, 1872 and the Indian Divorce Act, 1869, enacted by the British have been struck down by the Supreme Court and various High Courts as being discriminatory, particularly against women. Also, the said Acts do not meet the requirements of the social realities that exist today. The provisions of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 seem to be largely discriminatory against the Christian community, particularly against women. A void was also seen in the Law relating to adoption and maintenance.

These four Bills were presented to the Government in 1994 and again in 1997. Since the climate for the enactment of a Uniform Civil Code may never be favourable, the Government should welcome the initiative of a minority community to update their Personal Law.

The Christian Church is not presenting new Bills for legislation but assisting Government to make them more meaningful and effective for the Christian community in India.

I, therefore, request that the Government introduce these four Bills in the current Session of Parliament.

15.39 hrs

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF
PATENTS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE
AND
PATENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up item Nos. 11 and 12 together. The time allotted for this discussion is four hours.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Madam, I have given a notice, questioning the propriety and legality of introducing this Bill. That notice may kindly be taken up now. It is under the Rules and I have specified the Rule also, questioning the legality and the constitutionality.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me find out what happened to that notice.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I will make my submission, Madam.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Madam, this is a very important and a vital question, challenging the constitutionality and legality of its introduction. We have to dispose it of first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Please take your seat. I will find out what happened to that notice and then you can speak.

Please take your seat. I shall tell you as to what happened to your notice. Meanwhile, we will take up Statutory Resolution. Let me find out about your notice.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Before he speaks, I have the right to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is from your party.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I wanted to speak at the outset opposing the Statutory Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can you not be generous enough to let me take two or three minutes?

Meanwhile, Shri V.V. Raghavan may continue.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur): Madam Chairperson, I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999 (No. 3 of 1999) promulgated by the President on 8th January, 1999."

The second Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha will go down in the history as a Session confronted with so many Ordinances. This is the fourth Ordinance that we are discussing in the span of three days. This Ordinance was promulgated for amending our model Patent Act to grant Exclusive Marketing Rights to the foreign companies involved in the production of pharmaceutical, drugs and agricultural chemicals. This amendment involves even the sovereignty of our country. The Executive knows that there exists a strong opposition in this country on this point. Many eminent scientists, economists, parliamentarians and many other organizations have expressed their opposition to the Government before promulgating this Ordinance.

Even among the ruling party, that is the BJP, there are people who do not want that these foreign companies should capture our markets as far as pharmaceutical products are concerned. I know that. Still, they may vote for it because of the whip. There are people in the ruling party itself, including the senior leaders of the BJP, who have expressed publicly their reservations about allowing Exclusive Marketing Rights. All these are not secret. When you promulgate an Ordinance allowing Exclusive marketing Rights to the foreign companies, are you not bound to discuss that in Parliament? You have granted the EMR without the knowledge of this august House and without the consent of this august House. To put it mildly this amounts to insulting the people who have elected this august House.

This is not an ordinary thing. Under the TRIPS Agreement, we are not bound to grant exclusive marketing rights to foreign companies. The only obligation on us, as per TRIPS, is that we have to allow patent applications

through a mail box for patenting pharmaceutical products and agricultural chemicals. This is the only mandatory provision in the agreement, as far as we are concerned. We have ample time to examine and decide upon these applications. There are five more years to decide all these things. We have to scrutinize and act upon it considering our vital interest.

Madam, I am sorry to say that this Ordinance, granting exclusive marketing right, was promulgated under the pressure of the United States of America. Washington was very particular about this because they knew that they have a vast market here. So, this Ordinance was promulgated under the pressure of America. Without taking the House or the people into confidence the Government has granted them the exclusive marketing right. What right does America has to pressurise us? I do not know how far the Minister of Industry or the hon. Members are concerned about this? How could it happen? Senior Members of BJP are against it. A number of ruling party Members are against it. Known scientists, economists and the powerful trade unions are against it. Under this background, how could this happen?

There is a talk in the Lobby and in the Central Hall that everything originates from PMO. Now-a-days, there is a talk that PMO is more powerful than the Prime Minister himself and all the policies originate from PMO. I would not say that they do not have a right but they cannot deny the right of the House to know it and to discuss the implication of such an amendment to the Patent Act. PMO cannot ignore or by-pass the house. We will not allow them to proceed like this.

Sir, as far as clauses of TRIPS are concerned, under the heading, 'Nature and Scope of Obligations', article 1 says:

"Members shall be free to determine the appropriate method of implementing the provisions of this agreement within their legal system and practices."

So, it is for us to decide considering how it affect our country, people, pharmaceutical industry and the workers or how it will affect our existing laws. I would like to once again repeat article 1 of the TRIPS Agreement under the heading, 'Nature and Scope of Obligations', which says:

"Members shall be free to determine the appropriate method of implementing the provisions of this agreement within their legal system and practices."

[Shri V.V. Raghavan]

Have you considered this? Are you not interested to consider these TRIPS clauses within this clause. At the end, article 7 says:

"That the protection and the enforcement of intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to transfer and dissemination of technology to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare and to a balance of rights and obligations."

Have you considered all these things? Have you considered these clauses? How can you grant exclusive marketing rights to the foreigners? We must use all these clauses. We should not succumb to the pressure. When America compels us to amend our Acts, what does America do? This is quite interesting to know. America has its own Acts. Considering the TRIPS Agreement, they have the protection in their Acts. The United States enacted a legislation on 8.2.1994 according to which no WTO clause is binding on them. They are protected within their own Legislation. One of their Legislations says:

"Wherever any conflict arises, the United States law will prevail. No provision of any of the Uruguay Round Agreement nor application of any such provision to any person or circumstances that is inconsistent with any law of the United States shall have any effect."

That is the American Law. Do you know what is going on now? They have their Super 301 after bypassing all these clauses of the TRIPS and WTO. They are in confrontation even with the European Union. You can see it with your naked eyes. All these things are going on. The United States of America is not bound by any of these TRIPS and WTO clauses. They are guided by their own Acts. They are confronting with everybody. But they are imposing their will on other countries. I see no reason as to why should we succumb to this pressure. This is a large country. You can depend upon 99 crore people. You can fight them. Why are you succumbing like this? No other developing country has yielded like this to EMR. There are several developing countries together with us. Out of more than 100 and odd developing countries only Pakistan and two other small countries, have yielded to grant EMR to these multinational companies. That is the fact. Even Malaysia did not succumb to the pressure.

It is our neighboring country. No other developing country has succumbed to the American pressure. When

you allow Exclusive Marketing Rights, what will happen? There are people in Delhi. I know that. They are propagating that the EMR is a small thing; there will to be many drugs; we can face them and we can control them. So, they want us to pass this Ordinance in the House. There is propaganda going around. Even canvassing is going around. Members of Parliament are getting leaflets and letters requesting to pass this Ordinance into a law. They say that EMR is not so dangerous.

I know the people who have participated in the TRIPS discussions, the GATT discussions, the WTO discussions. They are very much interested in getting the legislation passed in the House. I do not want to make an allegation here. But it is a known truth that the retired officials now canvassing for getting this legislation passed here have got their kith and kin in key positions somewhere in the world. Are we to be cheated by that? Are we to be guided by them?

The amendment promulgated through an Ordinance granting the EMR is unwanted. It is not at all obligatory. We have the right to assess it within our legislation, within our social context, within our social needs and within our requirements. We do not go as far as America has gone. But we have all the right to limit the TRIPS clauses to allow the other countries to patent their products. Let them put in their applications. Let us consider them taking into consideration the interest of our country. That is the only obligation we have under the TRIPS Agreement.

About the Intellectual Property Rights, we are not against it. There are people who say that we have so many prospects in patenting our agro-chemicals and pharmaceuticals. We do not forget for a while with whom we are confronting. We are confronted with the mighty multinational companies, specially the United States of America. By any means, by any way, they are out to capture our market. What will be the result? If the Exclusive marketing Rights goes on like this, the Government will have no means and no mechanism to scrutinise them because the Government says that as per the TRIPS clause, if a company has patented its products/produce in any other country of the WTO, it can get EMR in any other country and import those things here. It has the Exclusive Marketing Rights.

16.00 hrs.

How can we scrutinise them which are patented in other countries? They come with the right that it is patented in

other countries. According to TRIPS processes, if certain drugs are patented in other countries, we are bound to give them the Exclusive Marketing Rights without any scrutiny, and without any control over them. That is the law. The Exclusive Marketing Rights means any country which have patented any drug in any of the WTO countries, have all the right to import it here and sell it. They decide whatever price they want to sell.

Can a sovereign country allow such things? Ours is a sovereign country and we are allowing foreigners to patent the things of any of the countries of the WTO to bring them here, import here and sell without any control, and without any scrutiny of our own. That is what is the EMR. That is why, other countries have not granted the EMR. Patenting in India is something different and allowing EMR for drugs patented in other countries is something quite different.

I know, if the Bill was introduced here without the Ordinance, I am sure, those hon. Members in the Treasury Benches would have pondered over it a hundred times before they pass it. That is why, the Government brought the legislation through an Ordinance here *fait accompli*. It is imposed on us. It is imposed on the House. That is the meaning of the Ordinance. If you give free choice to the hon. Member to vote according to their conscience, I am sure you would not be able to get through this EMR. There are ample provisions; there are ample ways for us to go forward without allowing the EMR.

Madam, I do not want to take much time of the House. There are many experts who wanted to speak on this Patents Bill and the Ordinance. I have to do justice to them also.

My humble request, especially to the Treasury Benches, is that this kind of act by the Executive should not be allowed to go unchecked. They should think of our Nation before enacting such things by Ordinance. Think of us. Think of the House. How will they react? is it right to allow the EMR without the consent of the House? The Executive has to think of it. Do not take us for granted. Do not take the House for granted. The PMO might be all powerful. But this House is more powerful than the PMO. Show the Executive if it goes in the wrong path. We will resist. We will not allow the Government to carry out such practices which are not at all good for the country. This is not good for the parliamentary democracy.

Considering just that, the Treasury Benches have to check their own Executive acts. Otherwise, I am afraid, they will take us to a very dangerous path.

I admit that our hon Congress Members have a commitment. But things have changed very vastly. If you are true to *Panchmarhi* resolution, and if you are guided by the *Panchmarhi* resolution, you have to change the course of such things.

When the Congress Party was in power, they had promulgated Ordinances, but they had not issued Ordinances for giving Exclusive Marketing Rights. They had issued Ordinances only for allowing pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals patentable. Our Patent Act did not allow pharmaceutical produce and agro-chemicals to be patented. The Congress Government made them patentable. That is all. They did not allow Exclusive Marketing Rights. Now, is the Congress Party in favour of allowing this Government to give Exclusive Marketing Rights? That is the crucial question before the Congress Party.

We have signed TRIPS and also the WTO Agreement. But it is not an obligation on us to grant Exclusive Marketing Rights. That is my point. Exclusive Marketing Right is quite different. I think the House can reject this Ordinance and ask the Executive to come in the right way, bring the legislation and then let us think it over whether it is good or not. But this way of putting the legislation as a *fait accompli* is not be encouraged. It has to be checked. So, I appeal to the House to disapprove this Ordinance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I would like to give a ruling with regard to Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan's notice.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, I would like to make a submission, if you permit me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; the ruling has already come.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, please hear me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In that case, Shri Radhakrishnan would also like to speak.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati): Madam, please give him an opportunity and then give the ruling.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, Shri Radhakrishnan has objected to the consideration of the Bill on constitutional grounds. Therefore, he must be heard before the ruling is given and before the ruling is given, you may also like to listen to other Members on the constitutional validity of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; we cannot have a discussion on that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Why not? When it is an objection to the Bill on constitutional grounds, you should hear us before giving the ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan does not need your help. He is quite competent himself to make his point.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No; it is not a matter between the Member and the Chair. It is the matter of the House; it is the property of the House. Therefore, my humble submission is, kindly permit the Member to raise his objection, hear some of us and then give the ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; I will not hear others. You have not given a notice. So, you do not have a chance to speak.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Madam, this is an objection on the constitutional validity of the Bill. So, other Members should also be allowed to speak on this point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; there is no provision for that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, we have certain points to make on the constitutional validity of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you have always been very reasonable. It is only Shri Radhakrishnan who has given a notice.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: After you hear Shri Radhakrishnan, we should also be allowed to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: No.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why? Why are you always saying 'no' 'no'?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no provision to allow other Members. You have not given a notice. That is why you do not have a chance to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, we would like to see you in a more pleasant mood of saying 'yes'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, there is a ruling with regard to your notice.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Madam, I have not yet made my submission. How can you give the ruling without hearing me?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already written to the Chair.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: You can give the ruling after I make my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In that case, please make a very brief submission.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Let me make my submission first. How can you give the ruling without hearing me?...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure Shri Radhakrishnan is very competent. He does not need your support. Let him make his submission.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Let me have my say. Then you can give the ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First you listen to the ruling.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: How can you give the ruling before hearing me?

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. In that case, you first hear me and then make your submission.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, please hear him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already written to the Chair.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: He has written, but he has not elaborated his point.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: No, I have not explained it. I have given it to you in writing.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which Rule?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must quote the Rule.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Rule 376, Madam no ruling can be given unless the House knows about the matter on which a ruling is given.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: No ruling can be given without hearing me.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: When the House does not know what the issue is, how can we have a ruling?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It is true that I have given it in writing. But I have a right to submit it before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is no point to order.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You listen to me first.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The House has a right to know. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your point of order is not point of order. As a special gesture to Shri Radhakrishnan, I will allow him a very-very brief explanation. But there is no such provision. Please be brief.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Madam, I thank you for having given me an opportunity to express myself before your ruling is given. At least, you have shown that courtesy.

Now, I question the validity of this Ordinance. The Bill has been introduced to replace the Ordinance issued by the Government. I opposed this Ordinance for the simple reason that the Bill, subsequently introduced, will become a committed legislation which is an encroachment upon the rights and privileges of this House to make laws.

You know that there are Members in the other House who are opponents of *Swadeshi*. They too have some feelings. They have to express about the Bill with regard to their high ideals. But when there is a permitted legislation, they cannot express themselves. They have become bonded in the sense that they will have to vote as per the provisions of the Ordinance. That is the

procedure. That is why, at the outset, I have said that it becomes a committed legislation. If a legislation is to be free, if it is to be original and if it is to be imaginative, it should pass unfettered. But here it is a fettered legislation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him have his say.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): It is very surprising that he is saying that we are bonded.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, I come to a certain point. ...*(Interruptions)* Please hear me. A legislation in the normal course will have to be got through the two Houses of Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have they asked for your support?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: No. Please hear me. Now, here is a case where an Ordinance is issued to meet a contingency or an emergency. When the house is not in session, the executive can use that in an emergent situation. Here is a case when the matter has been moved before the two Houses of Parliament. And one House has definitely passed it. When the House is seized of the matter, is it permissible for the Government to issue an Ordinance on that basis?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government cannot do it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The Rajya Sabha has already passed it. The Bill, that has been passed by the Rajya Sabha, is before us. The constitutional position is that now we are seized of the matter. When the Parliament is seized of a legislation, can it issue an Ordinance? I am on another question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to make a brief submission. You must be brief.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am brief.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not brief.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. Now, you listen to my ruling.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am very brief. I am coming to the point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I will give my ruling.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now the question is this. One House has already approved the Bill. So, the first part is over. The Parliament is completely seized of the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Speaker has allowed only four hours for this Bill. How can it go on like this? This is enough. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Let me complete.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is enough. Now, for once, you please hear me also.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am concluding. I am coming to the point. Supposing we discuss this Bill and get it passed, and if there is a lot of delay in getting the assent of the President, then what will happen? If even after passing this Bill, things go on like this, they will issue an Ordinance. Supposing the President makes some observations of dissent, it will be delayed further. Then, I am sure, they will issue an Ordinance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: If they issue an Ordinance at every stage, then what is the use of discussing it here now? I say that it is beyond the legislative competence of the Executive. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you hear me. You cannot go on like this.

Hon. Shri Radhakrishnan has given his notice to oppose this Bill under Rule 72(1). Under Rule 72(1), the Members have a right to oppose the introduction of a Bill.

The Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998, as passed by Rajya Sabha, is listed for consideration. It is not for introduction. The Member has, therefore, no right to oppose. I do not give my permission to Shri Radhakrishnan now. Now, the Minister may please make his statement.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): Madam, what has happened to the Ordinance? We are passing the Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha. What has the Government done with the Ordinance?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Then, why was the Ordinance promulgated? What was the need for promulgation of an Ordinance?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): With due respect to you, Madam, and all the senior Members, I do believe that we need to get on with some work. I do believe that you are permitting the Minister concerned to make his presentation. If he misses out on an issue, you may kindly point it out at that stage. Let us move on. We have shortage of time. We will not be able to complete our normal business which we have to do. I plead with folded hands, please hear. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Madam, I may be permitted to put forth my points of view. I have given a notice also. It is very much there in the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri V.V. Raghavan has already made his points. We cannot permit all the Members. Only one Member is allowed to speak. Only one Member has a right to say. Shri V.V. Raghavan has put beautifully your points of view also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: How do you know that he has put my viewpoint? You cannot draw such a conclusion.

505 *Statutory Resn. re: Disapproval of Patents (A) Ordinance and Patents (Amendment) Bill* PHALGUANA 18, 1920 (Saka) *Statutory Resn. re: Disapproval of Patents (A) Ordinance and Patents (Amendment) Bill* 506

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can have your say later on.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: This is a very important Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. It is all right.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Why is there such a hurry?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): Even if five Members have given notice, only one is allowed to speak.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Madam, there have been occasions in the past where on important ordinances, more Members have been allowed to speak...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): Madam, I am on the point of practice and procedure to be followed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, you please listen to the hon. Minister.

SHRI RAM NAIK: The practice and procedure which is being followed is. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not shout like this. Please listen to the hon. Minister.
 ...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except what the hon. Minister says.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK: The practice and the procedure which is being followed is that one Member who opposes the Ordinance speaks first, then the hon. Minister speaks and then afterwards those who want to oppose can have their say. That is the practice. How can they start a new practice?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Shri V.V. Raghavan has already spoken.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I do not need your help.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, whenever an Ordinance is promulgated, the Statement of Objects and Reasons for promulgation of an ordinance is always given.

SHRI RAM NAIK: It has already been given.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It has already been tabled.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, it has not been given.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: We have tabled the Ordinance...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Where is the Statement of Objects and Reasons?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I think, the senior Members have to suddenly start thinking. When the Ordinance is tabled, the Statement is also tabled along with that. ...(*Interruptions*) It has been circulated four days ago...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, it has not been circulated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must go through the papers and find out.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We have gone through the papers and it is not there...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Madam, I am referring to the very special circumstances...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, this cannot be allowed.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I cannot allow you. This cannot go on like this. Nothing is going on record.
 ...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough, please. Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Patents Act, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I am not making any speech now. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Patents Act, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): Thank you, Madam Chairperson for permitting me to speak. The hon. Minister has decided not to say anything. Perhaps he does not have much to say.

Madam, I am in a unique position to speak on this Bill precisely, the same Bill, on which I spoke four years ago from that side. I am having a second chance to speak in this very House on exactly the same Bill nearly four years later.

I was very enthusiastic then and I thought that after India acceded to WTO as of 1 January 1995, India as a very responsible member of WTO and of GATT would abide by whatever it had committed. Therefore, when the Government brought a Bill to amend the Patents Law, most of the Members belonging to the Congress and I being one of the speakers from Congress side supported it enthusiastically.

We were briefed by the Government officials, by the hon. Minister we did not have much experience of the intellectual property aspect of the GATT Agreement. Intellectual Property area was a new area which was brought in the Uruguay Round. Till then GATT only dealt with trade in goods. But after Uruguay Round, whole lot of new areas were brought in. Intellectual Property rights was one, and Investment measures, Agriculture and Textile, etc., many new things came in.

At the outset, let me say, Madam, while there have been very harsh views expressed on this whole subject of WTO, of Intellectual Property Rights, of TRIPS, there have even been suggestions both from the Treasury Benches and my friends on the Left that India should get out of WTO rather than accept the amendments to our Patent Law.

I do not subscribe to that view. WTO is the most democratic institution of all international institutions. All other economic institutions like the World Bank, IMF or the political institution, the Security Council, are not democratic; they are trying to democratise them. But, WTO, more than any other international institution, is democratic so far. There are attempts to change it based on trade weight. I hope, we will oppose it but today, WTO is democratic. We have every right to fight against a very powerful nation. If you are right, win those cases; as it happened in our dispute against the United States in the Future Excluding Devices case and we won that case. In this case, we were not successful. Therefore, we have to stay within WTO; fight within WTO; fight for our rights and, therefore, as a responsible member of WTO, we will have to abide by our obligations as they flow from various agreements.

Madam, we know that the TRIPS agreement was one of the 28 agreements which were signed and which came into force on the 1st January, 1995 agreement is just one of the 28 agreements. It is a part of the whole package. This is a part of give and take. There are certain positive features and certain negative features. We all know that the TRIPS package is a negative package for us. There are a lot of things we are giving in because hopefully we are gaining in other areas like textiles, agriculture and maybe in other areas. Therefore, this agreement will have to be adhered to and the obligations under the TRIPS agreement will have to be conformed with. The date for conforming happens to be 19th April, 1999.

As we know, there are three distinct phases in the TRIPS agreement. The first phase is what we are supposed to do on the 1st January, 1995, the date when WTO came into existence. There were certain obligations on that day; certain more obligations fall due on the second phase, that is on the 1st January, 2000, by the end of this year and the third phase, the full scope will come into being five years later, that is on the 1st January, 2005.

India was not able to, for reasons we all know, fulfil her obligations as they fell due on the 1st January, 1995.

America complained to WTO; European Union complained to WTO. We lost both those cases. We went in appeal against the US case and the appeal was also lost. As a result we have gained certain time, but the time ends on the 19th April, 1999. All our efforts to dissuade WTO have failed and, therefore, the Government is coming forward in a great hurry, in a great panic I would say; it wants to enact this law before 19th April. I think, to that extent, I support it; as a responsible member of WTO, after having exhausted all our avenues we will have to ultimately abide by the deadline of 19th April, 1999.

I have talked about three phases. What are the commitments of the first phase? The enactment that is before us today in the form of a Bill, which was passed by Rajya Sabha, requires us to do certain things. Madam, the Government will have to come forward with a much more comprehensive amendment to the Patent Law, which will have to be completed before the end of this year. Therefore, the process will have to start just now.

Given the Standing Committee, given the whole wrangle whether it is constitutional or not and given the majority in both the Houses, the Government will have to start right now. Only then, can the second phase of the Patent Amendment, the most comprehensive amendment, be completed. Therefore, I am speaking today with a heavy heart in the hope that whatever suggestions I am making, you will either accept them in this Bill or keep in view in the next comprehensive Amendment which should be coming now. Do not delay it. Let us have enough time to discuss that whole comprehensive Amendment. Do not surprise us at the last minute and ask us to pass it in the late night. Therefore, Madam, I hope the Government will take us into confidence when it takes up the comprehensive second stage wherein the major amendments to the Patent Act will be enacted.

Also, I feel very sad that the Minister failed to take all the parties into confidence so as to evolve a consensus on this very complicated and controversial issue. He has also failed to call a meeting of all the leaders and all the Ministries involved. It is a very complex Bill although it is being piloted by the Minister of Industry because the patent area falls in the charge of Ministry of Industry. The Ministry of Industry is not the only Ministry which is concerned with this Bill. TRIP agreement affects the health security of the nation. It affects the food security of the nation. It affects our pharmaceutical industry. It affects our exports. The Ministry of Health is involved because the cost of medicines is going to be increased. The Ministry of Agriculture is involved because agro-chemicals are involved. Food security is involved. The Ministry of

Chemicals and Fertilizers is involved because the drug price control order comes under this very Ministry. The National Authority on Pharmaceutical Pricing is also under that Ministry. The Ministry of Defence is involved because you have sought to delete Article 39 of the 1970 Act which has a great bearing on the national security. The Industrial Research Department is involved because the whole innovation system of this country, the whole public sector pharmaceutical labs are involved. Their competitiveness is involved. The Ministry of Biotechnology is involved because we are going to talk about patenting of life forms and genetically modified micro organisms. The environment issue also will be coming soon because of Biodiversity Act. Of course, the Ministry of Law is also involved because the legal interpretation of various complex cases are involved. We have before us today three WTO cases which I have mentioned.

16.32 hrs.

[SHRI K. PRADHANI *in the Chair*]

Last but not least is the Ministry of Commerce. It is the Ministry which is in-charge of WTO. I would like to ask the Minister whether he had made an attempt to call all the leaders of the Opposition and all the Ministries involved to discuss the Bill. It is an issue only of the Ministry of Industry. You did try to meet some of us. The officials tried to meet some of us. But only the Ministry of Industry met us. It is not limited to the Ministry of Industry.

Now, I come to the strange behaviour of the Government. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wonder why the Government was constrained to issue an Ordinance! The Rajya Sabha passed it. The Congress assured support to you only in the larger interest even though we had many objections. Many areas which we think could have been improved in national interest. But we supported you. And, therefore, we would have supported you in Lok Sabha also. What was the hurry to promulgate an Ordinance which today you have forgotten? Now is there a pressure? What was the pressure?

We all know that Sir Sykes, the Chairman of the multinational company, Glaxo, was here when the law was being discussed. He was dangling a carrot before all of us. He was telling that if we passed the Patent Bill, a lot of investments would come in. He was also telling us that because of our 1970 law, the prices of drugs in India were one hundred times less than that were prevailing in America. He is on record having said that Indian drug prices for the same drugs are one hundred

[Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan]

times more than what is being charged in America. There was some pressure. That can also be judged by the way the share prices of multinational pharmaceutical companies have zoomed ever since this Government decided to take upon itself to pass the Patent Bill under any circumstances, come what may. This behaviour surprises us. Today, you have forgotten the Ordinance. You are not conforming to the Ordinance because you will have to go to the other House again.

Again the hon. Minister has brought a Bill as passed by the Rajya Sabha. What was the need for the Ordinance? I hoped that in his opening remarks he would give us the justification about the need for the Ordinance. He has not given us. That leads us to believe that there is some external pressure about which Shri Raghavan has spoken.

Coming to the Bill itself, what are the Phase-I amendments? The Phase-I amendments are very simple. The Patents Act, 1970 provides very comprehensive intellectual property protection in all areas of intellectual property. There are various laws, the copyright laws, the trade mark laws, we have got trade secret laws, we have geographical indications, integrated circuit design, we have got other laws which are coming. In all these we are conforming internationally.

In the Patents Act, 1970 also, no matter what others say, we are conforming to all international standards except in a very small area. We do not provide product patent protection to pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals. That is all. This is a very important area for multinationals. They want to make money from patented research, or patented products. And they are afraid that the Indian pharmaceutical industry is now coming of age. It is exporting about Rs. 121 crore worth of pharmaceuticals, therefore basic chemicals and they are afraid. That is why the whole Intellectual Property Regime was smuggled in at the last minute in the Uruguay Round.

As the hon. Minister knows very well, initially it was trade in goods, counterfeit goods, and with the collapse of the Soviet Union, with the situation in the Third World, change of leadership in India, slowly the developed countries smuggled agricultural goods and the whole IPR area and in the Uruguay Round and here we are, we have now to amend the patent law to give product patent to agricultural chemicals and pharmaceuticals. And this very amendment is just for this limited purpose. It only deals with pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals. Nothing else.

Uruguay Round gave us five years to go to this regime till 2000 AD. There is also an additional transition period provided. Our people think that we argued very well, we negotiated and we got these extra five years of transition period upto 2005 in exchange for some other concession somewhere. Supposedly we gave some concession in textile and we got this concession of additional five years for moving over to a full product patent regime. But did we really get the full five years? No. We did. When they agreed to give us a transition period of five years they got it back asking us to give us exclusive marketing rights in return. What we got with the right hand we gave back with the left hand. There was no doubt at all of the transition period and that is why have to give the exclusive marketing rights.

This amendment which the hon. Minister is enacting today will give exclusive marketing rights to foreign companies, to foreign companies, to foreign multinationals to exclusively market their drugs, their agricultural chemicals in India for a period of five years after the right is granted.

The exclusive marketing rights are nothing but unfettered statutory import monopoly with no obligation for manufacture or any obligation for transfer of technology.

Let us look at the spirit of the TRIPS Agreement. Shri Raghavan read Articles 7 and 8. Article 7 very specifically deals with—I do not want to read it promoting transfer of technology, promoting dissemination of knowledge, balancing the rights and obligations. So, while you are granting EMRs, are we sure that we are balancing those rights? I am sorry, but those rights are not being balanced. There is also the controversy, there is also a discussion, whether India should go for this two stage approach of first giving the EMRs or going in for the product patent regime in the year 2000 about which many of my friends will further argue further, I am not sure that India should go for a complete product patent rights in the year 2000.

It is assumed that EMRs are automatically lesser right than patents. It is true because patents give the patent holder the right to manufacture, sell and distribute. So, three rights are given while EMRs only give right to sell and distribute. Therefore, it would appear that EMRs are a lesser right. Therefore, by having EMRs for five years period and not having product patents, India has benefited. But while that is true, if EMRs are given automatically, if EMRs are given without proper examination, then the question arises: are patents given

after thorough examination under Indian Patents Act of 1970 are better or EMRs which are supposedly lesser but rights given without proper examination under the Indian Patents Act of 1970 are better? I think, that is the question that we need to address today. I do not want to go into the conditions which are required for giving EMRs. The hon. Minister knows everybody knows the conditions. Three of the four conditions are external to this country—that the patent application is made in a convention country outside, that the patent is granted in that convention country and that the marketing approval is granted in that country. All these three conditions are external to this country. These three things could be obtained in say Burkina Faso, Tunisia, Zambia or even in America because America has a very liberal patent regime. There are hundreds of patents being given in America on *Haldi*. There are hundreds of patents being given in America on *Neem*. We are giving in India patents on way to make *dosa*, way to make *idly*. These patents have been given in India and they are given liberally. So, it is quite possible that fulfilling the first three conditions outside is not very difficult. What is fourth condition? The fourth condition is that you will get a marketing approval in India. As we know, marketing approval is given by the health authorities and not by the patent authorities. So, I am afraid that giving of EMR would be an automatic process and we will not have any control. But you can still have control, if you write the law properly. That is my worry that you have not given enough thought to it. you have gone beyond what was required as per TRIPs, as per WTO. When they ask you to bend, you are lying prostrated.

Now, I come to the specific provisions of the Bill. I know that one can go and on, but I will just discuss four specific provisions of the Bill. The first one is what I have just referred to about the examination of an EMR application. You are not going to examine the EMR application, as per Chapter 4 and you are not going to permit the Indian citizens to oppose grant of EMRs under Chapter 5 of the Indian Patents Act, 1970. Why? Why are conditions for examining EMR applications being diluted only to Sections 3 and 4 of the Patents Act? That is nothing. It is only going to examine whether the product is moral or not. Does it hurt the morality? What does the drug got to do with it? Drug is a substance. You have got to examine an application from the three classic conditions against which a patents is granted. Those three conditions are whether it is novel, that the knowledge did not exist in the public domain, whether it is non-obvious that there is an inventitive step involved and whether it has useful application.

Sir, we were told four years back and why are you worrying. Nobody will apply for EMR because EMR can only be applied to new drugs which are applied after 1.1.95. It takes a long time to get a new drug and everybody quotes the American pharmaceutical Association's figures. It is true that it takes 10 to 12 years to get a new drug approved. So, it is a very long process. But what about formulations, what about combinations, what about different methods of use and different methods of application?

If you give a product patent, a 250 mg. table is a product, 150 mg. is a different product, 20 mg. tablet is yet another product. The same product in a syrup form is another product, if it is injected, it is yet another product and if it is applied through some other modern method of implanting and all that is yet another product. That is how old patent expired drugs will be applied or new EMRs because you are not going to examine them, and that is the worry. Therefore, I request you to please include examination under Chapter IV and opposition of patent under Chapter V. As is applicable for patents, make it applicable to EMRs also. Then only EMRs will not be automatic. Otherwise EMRs will be automatic and that could be dangerous.

I now come to the next area and that is with regard to compulsory licensing. you have in your Bill provided for Section 240 which gives a right to Government to give a compulsory licence to somebody if that product, that drug, that chemical is not available freely. This comes out of the original 1970 Act. But what is the compulsory licence, compulsory right that you are giving under this proposed enactment? Under EMR, you are giving a right to sell or distribute only, while compulsory right under a patent is a right to manufacture, sell and distribute. So, if a drug is not available, Government can issue compulsory licence, but to do what? To sell and distribute, but not to manufacture. Another person in India can sell and distribute, but where will he get the substance from? You are not giving a compulsory licence to manufacture. What good is it? You are saying that he can sell and distribute, but where will the material come from? He is not allowed to manufacture. So unless you include manufacture also in the compulsory licence, this is nothing but just a piece of paper. It has no meaning. It will give no protection to Indian citizens at all whatsoever.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): But it will give protection to foreign nationals.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Yes, that is right.

[Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan]

Another important point that I want to make is that the whole crucial worry in this patent law was a very small thing which has escaped many people. The Minister has told that that importation will be the same as the working of the patent. The definition of the working of a patent originally meant that technology will be disseminated, that technology will be spread, that the society will give a monopoly right to an inventor, and in return for that the inventor could sell the technology, make that technology available, give that knowledge to the society. That fine balance of rights and obligations is being vitiated when you say that importation will be the same as working of the patent. Yes, Chapter-V of the TRIPs Agreement forces you to give this right. But why are you giving it today? This could have been delayed till 1st January, 2000. Why have you got this section 24(c)(i)? That is the crucial wording which MNCs want. They want an unfettered monopoly, without giving the transfer of technology to Indian companies. Have you paid any attention to it? Please, even at this late stage, consider it. It was not necessary to give importation as working of patent today.

In the same way, I request you to please delete paragraph (d) of Section 24C which seeks to delete clauses (d) and (e) of Section 90 of the 1970 Act. Please consider this again. Importation is what they want. They want an unfettered right to import. We should insist on local working. We should insist that these drugs and chemicals should be made in our country, in our factories, by our low-cost labour. That you must insist. But are not insisting on that. As a matter of fact, you are giving them this almost one year ahead of time, the right of import.

Now I come to one other important point and that is about pricing. You have said in your enactment that the Government of India can control prices. In this country, we have the Drugs Prices Control Order which, as I said earlier, is controlled by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. But the Drugs Prices Control Order can only be effective against local drugs, when they can get local manufacturing prices.

How can DPCO or any other equivalent order be applicable against imported drugs? You think that Burroughs Wellcome or Glaxo are going to give in and they are watching. Even if the Government will say that it does not accept their ten dollar price and India will accept say for five dollars, MNCs will say that if you do not want it at this price, do not take it. Where is the compulsion to manufacture? Therefore, unless you tell us about your concrete plans of the Drugs Price Control

Authority, I am afraid, the prices of drugs, not only patented drugs but everything else also, will skyrocket. That is why, the share prices of multinational pharmaceutical companies have skyrocketed just with his assurance that they are going to pass the Patents Bill.

Finally, I will come to the last point that is the amendment of section 39 of 1970 Act. You are seeking to delete a very important provision from the 1970 Act. This provision relates to national defence. This provision relates to our space technologies, our strategic area technologies and that is why, in the Act of 1970, a provision was made that no Indian scientist can apply for a foreign patent without applying for an Indian patent first. But in case he wants to apply for a foreign patent without applying for Indian patent, then, he must get permission of Controller of Patents and that permission will be given in 15 days. This provision was there in the 1970 Act only to make sure that no secret defence or space technology goes out of the country without the knowledge of the authorities, the Indian patent system.

In 1995, we agreed to this very amendment. There was a good reason for that and it was that our scientist who argued that 15 days' delay was too much with regard to patent, every day counts. If they apply to the Controller of Patents and information goes out, then they could not get patent abroad as something else could apply for patent. Therefore, we supported this amendment.

But what is the position today? Have they taken us into confidence? Is it not a fact that last year, the Government of India acceded to the Paris Convention? What does the Paris Convention give them? The Paris Convention makes this deletion totally unnecessary. The Paris Convention gives you the priority date or right from the earliest date and 15-day period does not come in. Is it not a fact that the Ministry of Defence has opposed this deletion? Is it not a fact that the law of United States even today has this provision that no citizen of the US can apply for a foreign patent without informing the US authorities? Is it not a fact that as per the law of the United Kingdom, no citizen of the United Kingdom can apply for a foreign patent without telling the U.K. authorities? But we want to be so liberal. Where is the pressure coming from? Have they looked at it? Have they talked to scientists after accepting Paris Convention? Before Paris Convention, there was a point that this delay was not acceptable, but after signing Paris Convention last year, this is not necessary. I would request the hon. Minister to please do away with the whole business of deleting section 39. Therefore, he may please delete clauses 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the proposed Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

I will not say anything more on the Bill. I think, these four things are very crucial. If the hon. Minister pays attention to these things, I think that the interest of the Indian citizens will be protected adequately and we will conform to our obligations under TRIPs.

I would request him not to go beyond what the TRIPs has asked. They are today going beyond what TRIPs has asked us to do. I think, a strategic view of what we want to do in the year 2000 or 2005 is required. I do not agree with some of my friends who want to bring forward the date of product patent to 2000. I do not think that it is correct, but at the same time, if they give automatic EMR without examination, then, there is a danger. They may please look at it and tighten the compulsory licensing provisions. The hon. Minister may please explain to us how pricing authority is going to work and may take care of the provisions relating to defence also.

Before concluding, I just read out what Shri Raghavan referred to. I have got the US law which was passed after the Uruguay Round Agreement Pact of 1994. Section 102 of the US Act says that no provision of any of the Uruguay Round Agreement that is inconsistent with any law of US shall have effect.

This is what the U.S. is saying on TRIPs. Section 102(a)(2) of the U.S. law says, "Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit any authority under Section 301(1) of the Trade Act of 1974. The U.S. Government does not bother about the TRIPs Agreement or the WTO; they only bother about their own law. It goes on further to state that "the State law shall be valid". A point was raised whether this House has the competence to enact on a subject, which is a State subject. What does the American law say? The American law says, "No State law or the application of such a State law may be declared invalid on the ground that the provisions or application is inconsistent with the Uruguay Round Agreement." The United States Government is protecting the State laws against the Uruguay Round laws.

Now, the Uruguay Round Agreement, as applicable to foreign countries, says, "a foreign country may be determined to deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights notwithstanding that a foreign country may be in compliance with the specific obligations of the TRIPs. "This is what the U.S. law says. Look, how fast we are running! we are doing more than what the TRIPs Agreement has required us to do. TRIPs Agreement permits us to enact legislation consistent with the requirements of this country, consistent with the aspirations of the people of this country. Please do that.

Sir, I am sure, if the Minister accepts any of the amendments, then he will have to go back to Rajya Sabha and I can see that there is a problem in that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar): You are there.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: We are there. I think, the Minister can consider these amendments, which are very crucial. What you are saying, that is, it is automatic and there is nothing in it, is not true.

Unfortunately, you have not given us the case law. Shri Hegde was good enough, when I wrote to him to send me a copy of the judgments and rulings in respect of WTO dispute settlements, final disputes, between India and USA, between European Union and India, and also on the appeal. When you go through that case law, you will find out the thinking of TWO, where we are inconsistent, where we are not inconsistent and how far we can go. You have not done that. I wish, you had taken us into confidence. I wish, you had a wide meeting with all the ministries involved.

In the next phase, there are very crucial issues like seed patenting, the Plant Variety Protection Act the Bio-diversity Act which has got to be based, and there is also the question of granting patents to micro organisms and genetically altered micro-organism. We have different views on that. If this is the way you go, I think, it would be very difficult to get a national consensus on these issues. Please get us all together and work for a consensus. I know that you personally mean well. You have tried personally, but this is not enough.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): Except one thing we accept all the points.

[English]

You said that we did not bother to consult you. Who is at fault? You yourself can decide that.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: I said that as Industry Minister, you personally tried. It is your Bill. So, you personally tried and your officials came and visited some of us. But as I said in the beginning, it is not a Bill which is limited to Industry Ministry alone. It is a Bill in which nine different ministries are involved. There are differing views. The Minister of Defence has not agreed

[Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan]

to delete section 39. But you had your way. That is why, please get everybody together—all the leaders and the ministries—and let us have a consensus on it. We must fight WTO together. Our legal education is inadequate. The way people fight these cases in WTO is unbelievable. We have got anti-dumping problems, we have got all these WTO dispute settlement cases. We do not have enough international trade lawyers. We will have to consider that. We have to strengthen our anti-dumping directorate. Although it is not your Department, we have to do that. We have to have a comprehensive view of WTO. I hope, you will do that.

With these words, I hope that you will accept the suggestions which I have made. The decision to support is being given by the Congress Party in the larger interest that our country will have to abide by our obligations under WTO before 19th April. Thank you.

17.00 hrs

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

Sir, I was listening with rapt attention to hon. Shri Raghavan who opposed it. He is not present here now. He basically opposed it on the basis of three-four points. One of the points he made was that by passing this amendment we are going to compromise the sovereignty of the country. He has said that the United States of America is pressuring us to pass such a Bill and that it is an encroachment upon our sovereignty. He has even invoked the spectre of the mighty multinational companies swamping the Indian markets. Not only he, but the hon. Member from the Left who are opposing it, who will also speak after this, will also say that the multinational companies will come and swamp Indian bazaars, that the prices of pharmaceutical drugs will increase, that the foreigners will take away our *haldi*, that they will take away our *neem*, etc. They spoke about all these things in Rajya Sabha and they will speak about them here also.

I would say that most of these points, the foreign invasion of the multinational companies on Indian markets, etc., are the products of very fertile imagination. They ask as to what is the hurry and why we should go for this amendment now and if we could not have waited for some more time. I wanted to give a comprehensive reply but hon. Member Shri Prithviraj Chavan from the Congress has already mentioned all these things. Anyway, let me make my point clear.

On 31 December, 1994, an Ordinance was promulgated to amend the Patents Act. The agreement on patents-related aspects of intellectual property rights is a part of the agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation. India ratified the WTO agreement on 30th December, 1994. The agreement came into force on January 1, 1995. In order to fulfil its obligation under the agreement, India is required to make some changes in its law within the time schedule negotiated under the agreement. India, as a developing country, has a transition period of five years with effect from 1st January, 1995 till 1st January, 2000 to comply with the provisions of the agreement. An additional transition period of five years till January 1, 2005 is also available for extending product patent protection to areas of technology not protected so far. This would be mainly in the areas of pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals.

What I would like to say is that we do not have any option. As hon. Member Shri Chavan has already mentioned, the United States of America had filed a case against us. We fought the case and lost it. We went on appeal and the appeal also went against us. Ultimately the disputes resolution body has stipulated that by 19th April, 1999 we will have to make necessary changes as per the obligation under the WTO agreement.

Already, there is a case which we have lost. Our hon. Members who opposed it may say "So what, if we do not accede to that? So what, if we do not go for any promulgation of any ordinance?" But, Sir, if you go by that and if you do not do anything, then there is provision which says that there will be penalty. Article 22 of this Act provides for penalty. It says:

"It any country found to be in default by the Dispute Resolution Body, does not take the required step to conform to the Treaty provisions within the stipulated time, then there will be penalty."

What is the penalty? The country which files the complaint may take a series of retaliatory steps. Now, what is this retaliatory step? For this, let me take and give you an example. Suppose, the United States of America, against whom we lost the case, goes on for any retaliatory measure. Suppose, the United States of America imposes a duty of 100 per cent on textile imports to that country. That means, we are exporting textile goods to America, and America now imposes 100 per cent duty on that. What will happen then? Then, the export will fall. The consequent result will be that the textile industries in India will lay off the workers. Our workers will be without any work. And again, the same

hon. Members of the Left parties will start hue and cry that 'It is because of this Government, because of this inefficient government, the people have lost their jobs.'...(Interruptions)

Sir, there is a saying in English; 'Heads I win, Tails you lose.' so, whatever you do they are in the habit of just criticizing. If we promulgate this Ordinance, we are at fault! If we do not do it and if the workers lose their job, again we are at fault! And, they are always at the right.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): We are not at the right. We are at the left! ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Now, let me come to a very pertinent question. It is about the hon. members of the Left parties? Now, their last bastion, China, still remains as the last torchbearer of the proletariat, of the have-nots, which has fought American imperialism, American capitalism for a long time...(Interruptions)...Yes, they are still fighting.

What has China done? I will just now tell, what China has done. China has already adopted the new Patents Act in 1984...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Is China a Member of the WTO?

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am not yielding...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: China is not a Member of the WTO...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am not yielding...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow him to speak.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Why are they demanding China?...(Interruptions) Are they from Parliament of India or Parliament of China? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): There, every person has food, every person has housing but here we do not have food, we do not have housing...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I am not very much surprised to know about the reaction of the hon. Members from the Left because long back, just because of supporting China, they divided their own party, CPI and created Communist Party of India (Marxist) It was divided because of supporting China. So, I am not at all surprised that they have become so touchy about China. Whenever I talk about China, they become so touchy...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You do not know the history...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: They become so touchy and they become so jumpy. Sir, China is not a Member of the WTO, I agree. But what China has done.

It not only adopted the patent laws in 1984, but it also revised the law in 1992 just before we did and this law gets the patented protection far in excess of what even the Treaty of Intellectual Property Rights requires its members to ensure. I request hon. Members of the left parties to go through the Chinese Patents Act and what they have given. They have given them more than what we are just going to give. I am now going to tell you what they have given. While TRIPs require these rights to be given by 2005, China had given them long back in 1992. The life of patents has been extended to 20 years. Product patents has been extended to all areas of technology. China has started giving it from 1984 and we started giving it from 1994.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You talk about India.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am referring to China because I just want to remind our hon. members what their own leaders have done. Once upon a time, there was a saying that when it rains in China, the leftist people in India unfold their umbrellas. That is why, I am saying that they should now do what China has done so that they would later on not accuse us of what we are just going to do.

What China has done about the working of the patent is that importation is taken to be a novelty of the patents. Suppose in China, there is a patent and some foreign national or some multinational company imports certain thing, than that patent is working. But in India we have provided a safeguard that if some multinational company which is having a patent imports certain thing, we will consider it not to be working. That is the difference.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Where is it? If you look at Section 74(3), you will find that we have deleted that. That is the point.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: We have not deleted that. We have not deleted Item 7. I will come to that later.

In China, if there is a patent and if the firm merely imports an agricultural item from the factory, it is working. I am just giving you a comparative picture about what a country like China is doing. *(Interruptions)* I will just mention a point. Shri Basu Deb Acharia and other hon. Members are very honourable and senior Members of this House. I am a very-very new Member. I have come to the House for the first time. I do not expect this behaviour from them. May be they do not subscribe to my view. I am now the first speaker. They will speak later on. They will have enough opportunity to contradict me, but to oppose me at every stage and to get up and to shout at me is not proper. I just leave it to their conscience whether they should do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not make running commentaries.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Under Indian law, methods of agriculture and horticulture are not treated as inventions and so, no patents can be obtained for them.

We say that *neem* and *haldi* will be taken over. Sometimes, we say that out of ignorance. When I was not a Member of the House, I was also under such an impression. In my ignorance, in some political party meetings, I also spoke like this. But when I went through the Bill, when I talked to my senior hon. Members and officers, I came to know that this is not a fact. Actually, it is not a fact. We have given adequate safeguards in our Bill that agriculture and horticulture will not be treated as inventions. This is a very good safeguard that we have provided for in our Bill.

There is a basic problem in India, that is, with regard to writing and reading of the patents. There is a special skill involved in it. When you write a patent, it calls for a skill in the sense that you write certain things by which you tell people that you want a particular aspect of the patent to be safeguarded. But still you hide certain other

things which others should not know. In a country like China, they are having five thousand institutions with experts in writing patents. About fifteen or twenty years ago, China knew far less about patenting than what it knows now. China has about sixty thousand to seventy thousand patent applications in a year whereas we are having only 2,005 applications per year. There are about 35 million to 40 million patents published in the world.

The hon. Member has said about Exclusive Marketing Rights. That was the basic point which Shri V.V. Raghavan also raised in the beginning. He said that it is a very serious offence to provide Exclusive Marketing Rights to the multinational companies. But let me say that not a single Exclusive Marketing Rights application has been received by India. The hon. Members of the Left parties are making a noise as if millions and millions of applications have swarmed the Indian markets and the Indian market is going to be swayed away.

Can you just say that these Exclusive Marketing Rights—I basically challenge this—or patent rights are fool-proof protection? We say that a multinational company or any company for that matter will get its patent rights for twenty years. This means, they will have Exclusive Marketing Rights for twenty years. But the technology is changing very fast. So, can any company wait for twenty long years with its old and outdated patent? If a company waits for twenty years, the technology could change thirteen times over. So, this is not a fool-proof protection. Maybe, in the initial stage, it gives some advantage for eighteen to twenty months or even two years, after which the company will have to change its technology.

It cannot wait for eternity. It simply is not possible. So, many of these companies do not find that it is a safeguard for them. They themselves say that the safeguard is continuous research and development. Through continuous research and development only, they can keep themselves competitive with other companies. Practically, that is the only way. I am being very pragmatic. I am just telling you, from a very practical point of view, that no company will wait for 20 years. Every one-and-a-half to two years positively they will go on changing the patents. Otherwise, other companies will catch up with them.

Take the example of India. How are most drugs manufactured? The drugs which are manufactured in India are not the best with regard to research, development and innovations. They get a drug from a multinational company or from a foreign company; they reverse engineer it; and they reach the same conclusion. They

find out another drug which is practically the same drug as was marketed by the multinational company or by the foreign company. So, ultimately it is only a process patent. Practically, it is the same drug, but since it has been reverse engineered, it has been found to be in a different form. In this way, thousands and thousands of drugs have been manufactured in India. May be, some of the companies in India may be put to some difficulties because they do not have originality and so, they just want to copy it from some other drugs which have been manufactured by a foreign company. So, they may be put to trouble. But have we thought that original company, which has actually manufactured it, is not getting annoyed? Some other company has copied it, okay, but what will happen if we also do certain things like that? Suppose we manufacture certain drugs; some other company comes forward and copies it; will we not get annoyed? Naturally, we will get annoyed. This is actually what is happening in India.

Let me now come to the next point. How many exclusive rights to market a product in India, only in regard to inventions which have been patented after 1st / January 1995 have been provided for in this Bill? The World health organisation has listed about 250 drugs as being the ones that are commonly used as essential drugs in India. What is its meaning? That means that these drugs cannot be patented. This is the most important thing. Those 250 drugs in India which are considered to be commonly used cannot be patented by any other country. This is the provision. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Where is the Cabinet Minister?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: He has gone to the bath room. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will come within one minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: This is the scant respect that he is showing to this House. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: As the Chairman said, he has gone out to attend to a very important business, just for a minute. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, since there is no Cabinet Minister as the Cabinet meeting is going on, you can adjourn the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister will be here within a minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: At least one Cabinet Minister should be here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has taken permission to go to bath room.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: The hon. Minister has gone to bath room with the permission of the Chair. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Out of these 250 drugs, only four were patented in 1994. These patents have already expired in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997. That means all these 250 drugs that are listed by the WTO cannot be patented by any other company. So, not one of them would be affected by the new law. No firm would be given the Exclusive Marketing Rights to any of these drugs in India. So, where is the objection? Almost all the 250 drugs are not going to be patented at all.

My next point is about the price. Many of the hon. Members alleged that the cost of the drugs would increase by leaps and bounds in India and they also gave some comparative figures. *...(Interruptions)* They would get ample opportunity to speak. Kindly listen and you can reply when your turn comes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Swain, you please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: So, now it is the question of price. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is a new Member. Hon. Members, please cooperate. Why should you disturb him?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am very proud that the senior leaders do not consider me a new Member. They consider me their equal. So, I feel proud.

Sir, I was saying that it is the question of price. The hon. Members gave some comparative figures that the cost of a particular drug is this much in America and the cost of that drug in India is this much. I concede that cost of the drugs in America are sometimes four or five or six times higher than that of India. But why?

[Shri Kharabeia Swain]

What is the reason for it? Why the cost of drugs in America so high? Is it because of the patents? It is not because of patents. The prices of the drugs in America are more not because of the patent regime but because a large percentage of the population in America is covered by social security or medical insurance. So, the firms there can charge higher prices for different drugs as well as for medical services. This is the main reason. Since in America everybody is medically insured, the drug manufacturers demand high prices for various drugs. But, this is not so in India. We do not have medical insurance here. No insurance company has come forward with it.

The cost of a product is determined by the paying capacity of the people of this country. One should not take for granted that any price fixed for a drug by the multinational company will be agreed to by India. Take the example of television or the shoe manufacturers. Nowadays, we see the advertisement that if one buys a 21-inch Akai Television, he will get a 14-inch television free. What is the reason behind this? The reason is, the company had fixed the prices of its products thinking that since the Indians are very crazy about the foreign goods, they would buy their products as per the prices fixed by them. It is not so, Sir. Similarly, they had thought that even if they will fix higher prices for their drugs, the Indians will buy them. But, the paying capacity of the people of this country does not allow it. And, as the multinationals have reduced their prices for other goods, in the case of drugs also they will never be able to increase the prices. The people of India are not in a position to pay higher prices because financially they are not as well off as the Americans are.

I once again come to Section 24C which talks about the prices. In this case, we have a safeguard in the form of compulsory licence. It says that Chapter XVI of the Patents Act be applied to those firms also which are given exclusive right to sell and distribute products in India. If the reasonable requirements of the public are not being satisfied by the patentee at a reasonable price, the authority under Section 84 of the Act, that means the Government, would have the power to direct the firm to compulsorily give the marketing licence to another designated firm.

So, this is the safeguard. It is not that the multinational companies can fix any price they wish. We have provided adequate safeguard in the form of Section 24C so that any multinational company may not fix the price arbitrarily.

I now come to Section 24D(1) which says, if the Government is satisfied that it is necessary or expedient in the public interest to sell or distribute the product itself or through another, it would have the power to order accordingly. This is also another safeguard provided in the Patents (Amendment) Bill.

With regard to Section 24D(2), the Government can also fix the rate of drugs if it so desires or if it finds that a very high price has been fixed by the multinational company.

Now coming to another point which has already been replied to by the hon. Member, Shri P.D. Chavan. The Left Parties are also some times telling that we should get out of the WTO. But it is simply not possible. This is an obligation. Rightly or wrongly, it has already been signed. So, we cannot come out of this Agreement because this treaty is a statement of principles. There is hardly any country in this world who has not signed the WTO. Even the Pakistan who was with us, had signed it. If we do not sign and come out of WTO, we will be singled out. We will be the only country without any help. Moreover, how can we say that all the countries in the world are wrong and we are the only country which is right. So, there is absolutely nothing wrong in signing the WTO.

Now, I am coming to clause 1, which says:

"Members should be free to determine the appropriate method of implementing the provisions of this Agreement within their own legal system."

Sir, I hope we have already done it. Now, I am coming to Section 7. It says:

"The protection and the enforcement of intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare and to a balance of rights and obligations."

Sir, you mark these words. This is for promotion of technological innovations, transfer and dissemination of technology to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technology. It further says that it should be done in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare. Is it going against us? Is it going to be an arbitrary Agreement which is being imposed on us by the imperialist United States of America?

Sir, about the exclusive marketing rights it says that if a patentee obtains from us, and to take an example, he uses to block the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology can be transferred to another, it can even be revoked using our laws on the basis of the Article itself. This is also another protection. We have already provided another protection. We have already provided another safeguard in this Bill.

Now, I am coming to Section 8, which says:

"Members may in formulating or amending their laws adopt measures necessary to protect public health and nutrition and to promote public interest in sectors of vital importance to their social, economic and technological development provided that such measures are consistent with the provisions of this Agreement."

So, appropriate measures are provided that they are consistent with the provisions of this Agreement, may be needed to prevent the abuse of intellectual property rights by the right holders or the resort to practice which unreasonably restrain trade or adversely affect the intellectual transfer of technology.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You have already taken 40 minutes. There are six more speakers.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, after giving some four or five suggestions, I will conclude. I want to say that already adequate provisions are there.

As the hon. Member Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan has made some suggestions, it is up to the hon. Minister to reply to it. He can just go through them. My feeling is that we will have adequate opportunity in future also to amend it and provide for things. If anybody suggests any such thing, the Government is quite capable of replying to it. It is empowered to reply to it and it should include all the amendments in future. I will just give two or three suggestions. I will just conclude. It will hardly take three or four minutes only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will not get three or four minutes. You will get only one or two minutes.

MR. KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, you should give me some time. The first point is that we should patent those drugs by the year 2005 which we feel will be swamped by the multinational companies. It should be patented.

We should re-orient the drug-industries which actually depend upon the original research and not on reverse engineering.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I am going to call the next speaker. Please conclude.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Please allow me another two minutes. I will just finish it....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already, you have taken forty minutes.

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad): Sir, he is the first speaker from our party. He has all the time of our Party....(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Secondly, we have to set up institutes to train technologists, lawyers and the rest in reading and writing the patents. I have already told that we should have institutions, we should train our people and they should be able to read and write the patents perfectly so that we are not misled by any multinational companies. We should patent our original products also. It would not happen if we write it properly.

The third point is that as per our bi-heritage, government have been declaring for long that we will be taking plants altogether out of the Patents Act. Plants should be taken out of the Patents Act and that a separate law should be passed to grant them *sui generis* protection.

The Bill is already ready. I would request the hon. Minister that this should be enacted very quickly.

Now, I come to my last point. We should set up teams to work out how we can enlarge the apertures which the WTO Treaties contain and thereby further the Indian interests.

Last but not least, let us set up Appellate Courts with the specialist knowledge and the facilities which the Patents Act requires. The media should be used to propagate all these things because a very wrong message has gone to the country saying that if we pass this Patent Act, then the country will be swamped by the multinationals, the multinationals will come, the East-India Company will come and they will swamp us, they will kill us and they will strangle us. This wrong feeling should be done away with by a massive media planning and propagation.

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

With these few words, I conclude. I thank you very much for having given me the opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rupchand Pal to speak now. Shri Rupchand Pal, before you speak, I want to say something. There are six speakers and the time left is only 55 minutes for BJP. Kindly be brief.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : The time must be extended because it is quite an important issue.

....(Interruptions)

17.44 hrs. 531-15

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, we have our time. Anyhow, even at the outset, I would give a small suggestion to my young friend who spoke just now. He may not know the reason why he was picked up for speaking. If he goes through the debate of 20th March, 1995, he will come to know what the BJP stalwarts have been stating. For the benefit of the young Member, I am just quoting it.

It is Shri Guman Mal Lodha, one of the speakers, who said this: "It is a suicidal law."

Many from the BJP's side had spoken. I am only referring to one or two from the debate of the 20th March, 1995. They said that it is a suicidal law.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I also spoke the same thing in 1995.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: He says that he has also said the same thing. Now he has changed the position.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Because I now know as to what is the truth. At that time, I did not know. I agree. I concede. I told that I said the wrong thing in those days. I was not a Minister or an MP. But I was a member of the BJP and I told the same thing in the party.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: He also subscribed to that view. It is a plot to endanger our freedom. He should learn the lesson from the outcome of the Assembly elections at that time. The situation is reversed. Otherwise, the spell of the charm of the economic reforms will vanish. They said that this nation of Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukh Dev will not allow it. This is the stand of the BJP in regard to the Patents (Amendment) Bill.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): At that time Shri G.L. Lodha is as ignorant as Shri Kharabela Swain.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: He was the Justice of the High Court. I can take any number of quotations from the stalwarts of the BJP and their allies.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Now, you have started quoting the BJP.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: All right. You have changed your position and now you are a great advocate of the reforms and a supporter of the amendment.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): He wants the BJP in the opposition.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I shall refer to a news item that has come out only today—the 9th March. I seek your indulgence to read out only a portion:

"The 15 nation European Union has taken the US to the World Trades Organisation Dispute Settlement Board stating that the imposition of Super 301 is not in line with the WTO Rules."

This is in regard to the banana controversy that has come up. This is the position today and the same is being discussed. I am just quoting a reference. Immediately after the GATT Accord was finalised, the Americans dropped the bombshell.

The United States Trade Representative, Mr. Micky Kantor said:

"Let it be know that irrespective of the GATT and its mandate for fostering free and free trade, the U.S. intended to continue the use of US Trade Special 301 to penalise the countries. They would use their own instrument to ensure that they get what they thought were legitimate American dues."

In fact, in those days, they were continuing. And now the very dispute, the charges made by the European Union on the banana controversy, only proves once again that the America to whom we have given the undertaking that before 19th of April as our cause in the Dispute Settlement Forum were turned down, we shall make necessary changes in our Indian Patents Act. The country which does not believe in multilateralism, there are umpteen number of examples, not just the European Union, there are so many countries and there is a demand that when the review will be taken up in 1999, which is due, the whole WTO issue will have to be discussed.

Those who are subscribing to it earlier, they also need to reform themselves. This is not the plea of only India. This is the plea of so many countries, cutting across alliances, political alignments etc., because the economic interests of so many nations are involved and they are

saying that they should have a very comprehensive review of the WTO. There is a scope to do that. But the opportunity, strangely, is not being used appropriately, as it should have been, by the Government of India. Why am I saying this? I am saying this because our concerns and the concerns of many other countries who belong to the developing world are similar and there had been occasions when India had taken up issues on behalf of them. For example, we are told that at different levels of discussions that had taken place with Pakistan, one aspect which was discussed was that at the WTO deliberations, India and Pakistan should collaborate and consult each other. Such a step could have been taken earlier and there are complaints from many developing countries that India have ignored them, although the position was similar in the case of interests being jeopardised at different levels in the deliberations.

Sir, I shall confine myself only to the TRIP because there are no less than 28 agreements in the WTO. Now, we are concerned with the changes that are proposed with regard to the TRIP and particularly the areas where, as a signatory to WTO Agreement, we are supposed to enact after the undertaking we had given at the dispute settlement level. The issue is whether we should opt for the product patent directly or we should use the transitional phase to go through the EMR route. This was the debate which was going on all the time and it is conceded by very eminent people, jurists, experts, economists and social scientists that the EMR route is worse than the product patent route. At least in the product patent route, we could have got another five years, upto 2004. There is a period granted for compulsory licensing and all these facilities. We could have availed of many more opportunities, including facilities like infrastructure. As you are aware, when the Standing Committee had taken up this Bill for scrutiny, this is one area where they had emphasised unanimously about the inadequate infrastructural facilities in India which will immensely harm the national interests if we just decide to go for the product patent or, for that matter, the EMR transitional route without building up our infrastructure.

Now, what is provided in the Exclusive Marketing Right? Will they produce it in our country? The answer is a specific 'no', although the hon. Member from that side was trying to say that there is no such provision that importation will be considered as manufacturing. It is a specific one and a person who is having that EMR may withhold that right and may not make available a particular drug or a particular formulation or a particular molecule if it does not serve his financial purpose.

This Parliament will be a silent onlooker without any right after this EMR is given. It will be a monopoly for them. How are we going to give it? Is it after a thorough examination? No. There is a reference to an examination but the examination as per the comprehensive provisions of the Indian Patents Act is not there because whether it is patentable or not will have to be examined. Is this novel or not or are they trying to push through whole formulations, whole molecules or whole dosages with certain cosmetic changes?

May I draw The attention of the young Member as to how many applications have come up this time? There are 3,000. On an average, how many original formulations are available internationally? Some people say: 18 to 20. you can at best take it to '40'. For five years, '40' multiplied by '5' comes to 200. As a grace, you can call it '250'. But the number of applications already submitted is 3,000. What does it signify? There are areas of public domain because we do not have adequate protection through a biodiversity law and because our examination system is inadequate.

I am just referring to a deposition by a very-very important personality who is President of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India. In his submission before the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee, 1993-94, that is, the Gujral Committee, he has stated:

"May I point out that no more than 18-20 molecules are introduced each year internationally. In view of this, it is difficult to comprehend as to how such a large number of applications—over 3,000 in number—have been filed for grant of patent when the scenario of new products developed is so low."

He continues:

"The Government of India could even consider preliminary examination of these applications to find out whether they relate to such products which have already fallen into public domain for which there is no obligation under Article 70.3 to provide for protection."

Through you, I shall try to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this part. He must be aware of it. He says:

"Maybe these applications mostly relate to dosage form, usage form and new combinations and even herbal remedies based on *Haldi*, *Neem* and other

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

known herbal products which, on their merit, cannot be treated as inventions..."

So, what I want to emphasise is whether there will be a provision for comprehensive examination whether this is patentable or not. This is a basic question. I want an answer from the hon. Minister whether the proposed arrangement is in the Bill or not. Will it be possible to scrutinise the patentability of the application if we do not go for a comprehensive provision as it is existing in the Indian Patents Act, 1970?

Apart from this EMR examination, of course, mailbox may be permitted. But ultimately, will the patent offices in our country be in a position to examine the applications that will be coming through the mailboxes? A study has come out by one Shri Ganguli or someone else from the Hindustan Lever. He has made a very good study about our infrastructure and about the annual reports of our Controller of Patents, the personnel, the number of experts and the legal position.

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rupchand Pal, please take your seat. Now, the time is going to be 6 o'clock. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No. Let us continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have been informed that the Business Advisory Committee had decided that the House will sit up to 8 o'clock.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: The sense of the House here is important. The decision of the Business Advisory Committee is recommendatory.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, this is a very important Bill.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): I have been given to understand that the decision taken was that the House would sit till the Bill is passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, what is your reaction?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Mr. Chairman Sir, I can't sit upto 8 o'clock(Interruptions)

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, it has been decided by the business advisory committee that the House may sit upto 8 o'clock.(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram): The House may now adjourn and meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are many hon. Members who want to speak on this Bill.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI: You may please extend the House upto 8 o'clock(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, I have asked for the same but those people are not prepared for that.(Interruptions)

[English]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Let us take it up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. members, please take your seats.

SHRI A.C. JOS: We will sit tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Chairman Sir, the House has unanimously accepted the report of the Business Advisory Committee....(Interruptions) Once it has been approved unanimously, then why are you objecting to it....(Interruptions) The time may be extended till the Bill is passed....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us extend the time at least by one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman Sir, time can be extended only with the permission of the House.(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us extend the time of the House till 8 o'clock.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Let us sit, at least, for one hour more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the sense of the House to extend the time? Let us sit up to 8 O'clock.

SOME HON.. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I can understand that the Members are sitting since morning. But it is also factually correct that the Business Advisory Committee had taken a decision that the House would sit up to 8 O'clock. That proposal has been put before the House today and has been approved by the House unanimously. That is why we are supposed to sit till 8 O'clock. I can understand the feelings of the hon. Members also. Anyway, we can sit up to 7 O'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. We can sit, at least, up to 7 o'clock. So, the time of the House has been extended up to 7 O'clock.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: If you want to go home early, then don't hold discussion here....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: We don't want to go home early(Interruptions) to hold a discussion here is equally important ...(Interruptions)

[English]

...Now, Sir I am coming to the Examination issue.

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, what is the decision?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House has been extended up to 7 O'clock, for one hour

SHRI A.C. JOS: Only for one hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At present, only for one hour.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I can continue up to 7 p.m., no problem.

SHRI A.C. JOS: We have agreed to the suggestion of the Leader of the Opposition. So, it is extended up to 7 O'clock....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): We agree with the Leader of Opposition. The House should sit up to 7 p.m.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Mr. Chairman Sir, we should not create a wrong precedence. Whatever decision the Business Advisory Committee is taking, the extension of the House is the prerogative of the House. Please understand that the Business Advisory Committee can make the list of the topics to be discussed. It can decide all those things, but the extension of the House is the exclusive preserve of this House....(Interruptions) This cannot be violated.

Now, the Leader of the Opposition has made a suggestion and if the Ruling Party agrees that it is only for one hour then we agree, otherwise we will not agree....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The decision of the Business Advisory Committee was accepted by the House.

....(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: But it can be reviewed....(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, you have given your ruling that the time of the House is extended up to 7 O'clock....(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Chairman Sir, may I be recognised?....(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, his Deputy has made the point....(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, may I be heard?....(Interruptions) May I seek your protection Sir? Now-a-days, I have been seeing that I need their permission to speak. So, please give me a few minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, certainly.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: If I may submit, 7 O'clock is the time that the Chairman has ruled, I understand that, on the suggestion of the Leader of the Opposition. But we have one problem which I must place openly before all of you for consideration. We have a lot of business which is pending. We had originally worked it out that we would try and complete the whole pending Ordinances by yesterday. Now, we have this one Ordinance, that is, the Patents one and another the Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance. We have two with us. In addition to this....(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, he is forgetting the Prasar Bharati Ordinance.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: No, I said at the moment we have two. I know that this is also pending....(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: What about the Women's Reservation Bill?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Please. We need to understand that in addition to this, we have got the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address to be completed; we have got the General Budget and the Railway Budget and all this by the 18th. All of us conclusively feel that we do not want to sit on 13th, Saturday or extend the House. So, I would request

and implore upon all of you that please let us then restrict ourselves within the time that we have got and complete the Business; otherwise, we will either have to extend the House or sit on Saturday. This is the plea that I want to make.

I appreciate the views of the Members, especially the views expressed by Shri Chacko. I have no problem on his views. But I must place the position before the House. I think, let us now sit till 7 O'clock as the Chair has ruled, but I would request you to consider all these options because then tomorrow they cannot blame us. If somebody says that the Parliament could not complete its business, it is not going to be alone my fault....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rupchand Pal.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: The hon. Minister has not made any new point. His Deputy has already made these points that the House should discuss all these issues listed in the List of Business....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I am now coming to the examination question. As it has been restricted in the present Bill to sections 3 and 4 of the Patent Act, I would request the hon. Minister to see that a comprehensive and appropriate procedure provided in the Patent Act, 1930 in Chapter IV and V would be taken into consideration.

Now, this examination has become more complicated after you have joined the Paris Convention. The countries belonging to the Paris Convention will be entitled of the patent if they have got it in any of the countries, who have subscribed to that particular Convention. So, not only the infrastructure but adequate time is also required to check up throughout the global patent regimes whether this particular application, how and when it originated; the novelty and invention angle should be ensured. But this is not there in the hastily drafted Bill. Although the Government has got a lot of time but they did not just apply its mind. It is *ad hocism*. This has happened with our representatives working at that level also. They were speaking more in the interest of multi-national companies.(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Just like Marxism.(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Actually the problem with this particular MP from Calcutta is that he sometimes

speaks on the subject which he does not understand....(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I have got a name....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The beauty of his personality is that sometimes he revels in his ignorance.

Sir, I am coming to the process patent itself. There is an argument about the killing, threat and all these things, reverse engineering. But when our eminent leaders have been writing on Japan, how they exposed before themselves; they learnt the intricacies of machines and other things and ultimately became the leader.

18.13 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Sir, with your indulgence I am reading a quotation. At the end I shall only refer to whom I am referring to. This is in reply to the philosophy of patenting. I will tell the name as to whom I am referring to later on. It says:

"We know that knowledge including scientific knowledge and even technology pass from Asia, China and India and the Arab world to the industrialist western countries of today. It was not only in the remote past, even in the recent times this has taken place. In fact, even today in the form of brain drain from the so-called Third world there is significant scientific technological knowledge going from East to West."

Can you guess whom I am quoting, Sir? This is Mr. K.R. Narayanan, hon. President of India speaking at the Third World Patent convention organised by the National Working Group on Patent Laws in 1990.(Interruptions) I shall give you that. Why are you wasting your time in that party? You should use your time by coming to us and reading all these things. I shall give you that.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, one Member has spoken more than 45 minutes. You do something(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, he has some difficulty with his watch!

Then, I shall come to the licence of right. As you know, the availability and also cheaper price in India is possible because of the immense progress that we have made in the pharmaceutical industry.

Our small scale industries are producing very good quality medicines. They have a good export market also. If we have to reach our goal of health for all by 2000 AD—I do not know whether they subscribe to that—we have to encourage the small scale industries. I do not know because these days they do not care to refer to all these things.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: You have to de-recognise Calcutta Medical College once for all for your party inaction.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: This is the problem with these people. They always try to derail themselves and they believe that others will also be derailed as desired by them. I am not going to be derailed.

I will come to the licence of right. In the Indian Patent Act, there should be a restructuring provision. For example, after having the exclusive marketing right, someone has come but he does not produce anything in the country. He only imports. If any Indian producer, according to the WTO provision, applies saying that I am paying you four per cent royalty, you allow me to produce, will it not be done? This licence of right is urgently required and should be considered. Such provisions should be included in the Bill. Not only that four per cent of royalty, but also why should they not transfer this technology? Wherefrom did they get this technology? It is from our own people, our own scientists who are working over there in the Western countries, in U.S.A, U.K. and in many other countries. They are learning from us. As I quoted the observation made by the hon. President in his speech in the National Patents Convention, they have learnt many things from us, and now they want to monopolize their knowledge. In a knowledgeable society, India should not subscribe to this view. This philosophy of monopolizing knowledge is not good.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The speech in brief is always more effective. There are names of many Members in the list.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Brevity is the soul of wit. But my problem is that they understand when I only elaborate before them. If I am brief, they will not understand. So I have to elaborate certain things. I am coming to the other things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had spoken about the WTO provisions in this unequal world. When the Government of India signed that Treaty, they did not care for this. They say that signing international treaty is the exclusive jurisdiction of the Executive. But how can it be that the constitutional right of this Parliament will henceforth be ignored? After passing this Bill, the exclusive marketing rights would be enjoyed by them. The situation will be monopolized by them. The Indian people will be deprived of the minimum medicare facilities in terms of availability of medicines, etc. This Parliament will not have any power at all to intervene. I would just like to put a question to the hon. Minister. Could you please explain to this Parliament that in such a situation, how the Parliament will be able to intervene to protect the national interest? Secondly, what will happen to our small industries? It is because when this Indian Patent Act, 1970 came, after a long period of time and long discussion, the consensus was reached. I think the Minister will agree with this. Throughout the developing world, the 1970 Act was considered to be a model Act and we were proud that Indian Patent Act, 1970 is strengthening our ways of self-reliance. I am putting a question to the Minister directly. Will this particular Bill not erode our self-reliance? I want to know this. This Parliament has a right to know. How are you going to protect our pharmaceutical industry, small industries and our national interest?

I will come to chemicals and agriculture later. I am confining myself to pharmaceuticals. Does the hon. Minister know why? There is a reference by my esteemed colleague from here. This Government was waxing eloquent that immediately after the Budget the share market is increasing. The index is rising, rising and rising. It happened with only five issues, only five scripts. Pharma, IT, Hindustan Lever and two or three others, two banks, perhaps. What has happened to Ranbaxy, Glaxo, Pfizer and Hoechst? Has the hon. Minister gone through the deliberations of their Board meetings? Why is there an impact of the Pharma scripts in the stock market of Mumbai? Only because they have come to the conclusion that some changes will be brought about in the patent regime, in the Indian Patent Act by this Government. And so, there is a surge in the index,

particularly in the Pharma companies, the multinationals. They may be happy.

Does the hon. Minister know the profit of Glaxo, the profit of Pfizer, the profit to Hoechst and certain other multinational companies? Many friends of that side might have passed through the complex of Glaxo, some might have examined the balance sheets of those companies. The publicity expenses of one company are more than one year's Plan expenditure of a large State of India for one year! The total expenses are equivalent to the publicity or the advertisement costs.

These multinationals rule the world. Whether some Government will be there or not will be decided by them, not by making donations during the elections. Who will be the Prime Minister or the Health Minister, that is decided by these pharmaceutical majors. This has happened, many books have been written about Latin American countries and African countries. The Government must know it.

What will happen to the pharmaceutical industry and our self-reliance? My hon. friend argued about agro-chemicals. During the last 50 years, if we have made any progress in any sphere, it is in Agriculture. I have no hesitation in agreeing. I have no hesitation. But for a country like India which is dependent on its Agriculture where the GDP is primarily accounted for our success in Agriculture, what is going to happen by this agricultural thing? If the Government allows these multinational companies in a manner it proposes to go through the Bill, it will be disastrous for our agriculture, disastrous for our economy and disastrous for our self-reliance.

I may make a mention about the plant varieties. I was assured, when I had raised it in the past that a different Bill, the Plant Varieties Bill would come to take care of the question of the seeds even when we were considering the TRIPs issue. *(Interruptions)*

I am mentally disturbed because of the question whether the discussion would continue beyond six o'clock and I was derailed.

SHRI A.C. JOS: You got more time by that.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I did not get more time; I need your time.

I am coming to bio-diversity. The life-form should never be allowed to be patented. Never. Of course, human cloning and animal cloning are coming. It is again a question of biological warfare, gene therapy and so on.

I am not going into many more questions, I am not going into the details. The Government of India should be very-very not only careful, but it should be very specific in this regard on this question of bio-diversity whether we really should bring out general protection.
...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Already 26 varieties have been patented. (Interruptions).

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee is right that the callous government is ready to serve the multinational companies as asked by the IMF, World Bank because after the Pokhran, we are ready to surrender. When they are asked to sit down, this Government is ready to crawl. This Parliament is kept in the dark on many major things. I believe, at the WTO, there is still an opportunity. There is still an opportunity to demand a review and only after the review—that will be done very soon—appropriate decisions can be taken and neither the product patent nor the EMR growth will serve our purpose. It would be disastrous and it would be mortgaging our economic sovereignty. This is very worse. The BJP people had used it in 1995. But, unfortunately, they have subjugated themselves to the pressures of U.S., the multinational companies and others.

I oppose the Bill and I shall continue to oppose the Bill which is detrimental to our national interests.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): Mr. Chairman. Sir, this Bill is a small part of the agreed obligation of the Governments of the past. There is the larger question that whether now we have a choice or not. But it has to be recognised here that in 1986 when Shri V.P. Singh represented the then Congress Government in Uruguay, he had agreed to what was not originally agreed to, namely, that there will be a comprehensive review of our laws and even matters concerned with services would be brought under the GATT. That is the commitment I have seen when I was the Minister of Commerce and represented the country in the final Uruguay Round in Brussels. In 1989, the then Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, agreed that we would abide by an agreement on TRIPs and that was in Geneva as a part of our written agreement. In 1994, Shri Pranab Mukherjee was the Minister of Commerce. I, of course, at that time, was heading a Commission of that Government on the GATT question. We signed the new GATT agreement with all its provisions. We did not express any minute of dissent or any reservation. So, therefore, today, as the Statement of Objects and Reasons mentioned in the Bill, we are committed not only as part of the original agreement but also as a judgment of the

disputes settlement machinery of the W.T.O. which has fixed the 19th of April this year as the final date by which we have to make the amendment. But the question now is: Will this Bill passed by the Parliament satisfy the WTO?

What we have brought here, has the Government done the home work on that? Judging by what they did on Bihar, I would not be surprised if on this issue also they have not done their home work. I checked up and found that on two issues the WTO is not going to accept this Bill. So, should this Parliament pass a Bill which is not going to be treated as compliance of our commitment? First is, according to the opinion today in the WTO, this Bill, by incorporating the compulsory obligation, violates article 70.9 of the TRIPs and, therefore, is not acceptable, and the second is that on the exclusive marketing rights, the application would be reviewed by the Patents Examiner in India. Both these are outside the provisions of the TRIPs and, therefore, this Bill is infructuous in the sense that we will pass it but we will have the same problem. Maybe they will come back again and bring out another Ordinance or maybe they will make some other amends, I do not know, but this Parliament is wasting its time in considering this Bill. We need to consider the larger question. I think this is an issue on which the Minister must take the House into confidence and tell us whether it is not a fact that already to this Government these objections have been conveyed.

The Attorney General of this Government had given certain assurances to the Supreme Court in November, 1998 that they will bring a series of legislations within the Winter Session of Parliament itself—now we are into the Budget Session—on the question of plant protection, bio-diversity, etc. None of these have come. I do not know how the Attorney General would be able to face the Supreme Court if the matter was raised again in the Supreme Court. But I would like to know whether today we can discuss this fundamental question because there is a division of opinion. Do we have a choice? Can we get out of the international trading system? Or is there a scope within this international system itself to get a better deal than we have got so far? According to me, the GATT provisions are such that if we have really good lawyers in Geneva, we cannot put our case strongly. And I am afraid, we do not have good lawyers there. In fact, it is one of the tragedies that all the officers who work in our Ministries here, sooner or later they go and start working in the WTO on huge salaries, and that is a very dangerous sign. This means that while they are working here, they would obviously not be working against the interests of the developed world. Otherwise they would

[Dr. Subramanian Swamy]

be taken into such high positions. We will have to examine this question whether in this dispute settlement machinery's hearings, the case for India is being put effectively or not. But I would say that the GATT Agreement itself has a clause for level playing field. Why is it that we do not put our case on the issues on which we are very strong? The United States wants free flow of capital into India but it is not permitting free flow of capital into India but it is not permitting free flow of labour into their country. They have surplus of capital that can come here but we have surplus of labour that is blocked by immigration laws. If the Indians can go freely to developed countries, if Indian companies can take labour freely to these countries and bid for projects there because our labour is much cheaper, we will win every project there and be able to strike a lot of good business, just as multinationals coming to our country get loans from their own country at two per cent interest rate or three per cent interest rate while our industry is asked to compete against these multinationals by taking loans at 18 per cent interest rate.

Sometimes, they do not get even that unless they pay some bribe. Therefore, this level playing field has to be agitated all the time before the WTO and Indian Government has not done that according to my information. On no issue of vital interest to India, we have pressed the point. We have not invoked the national security clause where we should. So, in effect, what I am saying Mr. Chairman is that it is no use blaming this international system. If you do not know how to use it, then why should you blame the international system? There is a plenty of scope in the new GATT agreement to get the Indian interest secured, but that is not being done because we do not have either the necessary intellectual infrastructure today or the honesty to do it. This Bill is doomed, but I think that the time has come for this Parliament to have a special Session to discuss this entire matter.

After all, there are 28 agreements and there is so much confusion as to what we are obligated to do and what we are not obligated to do. After all, this Bill has come. It is a very small part. It is not an amendment of the Patent Act. It is a very small adjustment for having failed to win an argument in the WTO. Here is a piecemeal matter. But we need to discuss in this House this matter because we do need a patent law. We are not going to be a permanently copying country. We are now producing software which needs to be protected. We are producing a variety of other things on which

protection is necessary. Even our agriculture product need protection. Therefore, I would say that they have to pass the Bill. I am also committed to passing of this Bill because I am a part of the past along with them
...(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS: Is he a part of that regime now?

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): The question is that I have to decide on the Bill.

SHRI A.C. JOS: You are sitting on the front.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I am not sitting. I am sitting with them. They are supporting the Bill. Are they not supporting the Bill?...*(Interruptions)* He does not know. Their whip may please inform him.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): He will not divulge the secrets to him.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: So, it is a secret whether they are going to support it. It has already been announced publicly that they are supporting the Bill and it is a secret for him.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: He will see at that time.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: They will do another somersault. Is it?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHAN: They have already announced that they will support the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)* They will change their stand. As they have done it is the case of Bihar, they will do it this time also.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Yes, they will change their stand because they were saying like that in the case of Bihar also.

Now, the issue is that this is a part of our obligation. I do not think that this Bill is going to come back, they are going to come back to us again with a different thing because, as I told you, on two clauses, the WTO has already taken written objections. I do not know why they are going through with the formality of passing this Bill unless they want to use this as an excuse to get more extension of time. This Bill certainly is not going to solve the problems for us in the WTO, but we do need a full-fledged special Session of Parliament to discuss this matter in full detail so that we know exactly what we

have to do. If we are to get out of the international system saying that we do not accept the discipline of the WTO because it is dominated by developed countries, then, we should prepare the country for it. Or, if we want to utilise the system to get maximum advantage, the country must know about it. This half way here and there, being neither here nor there will ultimately be like a chicken on the middle of the road and it will get run over by the vehicle that comes on the road.

Mr. Chairman, therefore, I am, as I say, obligated to support this Bill because this has been a part of our commitment. I certainly believe that the international system, the new GATT agreement has enough scope for India to get maximum advantage if we argue our case properly. Therefore, I would not like to advocate that we should get out of the international system. I would like to inform those who are advocating it that China—if I may quote the example of China, a country with which I am very friendly—is standing in the queue. Everyday, they are giving explanations as to why they should be taken into the WTO.

There is a long queue of 24 countries who want to get into the WTO. We are founder-members of the GATT. We were the first 23 countries who joined GATT in 1948. Today, we need not go out of the way and be the singleton out of it. This system should be managed by us. We should get the maximum advantage. The Government has not done this because they have not done their home-work. They have not done their home-work on any issue. Therefore, they have come and wasted the time of the House with this Bill. But I do hope that they will hold a Special Session so that the country knows where we exactly stand.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Patent Bill.

The 'Patent' means that we have invented a particular item and we want to get benefit out of it by utilizing it for certain period. At present the period of the utilization in this Act has been fixed for five years. In 1959, a report of Justice Shri Ayangar was published over which there was much uproar. In 1967, for the first time this Patent Bill was introduced in the Parliament. A detailed debate was held thereon. Indian Patent Act, 1970 is still in force. In 1994, we made an amendment in the said act so that the increasing presence of the multinational companies may be checked. The ordinance that Govt. have promulgated for patent of pharmaceutical and other items of agriculture and chemical sector show that this Government is under the pressure of multinational

companies. The experts say that this move will adversely affect pharmaceutical industry. Prices of medicines will increase and health care would become more costly. Today the cheapest medicines are available only in India. Now an ordinary poor person will face difficulty in the maintenance of his health. The bill will allow the marketing to the multi-national companies. As a result of this, the prices of medicines will increase and health care would become more costly. The Government is leading the country to the path of destruction. Therefore we will have to think over it seriously. This Act will create economic imbalance in Indian economy which will badly affect the development of the country. It will help escalating regular foreign intervention in future. India has been known as the country of Vedas and Rishies, will definitely become American military base. This is what appears in this bill. Everybody knows that the forty crore farmers of this country will come under slavery. America is trying to capture our agro-industry. If we think over service issues related with Patent Act, it becomes clear. The two-third part of our population is based on agriculture which makes us self-dependent in agriculture sector and which is developing. The agriculture sector should not be covered under patent. Government may make this provision for other items, otherwise agriculture sector will be affected adversely.

This would lead to price rise and would also cast very adverse impact on the farmers as after increase in the prices of seeds and fertilizers and registration of patent, the farmer would depend on single variety of seeds and fertilizers only. So far, you have patented Basmati rice only. Had it not been patented, we would not have been able to sell it. Likewise, you intend to get turmeric, tamarind, Neem and mustard patented which would ruin the farmers of the entire country. We often talk about terminator zones. It is said about the terminator zones that if we patent the seed of any country and the farmers sow that seed and use the some variety for the next crop. Then, it would not give much yield. It is said that such seed would lose its potency and reproduction capacity. In fact, the farmers use to save 10 percent of their production as seeds and 90 percent of their production used to be available in the open market. The monopoly for marketing of terminator seed has been opened for India which would be harmful for whole of India.

Under patent law, we will have to look towards U.S.A. for seeds or if we patent the Seeds of any country than, we could only sow the seeds when these are provided by the country concerned. Therefore, non-availability of seeds would ruin the farmers. You have put a ban on

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

terminator seed for two years but what could happen after that, the Government will have to think over it.

The Indian farmer has been sowing seeds out of the saved quantity of the previous yield. This has been the tradition. According to changing climate, the farmers good quality seed and also sow some what inferior quality of seeds. We have in India, marginal farmers, medium and big farmers who sow good as well as second grade quality of seeds. India has already fallen into the trap of foreign countries in the matter of trade. There are 45000 varieties of plants and 75,000 species of animals with which we can be self-reliant in the field of agriculture and other fields. We will have to think seriously that we do not fall into the trap of M.N.Cs, foreign companies.

India stands second in the field of research, infrastructure in the world. There are 29 Agriculture Universities and 81 National Institutes of Agriculture in the country. If today, we hand over such big Indian infrastructure to private sector, it's not sure to what extent we will achieve self-sufficiency. We will have to think about the farmers of the country. 40 crore farmers would be ruined, their future would be in dark. It is evident that we will become slaves in the hands of Multinational Companies and private companies consequent upon the enforcement of the Patent law in the year 1999-2000. I would say only this that the farmers of the entire country would be ruined from this Patent law and the country that was self-reliant in food products, would become completely a slave in the hands of multi-national companies, foreign and private companies.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would urge upon the Hon'ble Member to contemplate on the matter and to ponder over whether we are leading the country towards slavery or towards development. With these words, I conclude.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am opposing the Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999 (No. 3 of 1999) promulgated by the President on 8th January, 1999 not only because we are generally opposed to Ordinances but also because I also oppose the Patents (Amendment) Bill 1998 moved by the Minister of Industries.

It is well-known that our party was against India signing the TRIPS Agreement, and it still remains in the same position.

Unfortunately, the Government of India have already made our country a Member of the WTO and have signed

the TRIPS Agreement, particularly—WTO, they went much earlier—which among other things, want us to patent products in the areas of pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals. As a result of the signing of the TRIPS Agreement, the Government issued the Patent Amendment Ordinance in a great hurry and have now tabled the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998. I have already stated that I oppose the Bill.

Every sovereign welfare country must have a policy of its own to provide the necessary commodities and goods, such as medicines at a price affordable by the poor. It is more essential in case of those developing countries like India where a very large population lives below poverty line.

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I appeal to hon. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee to yield for a minute. I want to make one small request.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Yes, please.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: We had originally planned to have this passed yesterday but then, the overall consensus seems to be that today everybody is tired because yesterday also we had sat quite late. Today also it is becoming late.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati): How many speakers are still there?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: There are about eight speakers. With the withdrawals from both the sides, still eight Members are there.

Sir, we would like to have the reply tomorrow from the hon. Minister for Industries at 4 o'clock and voting after that. Therefore, after Geetaji's speech, at 7 o'clock we will adjourn the House. We will have tomorrow this as the first item and at 4 o'clock, whoever is speaking, we will close the debate and ask the final speaker to reply, that is, the hon. Minister of Industries, and then put it to vote. There are a lot of amendments. So, voting will also take a reasonable time.

So, I would request all the hon. Members that 4 O'clock tomorrow, at any cost, is going to be the time for reply. And today, we will adjourn the House at Seven. Thank you.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: What about the Goa Budget?

18.55 hrs.

[DR. LAXIMANARYAN PANDY *in the Chair*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: About the Goa Budget, we shall inform you tomorrow morning after discussing everything.

I have already said earlier that unfortunately India till now was following the Patent Act of 1970 where the process patent was provided for and due to this, the drug prices were among the lowest in the world. In that Act, we also kept pharmaceuticals and chemicals out of the pale of patenting.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: every time, it is going on like this.

But now according to this Bill as presented in this House, we are faced with a peculiar situation where we were told by TRIPs agreement to choose between two evils.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I have to discuss something with the Deputy-Speaker. He is a senior advocate. I am only junior to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Geetaji, please.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: If you don't mind, I will not speak for a long time. I am about to finish my speech. It is not yet 7 o' clock.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: This is the broad back-drop in which we should judge the present Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to call Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh for a few minutes. Please conclude.

Before going for that, I would like to quote Mr. James Enyart of Monsanto Company of USA, who was in the Intellectual Property Committee (IPC) of USA and represented their interest in Geneva Meeting of GATT, to show how the Transnational Corporations ensured their monopolistic right fully to further their World-wide interest. What he said in a booklet named "A GATT Intellectual Property Code", I quote. It says:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Let me finish. It is not a long one. I do not believe in long speeches, as you know.

One evil is to change our earlier Patent Law so that from process patent, we come to product patent.

The second evil is we ought to grant the Exclusive Marketing Right to companies applying for product patents.

"We went to Geneva where we presented our document to the staff of GATT Secretariat. Industry has identified a major problem in international trade. It crafted a solution, reduced it to a concrete proposal and sold it to our own and other Governments. The industries and traders of world commerce have played simultaneously the role of patient, the diagnostician and the prescribing physician."

These obligations have to be complied with between 19th April, 99 and the year, 2005.

This is what Monsanto Company had negotiated with the GATT.

I have already said that we are positively against this Patent (Amendment) Bill, 1998. But even then we shall briefly discuss the implications of these two evils referred to earlier. The first one is, product patents allow the patent holder to price their product more liberally as they know it is tougher to circumvent their product by the copycat industries and thus it provides more security to their innovations and, on the other hand, it encourages the patent holders to go for more R&D. But this can result in overpricing for the poor, the lower middle classes of developing countries like India. Drug prices in countries allowing product patent are many times more than the countries following process patents. It has been already told by me that now drug price is the lowest in India.

Therefore, it is clear whose interest WTO is trying to serve through agreements like TRIPs. It is quite clear that they are functioning in the interest of multinationals and particularly those of USA. This is not my saying. It is their own saying for the whole world to know. We should understand this clearly.

About Exclusive Marketing Rights, certain protocols under TRIPs have to be satisfied.

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

19.00 hrs.

Its implication is that MNCs having a product patent in any signatory country of WTO will have to be granted EMR for application in India, without any examination.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is about to be seven. If the House agrees let Smt. Mukherji finish her speech ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Its alright, Please let her finish her speech...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Let her finish her speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, it is all right.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: In any case, I will inish within five minutes. ...*(Interruptions)* Repeated disturbances make it worse. ...*(Interruptions)*

Regarding EMR, certain protocols under TRIPs are to be satisfied, the implications being that MNCs having a product patent in any signatory country of the WTO will have to be granted EMR on application in India, without any examination of the actual validity of the original patent, for five years. This means, if they do the patenting in any market, we must give them EMR here. This means, those companies would enjoy the facility of EMR for five years without facing the examination process. ...*(Interruptions)*

As far as agreeing to EMR is concerned, it will give all MNCs, the right to sell their products in our country at any fancy price they like. Therefore, like some other developing countries, India should opt for the lesser evil, that is, product patent. At least, this option will give India some scope to examine the applications. So, though we are against this Bill, we are discussing it with the fear that the Government will go in for this. So, at least among

the two evils, I wanted to state which will be the lesser evil.

I want to raise another point related to this question, that is, the question of protecting the traditional knowledge regarding many products in various fields in our country. We want to know what the Government is thinking about the protection of our traditional knowledge. We want to know whether this will also be covered. We also want to know about the stand on bio-diversity. We want to know how we shall protect the traditional knowledge of ours about which he referred. ...*(Interruptions)*

Knowing the attitude of the Government to pass the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998, I have discussed about the two evils and pointed out which is the evil which will be somewhat less harmful. We do not want the Government to go in for any of these evils at all. We demand that the Government refuse to act according to the TRIPs agreement and fight against it along with other developing countries which are still refusing to implement the obligations of the TRIPs agreement and thereby create a big united front of developing countries to fight the multinationals and fight all the machinations of the WTO.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Patent law of India is the best in the world.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Raghuvansh Prasadji, please continue your speech tomorrow.

[English]

The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the 10th March, 1999.

19.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Wednesday, March 10, 1999/
Phalgun 19, 1920 (Saka).*

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